

LORD OF LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Jr. Confirmation Handbook 2011-2012

Revised 8-16-11



LORD OF LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Jr. Confirmation Handbook
office@lol-plano.org
Phone: (972) 867-5588
FAX: (972) 985-5588

IMPORTANT STUFF IN THIS BOOK

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- Page: 3 Jr. Confirmation/PISD Calendar
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Dear Jr. Confirmands and Parents,

Welcome to 2011-2012 education for Jr. Confirmation. We hope God would bless our time together and that the Holy Spirit will guide you in your relationship with Jesus Christ. God's will for your life is 'to be saved, and to come to the knowledge of the truth.' (I Timothy 2:4) May your faith be strengthened through this knowledge and shared with others out of love for our Savior.

Our prayer is that this will be a time of growth for you through worship, study, and fellowship. Whether you are at church, at home, or at school, you are an example of your faith in Christ, and we should be excited to be a Christian. We pray for you like Paul did in his letter to the Philippians;

"I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus." (Philippians 1:3-6)

God's Blessings,

Confirmation Instructors,

Rev. John Lindner
Scott Peters, Director of Youth Ministry

LORD OF LIFE
Jr. Confirmation Calendar
2011-2012
(PISD Calendar)

Wednesday, September 7	First day of class
Saturday-Sunday, October 8-9	Confirmation Retreat at Mt. Lebanon Retreat Center
November 23	Thanksgiving Break/No Class
(NO CLASSES WILL BE HELD DURING WEEKS OF ADVENT)	
January 4	First class of 2012
February 22	Ash Wednesday
(NO CLASSES WILL BE HELD DURING WEEKS OF LENT)	
March 12-16	Spring Break
Sunday, April 8	Easter
Wednesday, April 11	Jr. Confirmation classes resume
Wednesday, May 23	Last class for Jr. Confirmation in 2011-2012

What You Need to Know for a Rewarding Confirmation Experience:

1. Confirmation class begins promptly at 6:30 pm each Wednesday in the Conference Room. Students are expected to be in class, in their seat, by 6:30. They should bring their confirmation binders, catechism, Bible, pencil/pen, and highlighter each week to class. Class end time will always be at 8:00 pm.
2. Students are to complete memory work as required.
3. There will be tests scheduled throughout the year. Most tests will be preceded by a review to allow the student to recall information learned over several lessons. Completed tests will be graded by the guides and reviewed with Pastor. Students will receive their tests back and will need to correct the answers to any questions that they may have missed. Parents should sign these corrected tests and send them back to class with the student.
4. Students should make every attempt to attend all sessions. If you are sick or will be out of town, please let your confirmation guide know so that arrangements can be made to make up your work. A confirmand will be expected to miss no more than 4 Wednesdays per year in class. In addition, students will be expected to miss no more than 4 Sundays per year in worship. If there are more than 4 absences, a meeting may need to be arranged by the confirmation guide or Pastor.
5. Every family is responsible for scheduling make up work. Your confirmation guides are willing to help whenever necessary to ensure student assignments are kept current.
6. Each student is to complete Worship Service Outlines during each year. Outline forms are located in your binder. The Sundays are specified in this Handbook for worship outline assignments. Completed outlines are to be turned in to Mr. Peters at the beginning of class as they are completed.
7. Students are expected to be in worship and serve as acolyte and crucifer as scheduled.

LORD OF LIFE

Jr. Confirmation Curriculum

Level I Jr. Confirmands

Topics for Study

- Martin Luther
- Worship is Celebrating as Lutherans
- God's Action Plan

Level II Jr. Confirmands

Topics for Study

- The Christian Faith
- The Ten Commandments
- Law and Gospel
- The Apostle's Creed

Level III Jr. Confirmands

Topics for Study

- The Lord's Prayer
- The Sacrament of Baptism
- The Office of the Keys
- The Sacrament of the Altar (Holy Communion)

† Required Texts

1. Concordia Study Bible with Notes (CPH) or
Lutheran Study Bible
2. Small Catechism with Explanation

ACOLYTE & CRUCIFIER GUIDELINES

An ACOLYTE / CRUCIFIER is a servant in worship who assists the Pastor in the chancel (area of sanctuary where the altar, pulpit, and baptismal font are located.) This area is also where the altar cross is prominently seen as the focal point of our worship. Therefore, SERVING IN THE LORD'S HOUSE AS ACOLYTE / CRUCIFIER is a special privilege and opportunity. It is for this reason that each of you serving must treat your actions and

Crucifier:

- ❖ When handling the Cross, remember to hold it high. Use both hands to steady it and proclaim our faith!
- ❖ Walk before the acolyte and reverence the altar. Place the cross in the base with the front of the cross facing the congregation. Wait for the acolyte to finish lighting the candles.
- ❖ Then walk behind acolyte over to seats.
- ❖ Assist as directed during the receiving of the offering and distribution of Holy Communion.

Acolyte:

- ❖ Check the candle lighter for sufficient wick length.
 - Handle the candle lighter with respect. Be very careful not to touch the lighter to your robe or anyone's clothes. The black soot will mark the robe.
- ❖ Light altar candles during opening hymn unless otherwise directed.
 - Walk slowly, reverently toward chancel during first verse of opening hymn.
 - Stop at step, bow in reverence toward the cross.
 - Step toward the altar, light the right candle first and then the left.
 - Turn away from Pastor when candle lighter is ignited.
 - After lighting the candles, go to your seat.
 - Assist as directed during the receiving of the offering and distribution of Holy Communion.

During Service:

- ❖ Remember that you are a servant during the service.
- ❖ Follow along in the worship bulletin and lead with your actions by joining the congregation in reading the Liturgy and singing hymns.

- ❖ Do not sit with bad posture, play with cincture, or do anything that you know is not acceptable.
- ❖ Take sermon notes as required for your grade level.
- ❖ If you must talk, whisper, but only when necessary.
- ❖ Pastor may request other tasks of you during the service.

Recessional:

- ❖ During the last hymn you should be prepared to recess.
- ❖ Watch pastor for his nod to recess. (*usually second verse*)
- ❖ **CRUCIFER** should walk and stand behind cross. When acolyte is extinguishing right candle, lift cross out of its stand and begin to recess out of the chancel.
- ❖ **ACOLYTE** should extinguish left candle, then prior to extinguishing right candle ignite candle lighter wick, and then extinguish candle.
- ❖ Both **CRUCIFER** and **ACOLYTE** should recess out at a good pace without reverencing the altar; you are carrying the light of Christ for us!
- ❖ Continue to lead by behavior when at the rear of the sanctuary.

Please place robe on hanger; return crosses to their hangers as well as cincture. If anything has marked the robe, please mention it to a member of the altar guild and place the robe in the sacristy neatly.

Remember you are serving as a leader of the service.

If you are unable to serve when you have been scheduled it is your responsibility to call other Jr. Confirmands and their parents to find a replacement. Once you have found a replacement, please call the church office (972-867-5588) with the change prior to the Wednesday before you are scheduled.

(Revised August 2011)

Worship Outline Sundays
for
Jr. Confirmands

- | | |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. September 11 | Holy Cross Sunday |
| 2. October 30 | Reformation Sunday |
| 3. November 20 | Christ the King Sunday |
| 4. December 18 | 4 th Sunday of Advent |
| 5. January 8 | Epiphany |
| 6. February 22 | Ash Wednesday |
| 7. March 25 | 3 rd Sunday of Lent |
| 8. April 15 | 1 st Sunday after Easter |

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ACTIONS OF THE ACOLYTE / CRUCIFIER:

Appropriate Dress: Please make sure you are wearing dress clothes, and dress shoes. Please, no tennis shoes or jeans. Wear a solid color shirt - no designs on the back. (They can show through the white robe.)

Processional:

- ❖ Please arrive at least 15 minutes prior to worship to robe.
 - If you arrive after that, you may be asked not to serve that day.
 - We need you to be on time and committed to this service.
 - Check-in with the elder on duty (listed in the bulletin).
 - Choose the length of robe that best suits your height. (Ideally it should be ankle length and the sleeves should come to your wrists.)
 - Choose the cincture (rope) which best suits your waist. (Cincture should hang to about the knees when tied.)
- ❖ Check with the elder regarding any special duties or instructions about the service.

Crucifier:

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