Printable/ Felt Vestments for Father Pine

Marking the liturgical season in your home is a wonderful practice that will enable you to keep your family more in tune with The Church and Its feast days. Doing this with the vestments of Father Pine will help children connect what they are celebrating and talking about at home with the mystery of the mass at your parish.

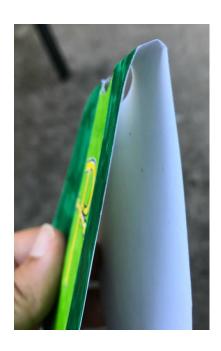
Included here are 2 different options of creating a Father Pine for your family. Those options are:

- 1. Printable Vestments made to fit a standard cross made from popsicle sticks
- 2. General instructions for making your own vestments from felt to fit a larger cross.



Regardless of the method you use to create your Father Pine, you should create 7 different vestments in the following colors:

- 1. Green
 - a. For ordinary time. Symbolizes life and nature
- 2. Purple
 - a. For Lent and Advent. Symbolizes sorrow and penance
- 3. Red
 - a. For feast days of the martyrs, Holy Spirit, and the Precious Blood
- 4. White
 - a. For feast days. Symbolizes purity, innocence, rejoicing, and light.
- Gold
 - a. For high feast days.
- 6. Rose
 - a. For the 3rd Sunday of Advent, 4th Sunday of Lent. Symbolizes a respite during a period of waiting.
- 7. Black
 - a. For Good Friday and Funerals. Symbolizes mourning and death.

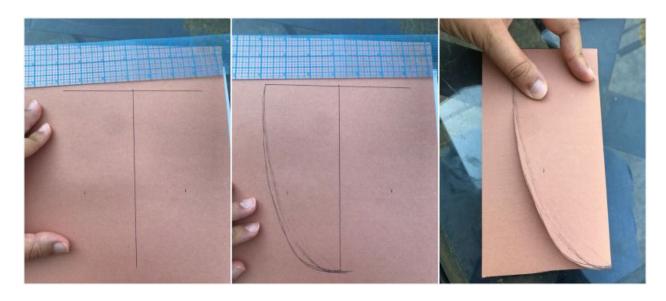


The printable version of this project is labeled by color. To assemble simply color the vestments, cut them out, and fold at the top. To help the vestment lay flat, make two small folds at the top, as pictured above.

How to Make Felt Vestments



There was no way to make a universal pattern for the felt vestments, but it is simple to create your own pattern. Here's how.



- 1. Measure the cross you are using for your "Father Pine", both vertically and horizontally. Draw the vertical and horizontal lines on a piece of paper, as shown in the first picture.
- 2. Sketch a curved line down one side, from the tip of the horizontal line, down to the bottom of the vertical line, as shown in the second image.
- 3. Cut out the sketched side of the vestment. Fold over and trace so that the vestment is symmetrical, as shown in the third image. Then cut along the traced line.
- 4. Now, this is just the front of the vestment. Either place this pattern on a fold when cutting out the vestment or cut out two pieces for felt based on the pattern and sew or glue along the top.
- 5. Once the vestment if cut out, front and back, cut an oval along the top fold so that the head/top of the cross can fit through.
- 6. Finally, the pattern for felt vestments includes several liturgical symbols that you can cut out of felt and use to decorate your felt vestments. I decided to keep my vestments simple and decorate simply with colored ribbon which I glued on the fabric glue.

Ideas for Fr. Pine Stand

Idea #1: Popsicle Stick



For the printable version of Fr. Pine I wanted to make a cross that was super cheap to make, and out of materials that everyone would have easy access to. So I made it out of popsicle sticks! There are lots of ways to do this, but here's what I did. If you do it this way, the printable vestments will fit perfectly.

- 1. Create a simple cross out of 10 popsicle sticks, as pictured above.
- 2. Next, create a base of popsicle sticks that is thick enough to support it. Finally, build the base around the base of the cross and glue it down securely.
- 3. I also allowed my kids to paint the cross and base.

Idea #2: Wooden Cross and Base

Another good option for making a Father Pine is to purchase a wooden cross and base at a craft store, like Michael's or Walmart. I did this for our felt vestments. (This is why it was impossible to make one pattern for the felt vestments... There are such a wide variety of crosses available, from table top to wall sized)

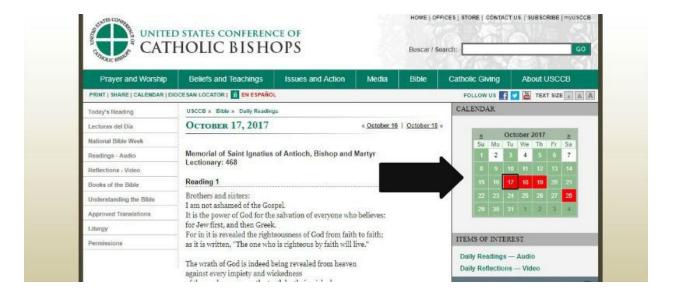
We painted the cross and the base. Once dry we used superglue to glue them together.



How to Keep Track of the Liturgical Season

To be honest, Father Pine has been as instructional for me as it has been for my kids! When we first started using Father Pine in our home I struggled to confidently dress him each morning. And then I came up with a simple solution: The USCCB website.

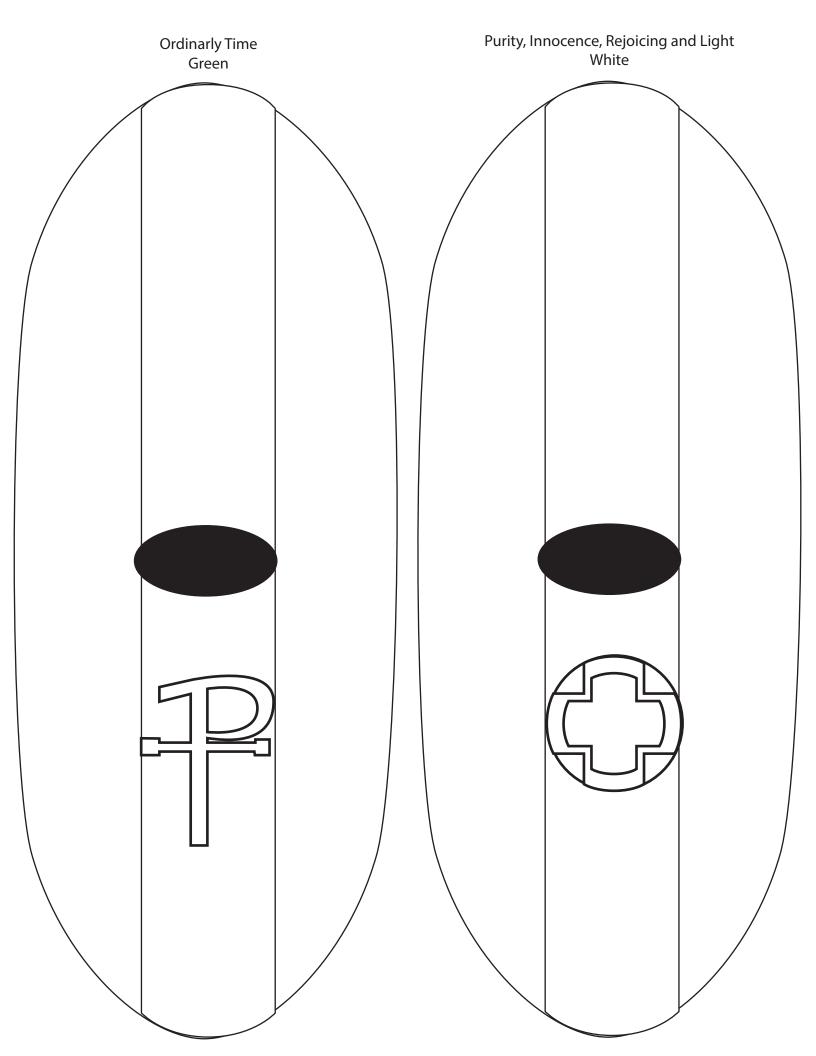
Along with providing the daily readings, The USCCB also provides a little calendar on the homepage with each day denoted in its liturgical color. It's like a quick guide to liturgical colors!

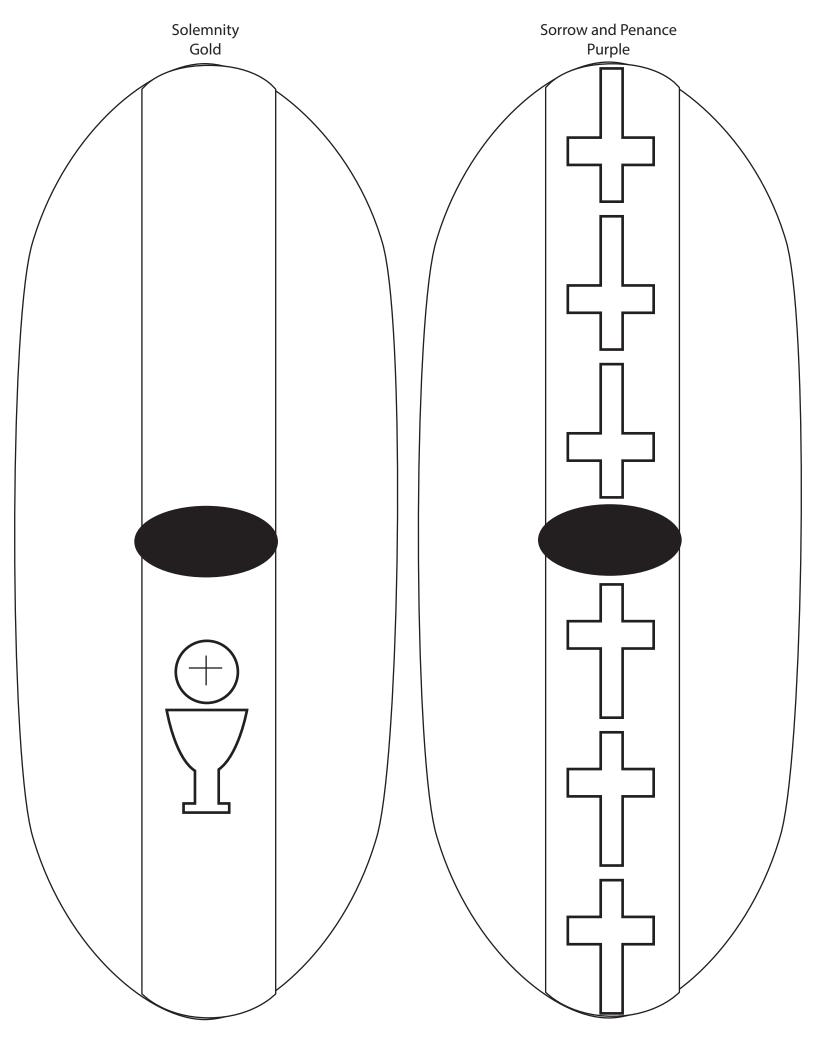


There are other ways to double check the liturgical color each day, but this has proven to be the simplest for us.

Once again, thank you for your support! I pray that you find the simple activity fruitful and fun!

Prayers! Nancy





Use the following elements for felt vestments
Use your computer/printer to scale objects to the approiate size.
Then, cut out the shape, tape the paper shape to the felt and cut around.
Then, secure the felt piece to your vestment with thread or glue.

