



Hello,

My name is Cadet Kara Doerr, class of 2024. I have the great honor of being appointed Head Acolyte for our 2021-2022 school year. At St. John's Northwestern Academies, our chapel services fill an important part of our campus life. All students are required to attend chapel every Wednesday and Sunday.

The acolyte program at SJNA is a great way to be involved within our spiritual and character development pillar. It is a very inclusive program open to students of all religions and faiths. The program has three major requirements. Acolytes must be in good standing academically; they must be in good standing within Resident Life; and they must be willing to serve in whatever needed capacity within our spiritual and character pillar.

What do acolytes do? Acolytes say meal prayers in Welles Dining Hall, recite invocations, benedictions, and closing prayers at ceremonies. During chapel, acolytes carry the cross or a candle, they are greeters and ushers who hand out the service bulletin, and they also may be asked to read the psalms or lessons of the day.

At the end of the year, SJNA acolytes get to send the senior class off as they graduate. Acolytes also volunteer together to give back to their community. **This program has done a lot for me, and I strongly believe that it can do a great deal for other students too.** This program is ever-growing, and I hope to see your son or daughter become an acolyte!

Sincerely,
Kara Doerr

Head Acolyte