

11 Acolytes Represented Christ Church at the 29th Annual Acolyte Festival in Washington, DC

Eleven Acolytes from Christ Church made their 4th pilgrimage to the 29th Annual National Acolyte Festival in Washington, DC on October 11, 2008. They were proud to be one of the largest groups to attend the festival

Along with 124 other parishes represented at the festival the acolytes participated in the Great Procession in the Cathedral, which included processing with Vergers, Thurifers, the youngest acolyte (3 years old) and oldest acolyte (77 years old).

The remainder of the day found the acolytes attending classes on everything from learning about the Cathedral Gargoyles to the history of Acolyte vestments.

Going to Washington, DC is not complete without visiting the wonderful attractions. The acolytes and their chaperones were able to tour the WWII and Lincoln Memorial. They were also able to take in the breathtaking view of the Jefferson Memorial, Washington Monument, and the Japanese Cherry blossoms.

On Sunday morning, the acolytes and Chaperones attended a Solemn Mass At St. Paul's on K Street.

Their trip concluded with a special prayer offered for the acolytes who couldn't make the trip. The group gathered on the grassy Mall between the Capitol Building and the Washington Monument.

I have to say this year was probably the best Acolyte festival I have been to in the past few years.

When we went to the acolyte festival at the National Cathedral it was even bigger than last year.

Most of the acolytes from our church went to the gargoyle class, which was quite interesting. Then we met up in the beautiful gardens right outside the Cathedral.

The next day we went to the Smithsonian and saw a bunch of mammals, sea creatures, and the Hope Diamond, which was quite spectacular.

After we arrived back home at Christ Church, we were happy to sleep after the long exciting weekend.

Laura D.