

### Catholic Apologetics — Clergy Vestments (Week 4 of 7)

**Orarion (D)** *(D - deacon, P - priest, & B - bishop)*

The orarion, or deacon's stole, is a vestment unique to deacons. Usually 4 inches wide and about ten feet long, this garment is made of brocade with seven crosses embroidered or appliquéd along its length. The deacon wears it over his left shoulder and drapes the front portion over his left forearm during liturgical services. He often takes this section in his right hand when leading litanies or performing a particular action. When preparing for Communion, the deacon ties the stole around his waist and brings the ends up over his shoulders. This forms an X-shaped cross on his back. Then he brings the ends down in front and tucks them under the section around his waist. This lowers the rank of the deacon to subdeacon to symbolize a form of humility.

**Cuffs (D, P, B)**

The fabric cuffs lace onto the clergyman's wrists. This vestment contains the sleeves of the baptismal robe, and there is usually a cross in the center. Note: since a deacon wears a more elaborate sticharion, he wears the cuffs underneath the robe and over his cassock sleeves instead. The cuffs serve a rather practical purpose: ensuring the sleeves of the sticharion do not get in the priest's way during worship. However, they still do remind the clergymen that they celebrate and partake of the Mysteries by the power and Grace of God, not on their own merit. The cuffs also serve to remind us of the bonds that tied the Savior's hands during His Passion.

**Epitrachelion (P, B)**

The epitrachelion (Greek, "around the neck") is the stole worn by priests and bishops. This liturgical vestment is worn around the neck with the two adjacent sides sewn or buttoned together. The ends extend all the way to the priest's ankles. Similar to the orarion (deacon's stole), this vestment has seven embroidered or appliquéd crosses, one at the back of the neck and three down each side. The priest wears this vestment whenever serving. For some services, like Vespers or Matins, he wears the stole by itself over the outer cassock. When fully vested for the Divine Liturgy, he wears the stole over the sticharion and under the zone (or belt) and the phelonion. If an Orthodox or Byzantine priest simply attends a service, he does not wear liturgical vestments, but will put on the stole. This liturgical vestment symbolizes the spiritual yoke of the priesthood. It also symbolizes the double portion of God's Grace bestowed upon a priest, for the celebration of the Mysteries. It is the one vestment (in the absence of any others) that is absolutely necessary for a priest to conduct any liturgical service. Without it, he cannot serve. The stole was originally made of wool, which symbolized the sheep, or members of Christ's flock. Both bishops and priests wear this vestment when exercising their pastoral office, witnessing to the fact that ministers of the Church live and act solely for the members of Christ's flock.



Rev. Fr Andriy Kelt, Pastor  
 Very Rev. Fr. Anthony Balistreri  
 Fr. Deacon Christopher Bellock  
 Fr. Deacon Anthony Dragani, PhD.  
 814.948.9193

Anyone wishing to be a member of the parish, contact Fr. Andriy

Immaculate Conception -  
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 Ukrainian Catholic Church  
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 Altoona, PA 16601



# Our Weekly Bulletin

## 100th Anniversary Celebration

Mark your calendars


**October 4, 2026**

Bishop Bohdan has confirmed the date that he will be with us to celebrate the 100 years of the founding of our parish.

**588 days or 84 weeks**

Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory forever!  
 Christ is among us! He is and always will be!

### Divine Liturgies and Services for the Week

<b>Sunday, Feb 23</b>	Sunday of Meatfare - The Last Judgement	Margaret Reighard
<b>Feb 24</b>	No Liturgy	
<b>Feb 25</b>	No Liturgy	
<b>Feb 26</b>	No Liturgy	
<b>Feb 27</b>	No Liturgy	
<b>Feb 28</b>	No Liturgy	
<b>Mar 1</b>	No Liturgy	
<b>Sunday, Mar 2</b>	Sunday of Cheesefare - Forgiveness Sunday	✠ Michael Lutak The Yahnners

*If you are looking for a closer relationship with Jesus Christ and are looking for a home, you are welcome to be part of our kid friendly family in Christ. You have found your way home.*



**Sunday of Meatfare - The Last Judgment**

1 Corinthians 8:8-9:2

Matthew 25:31-46

*Troparion (Tone 7)*

By Your cross You destroyed death; You opened Paradise to the thief; You changed the lamentation of the myrrh-bearers to joy, and charged the apostles to proclaim that You are risen, O Christ our God, offering great mercy to the world.

*Kondakion of Meatfare (Tone 1)*

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever. Amen.

When You came on earth, O God, in glory and the universe trembles, while the river of fire flows before the seat of judgment, and the books are opened and all the secrets disclosed, then deliver me from the unquenchable fire, and count me worthy to stand at Your right hand, O Judge who are most just.

*Prokeimen*

The Lord will give strength to His people;  
the Lord will bless His people with peace.

*Verse* Bring to the Lord, O you sons for God; bring to the Lord young rams.

The Lord will give strength to His people;  
the Lord will bless His people with peace.

*Alleluia*

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

It is good to give praise to the Lord; and to sing in Your name, O Most High.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

To announce Your mercy in the morning and Your truth every night.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

*Communion Verse*

Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise Him in the highest. Alleluia. (3)

**Weekly Collection** - February 16, 2025 - \$115.00. Thank you for your generosity.

Sunday - \$85.00 Candles - \$5.00 Improvements - \$10.00

Diocesan - \$10.00 Misc. - \$5.00

**PARISH NEWS**

**Saturdays with Jesus** - March 8, 2025

Adult Catechism 10 to 12

Children's Catechism 1 to 2:30PM

**March Events**

March 1 - Pyrohi sale - Tell your friends and family to come an stock up on our delicious Pyrohi. They make a great Lenten meal. Tell your friends and family.

March 22 & 29 - Our annual Pysanky Class from 9 to 12. Spread the word to your friends. Pyrohi - Pyrohi are available for purchase.

Congratulations to Therese Marie on her reception of the holy mysteries of Baptism, Chrismation, and Holy Eucharist.

May God grant her good health, long life and many happy years!

Многая і благая літа!

**Prayer List**

Millie & Steve Deskevich, Connie Butkus, Kathy Ott, Sarah Kelt, Gary Maurer, Jeremiah Hunt, Margaret Reighard, Mary Catherine Hoover, The Fernandez family, Jennifer Maurer, Breanna Borlie, Tom and Kris, Joe Gomes, Thomas, Richard Shonk, Ryder McDermitt, Steve Helsel, Patricia Dragani, Eugene, Sonya Kohan Kevin Rogers, Darla Tishok, the Williams family, Patty Hunt, Pat Bodenski, Wendy Haggerty.

*To add or remove a name, place your request in the collection basket.*



**Joke of the Day**

Driving with my two young boys to a funeral, I tried to prepare them by talking about burial and what we believe happens after death. The boys behaved well during the service. But at the gravesite, I discovered my explanations weren't as thorough as I'd thought. In a loud voice, my four-year-old asked, "Mom?" "Yes," I whispered. "What's in the box?"