

About Sacramental Stoles

It is a long-held tradition at Good Shepherd for children to receive felt stoles at Baptism, which parents decorate with the date and a symbol of the sacrament. Then that stole is updated for the child to wear at each official reception of a sacrament the child receives here, such as First Reconciliation and First Eucharist. And we have recently begun asking 11th grade Confirmation candidates to wear the stole to their Rite of Sending.

If you joined the parish after your child was baptized and don't have a stole to update, a blank stole can be picked up at anytime at the parish office. Please contact the Faith Formation office to let us know that you need a stole, and we'll set one out for you. You will need to decorate the stole with the dates and symbols of all the sacraments that your child has already received. Directions follow. Additional symbol ideas can easily be found on-line with a simple google search.

As always let the Faith Formation Office know if you have questions (dirred@goodshepherd-sc.org) Thanks for your continued commitment to walking with your children as they grow in faith.

Stole Instructions

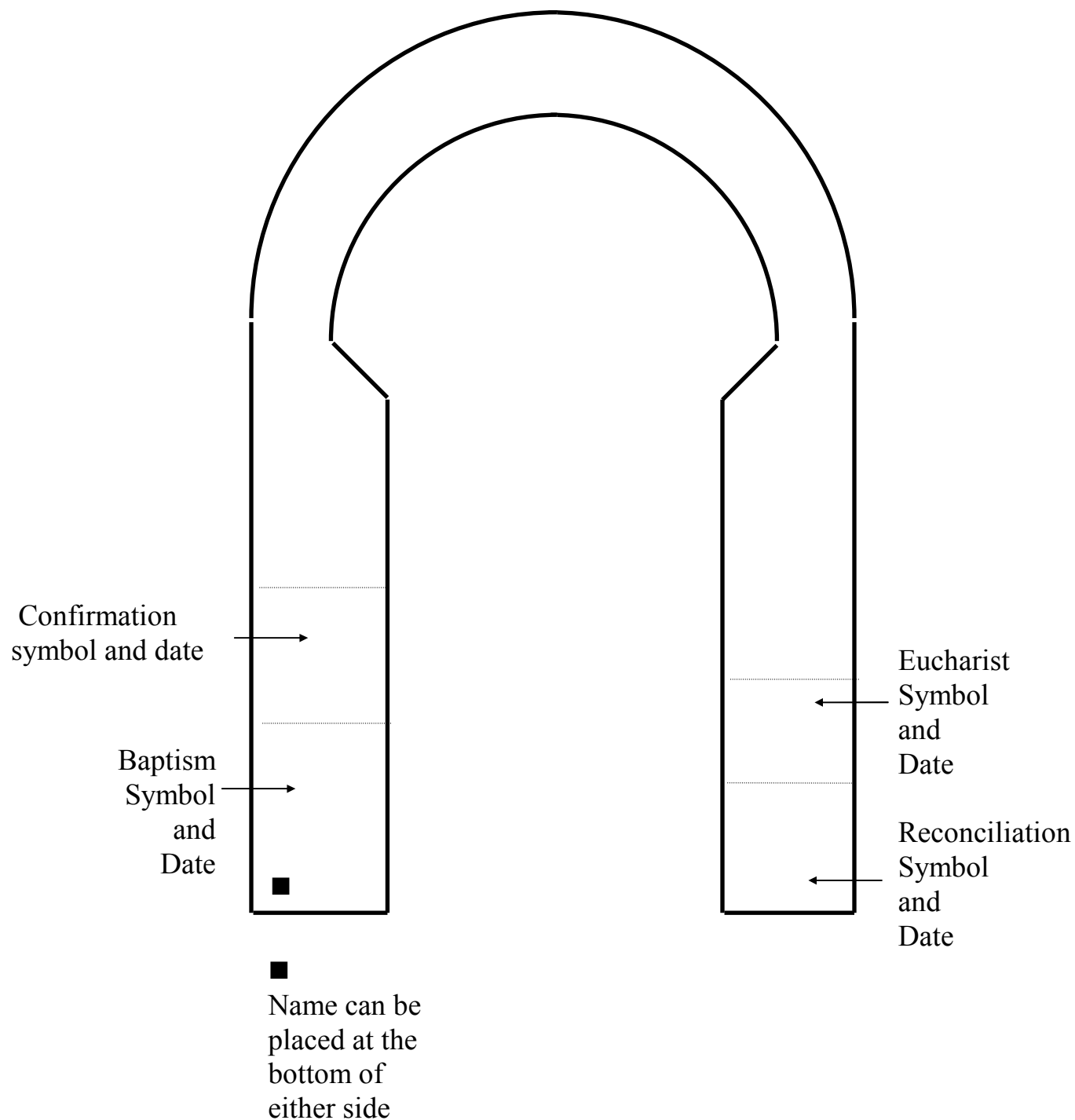
The stole can be decorated simply and beautifully with any of the following materials:

- Embroidery
- Counted cross stitch
- Fabric paints
- Quilt patch
- Appliqué
- Liquid embroidery
- Cut felt pieces

You may use your own creative ideas for decorating the stole or check with your favorite craft stores for some information and ideas.

What the stole should include:

- Date for each sacrament your child has received (Baptism, Reconciliation, Eucharist and Confirmation). Check your certificates for the dates. Or you can contact the parish where your child received these sacraments for the dates.
- Symbol of each sacrament – ideas follow – but feel free to use your own. Use the diagram on the following page to help you place the symbols and dates on the stole. The size of the lettering and symbols is up to you.
- Your child's name should also appear on the stole

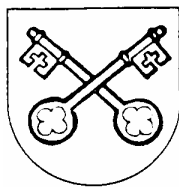


Sacramental symbol ideas

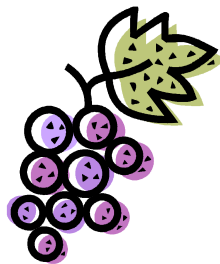
Baptism symbols reflect new life, cleansing, dying and rising with Jesus and receiving the light of Christ. They can include the chi-ro, a cross and vine, a candle, water drops, etc...



Reconciliation symbols represent forgiveness, friendship, healing and peace. These can include words such as shalom, peace and love, or symbols of hearts, the cross with a heart, clasped hands etc, crossed keys can be used to representing the binding and loosing of sins.



Eucharist symbols represent the Eucharistic meal of bread and wine. These can include a loaf of bread, grapes, a chalice and host, or wheat.



Confirmation symbols reflect reception of the Holy Spirit and can include fire, a dove, a flask of oil

