

Catholic Apologetics — Clergy Vestments (Week 2 of 7)

Question:

Why are Byzantine Catholic and Orthodox clergy “adorned” in fancy vestments at worship services? Doesn’t this stand in conflict with Christ’s teachings on humility?

Answer:

The idea of those who preside at public worship services wearing garments that set them apart is not unknown in Scripture. In Exodus 28, Moses is commanded by God to have a breastpiece, an ephod, a robe, a woven tunic, a turban and a sash for Aaron and his sons to serve God as priests. God even stipulated what each garment piece should look like and what should be affixed to it. In virtually every Christian tradition—Orthodox, Catholic, and much of Protestantism—presiding clergy wear vestments of some type, albeit not of the same “style,” when engaged in leading the faithful in worship. So, those who lead public worship are “set apart” by wearing “formal” robes specific to their calling, and not for the purpose of exalting themselves above the so-called “rank and file.” The purpose here is not to “personally adorn” the clergy or to elevate them “above the common people,” any more than judges who wear black robes or physicians who wear a white jacket are being aggrandized because of their vocations. When discharging their “official duties,” judges and physicians vest themselves accordingly, indicating their “functions,” so to speak. So too clergy, when officiating at liturgical services, wear vestments. Vestments, obviously, do not resemble “secular” garb, in line with the fact that liturgical celebrations are not “secular” gatherings, nor are they designed to resemble them. Liturgy is our experience of and participation in the very Kingdom of God, yet to be fully revealed but already fully present in the life of the Church, her worship, and her sacraments.



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 -
 St. Mary's
 Ukrainian Catholic Church
 3711 Campbell Avenue
 Northern Cambria, PA 15714

Holy Protection of the Mother of God
 Ukrainian Catholic Church
 560 Cambria Avenue
 PO Box 194
 Revloc, PA 15948-0194

Immaculate Conception -
 St. Mary's
 Ukrainian Catholic Church
 2024 20th Street
 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.

602 days or 86 weeks

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

Divine Liturgies and Services for the Week

Sunday, Feb 9	Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee	✠ Pat Pecora
Feb 10	No Liturgy	
Feb 11	No Liturgy	
Feb 12	No Liturgy	
Feb 13	No Liturgy	
Feb 14	No Liturgy	
Feb 15	No Liturgy	
Sunday, Feb 16	Sunday of the Prodigal Son	✠ Jeff Gummo

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 the Publican and the Pharisee

2 Timothy 3:10-15

Luke 18:10-14

Troparion of the Resurrection (Tone 5)

Let us the faithful acclaim and worship the Word, co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit, and born of the Virgin for our salvation. For He willed to be lifted up on the cross in the flesh, to suffer death and to raise the dead by His glorious resurrection.

Troparion of the Encounter (Tone 1)

Rejoice, full of grace, Virgin Mother of God! From you, there dawned the Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God, who enlightens those who dwell in darkness. And you, O righteous Elder, be glad! You received in your embrace the Liberator of our souls, who grants us resurrection.

Kondakion of the Publican and the Pharisee (Tone 3)

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

Let us bring sighs of sorrow to the Lord as did the publican and approach the Master as sinners, for He desires salvation for everyone. He grants forgiveness to all who repent. For as God, the One who is co-eternal with the Father, He became flesh for us.

Kondakion of the Encounter (Tone 3)

Now and ever and for ever. Amen.

By Your birth, You sanctified a virgin womb and fittingly blessed the hands of Simeon. You have come also now and saved us O Christ God; give peace to Your community in time of war, and strengthen its rulers, whom You love, for You alone are the Lover of Mankind.

Prokeimen

You, O Lord, will guard us and will keep us from this generation, and forever.

Verse Save me, O Lord, for there is no longer left a just man.

You, O Lord, will guard us and will keep us from this generation, and forever.

Alleluia

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Verse Your mercies, O Lord, I will sing forever;
from generation to generation I will announce Your truth with my mouth.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Verse For You have said: Mercy shall be built up forever;
In the heavens Your truth shall be prepared.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Communion Verse

Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise Him in the highest.
I will take the chalice of salvation; and I will call upon the name of the Lord. Alleluia. (3)

Weekly Collection - February 2, 2025 - \$704.00. Thank you for your generosity.

Sunday - \$395.00 Candles - \$5.00 Holy Day - \$15.00

Dues - \$50.00 Initial - \$10.00 Misc. - \$229.00

PARISH NEWS

Saturdays with Jesus - March 8, 2025

Adult Catechism 10 to 12 Children's Catechism 1 to 2:30PM

Pinching Day - We will be making pyrohi on Feb 13 starting at 8AM.

Come and help with this fundraiser event.

March Events

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

March 22 & 29 - Our annual Pysanky Class from 9 to 12. Spread the word to your friends.



Today we honor the Holy Mystery of Matrimony.

Marriage was blessed by Jesus

when He preformed His first miracle changing water into wine.

May God grant to all the married couples
good health, long life, and many happy years!

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.

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



Joke of the Day

We were really confused. While transcribing medical audiotapes, a colleague came upon the following garbled diagnosis: "This man has pholenfrometry." Knowing nothing about that particular condition, she double-checked with the doctor. After listening to the tape, he shook his head. "This man," he said, translating for her, "has fallen from a tree."