

Catholic Apologetics — Clergy Vestments (Week 7 of 7)
(D - deacon, P - priest, & B - bishop)

Sakkos (B)

The sakkos (Greek: “sackcloth”) is a vestment worn by bishops in place of the priest’s phelonion. The bishop wears the sakkos whenever celebrating the Divine Liturgy and other services when called out by the rubrics. It is a tunic with wide sleeves, and a distinctive pattern of trim. It reaches below the knees and fastens up the sides with buttons or ribbons. There is normally a cross centered on the back, which the bishop kisses before it is placed on him. Traditionally, bells are attached to the sakkos, following the biblical directions for the vestments of the Jewish High Priest (Exodus 28:33-34; 39:25-26). The sakkos was originally worn by the Byzantine Emperor as an imperial vestment, symbolizing the tunic of disgrace worn by Christ during his trial and mockery.

Omophorion (B)

In the Eastern liturgical tradition, the omophorion is a vestment for bishops, which the bishop wears around his neck and shoulders. Originally of wool, it is a band of brocade decorated with crosses. There are two types of omophorion: great and small. The great omophorion is worn most often. When multiple bishops celebrate liturgy together, it is customary for the chief celebrant to use the great omophorion, while the other bishops wear the small one. The omophorion serves as the symbol of a bishop’s spiritual and ecclesiastical authority. We often say that those subject to a bishop’s authority are “under his omophorion”. Further, the omophorion symbolizes the lost sheep that the Good Shepherd (Christ) finds and carries upon His shoulders. In other words, this emphasizes the bishop’s pastoral role as an icon of Christ.

Crozier (B)

The crozier/crosier is a staff that bishops and senior monastics (abbots/abbesses) carry as a symbol of authority and jurisdiction. Croziers are usually made of fine metal gilded or silver-plated. Some may also be made of fine wood. These staffs come with one of two tops:

- The Greek letter *Tau* with the arms curving downward, surmounted by a cross. *Tau* is the ancient Greek symbol of resurrection and life.
- A pair of serpents or dragons with their heads curled back to face each other, with a small cross between them. This symbolizes the bishop’s diligence in protecting his flock. The bishop carries this staff while outside the altar, and does not take it with him into the altar. Before entering the altar, the bishop or monastic will lean the crozier against the iconostasis, next to the icon of Christ to the right of the Royal Doors.



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.

567 days or 81 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, Mar 16	Sunday of St. Gregory Palamas	✠ Mary Ann Robatin
Mar 17	No Liturgy	
Mar 18	No Liturgy	
Mar 19	Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts - Northern Cambria	5:00PM 
Mar 20	No Liturgy	
Mar 21	Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts - Revloc	3:30PM 
Mar 22	No Liturgy	
Sunday, Mar 23	Sunday of Veneration of the Life-giving Cross	✠ Debra Manculich

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.

Second Sunday of the Great Fast - St. Gregory Palamas

Hebrews 1:10-2:3



Mark 2:1-12

Troparion (Tone 2)

When You went down to death, O Life Immortal, You struck Hades dead with the blazing light of Your divinity. When You raised the dead from the nether world, all the powers of heaven cried out: "O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory be to You!"

Kondakion (Tone 4)

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever Amen. The time for action is now revealed; the Judge is at the door. Let us rise then and keep the fast, offering tears of contrition with alms and crying aloud: our sins are more numerous than the sands of the sea, but forgive us, O Maker of all, that we may receive incorruptible crowns.

Prokeimen (Tone 5)

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

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 for ever.

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

*Turn to page 274 to page 295 for St Basil's Liturgy in the blue book.
After the Hymn to the Mother of God, turn to page 153 in the blue book.*

Communion Verse

Praise the Lord from the heaven; praise Him in the highest.

Rejoice in the Lord, O you just; praise befits the righteous, Alleluia. (3)

Weekly Collection - March 9, 2025 - \$560.00. Thank you for your generosity.
Sunday - \$420.00 Candles - \$5.00 Flowers - \$35.00 Misc. - \$20.00
Improvements - \$10.00 Pyrohi - \$50.00

PARISH NEWS

Saturdays with Jesus - May 10, 2025

Adult Catechism 10 to 12

Children's Catechism 1 to 2:30PM

March Events

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

Pyrohi - Pyrohi are available for purchase.

Presanctified Gifts - Wednesdays at 5:00PM Northern Cambria Fridays at 3:30 PM Revloc

Easter Bake Sale - Our parish will be baking Paskas and nut roll, apricot roll, and poppyseed rolls. Please spread the word to everyone that you know. These fundraisers help with the budget.

Future Repairs - Anyone wishing to donate toward the future repairs, place your donation in the basket. Write on the envelope for where you wish it to be used (parking lot, flooring in the hall, ceiling repair in the church)

Holy Thursday Dinner - Please sign up for the dinner if you will be attending.

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

At 82 years old, my husband applied for his first passport. He was told he would need a birth certificate, but his birth had never been officially registered. When he explained his dilemma to the passport agent, the response was less than helpful. "It's all right," the agent said. "Just bring a notarized affidavit from the doctor who delivered you."