

Directions for Making Needlepoint Kneelers for Trinity Church

For those who desire to stitch their own kneeler, and have completed and returned the form to the Worship Administrator at Trinity Church, the following directions will help you as you plan your project. Please let us know if you have any questions about these instructions as we are happy to assist you.

Materials

Canvas: We customarily use 12 ct. *natural mono canvas*. This provides enough space for a design and natural canvas (as opposed to white) provides good coverage for the often darker background colors.

You may use a smaller count (14 or 18) but that size may affect the cost if you are having it designed or stitched elsewhere.

Thread: Any wool (such as Appleton or Patterman) that would provide good coverage is best as it is the most durable fiber for your canvas. Amounts vary depending on design. On occasion people include accent fibers such as metallic. There are many fibers and new ones all the time so consult you local needlepoint shop. Remember, these kneelers are used regularly so durability is important.

Color: A variety of colors may be used for your kneeler. It is best to consider the design and desire of the person/occasion begin honored when choosing. In addition it is good to remember that darker colors generally wear better and allow the name/event to be seen when that is stitched in a lighter shade. Look through the church to get ideas/inspiration.

Size/Dimensions

To ensure proper finishing on the wooden kneeler frame it is essential that the following dimensions be strictly observed.

The completed stitched dimensions should be 14 ½ inches across by 14 ½ inches high.

This allows room for the upholsterer to tack the canvas to the frame.

The exposed portion of your design on the finished kneeler is approximately 13 inches across by 11 inches high. Any design outside this range may not be easily seen.

Design

Please consult your local library or needlepoint shop for design suggestions. Symbols of the church, nature, phrases from Scripture or a favorite hymn are appropriate, as well as names and dates for occasions such as confirmation, marriage or baptism.

Be sure to keep the finishing dimensions in mind as you plan your design.

Finished Canvases

All finished pieces of stitching should be returned in person to the Administrative Assistant for Worship at the church office or mailed registered receipt.

Dedication and Blessing

All new kneelers are blessed annually at the 11:15am service, usually in February. Kneelers are not placed in the church until the next blessing date, no matter when they were completed.

The person who commissioned the kneeler will be notified of the next blessing date after the completion of your canvas and its return from the upholsterer. It is up to the person who commissioned the kneeler to notify the recipient or honoree if they wish them to attend the Dedication and Blessing service. Usually the honoree or giver of the kneeler presents it for blessing during the service. If no one is able to attend, a Trinity usher takes their place.



Trinity Church in the City of Boston

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