

## Children's Chapel FAQs

### What does my child do in Chapel?

The purpose of Children's Chapel is to provide our youngest parishioners (age 4 through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade) with a child-friendly version of the liturgy—the things we do in church. They **HEAR** the Word through Bible readings and a children's "sermon". They **RESPOND** through **PRAYER** and **PRAISE**. They **AFFIRM** what they believe via a children's version of the Creed. Third graders can sign up to be leaders: Chapel Cross crucifers, readers, prayer leaders, etc.

### What if my four-year-old isn't quite ready for chapel—they have a hard time sitting still or they just "aren't sure" about leaving me during the service?

We understand that some younger children may be unsure about leaving you during church. Children's Chapel is just one option you have for your child:

- a. Your child is welcome to stay in our Little Lambs 3 & 4-year-old Nursery class where they have their own curriculum consisting of a Bible Story, music and a craft and have plenty of opportunities to "get their wiggles out!" You can always try Chapel again when you feel that your child is ready.
- b. You can accompany your children to Chapel, and sit with them until they're more comfortable with the setting.
- c. Children are always welcome to sit with their families during the whole service.

### What is the Chapel "check-in" procedure?

Each child going to Chapel must have a name tag. You can check your child in at ANY of the computer kiosks around our campus—there are two in the Education building and St. Philip's Hall and one at the Welcome Desk in the Narthex of the Church.

**Please Note:** If you're a guest or just unable to pull up your child's name on the computer to print a badge (for nursery, Chapel or Sunday School) you may not have registered them yet. Please take just a minute and go to the [CFM page at stphilipsfrisco.org](http://cfm.page.at/stphilipsfrisco.org) and register your child. In the meantime, we have provided stick-on nametags at each kiosk that you can use.

### When exactly do the children leave and return to the service?

Children are released before the Scripture readings, unless there's a baptism. On those days, we let the children stay in the service to watch and then release them to Chapel. One of the clergy always announces when it's time to leave. In the case of inclement weather, because the children travel to a separate building for chapel, clergy will make the call if Children's Chapel is meeting during that particular service.

Regarding return, we have a few options for parents:

- At the **9:00 am** Sunday morning service, parents can select which option works best for their four-year-old through 3<sup>rd</sup> grader:
  1. Child is returned to parent at The Peace for family Communion.
  2. Child will remain in Extended Chapel until parent picks them up after the service.

3. Child and parents are staying for the 10:15 am Education hour, so child will remain in Extended Chapel and a Chapel Shepherd will escort them to their Sunday School class when it begins. Parents will pick up child no later than 11:05 am.

- At the **5:00 pm** Saturday and **11:15 am** Sunday services, 1<sup>st</sup> graders through 3<sup>rd</sup> graders are returned during The Peace for family Communion. Parents can choose (at check-in) for their 4 or 5-year-old or kindergartener to also return for Communion or to stay in Extended Chapel. Children staying for Extended Chapel at these two services can be picked up in a designated room in the Preschool/Education building when the service is over.

### **Where IS Children's Chapel?**

Children's Chapel is located in the "Quad" area in the southeast corner of St. Philip's Hall.

### **Should my child take anything with them to Chapel?**

We prefer that any toys, candy, bags, etc. be left behind so as to not be a distraction to them or others. There is no "downtime" in Chapel—they are either listening or singing or praying—so they don't need anything to keep them occupied. Thank you for helping us with this.

Should you have any other questions, please contact Sarah Koniar, Interim Director of Children & Family Ministry, [sarahkoniar@stphilipsfrisco.org](mailto:sarahkoniar@stphilipsfrisco.org).