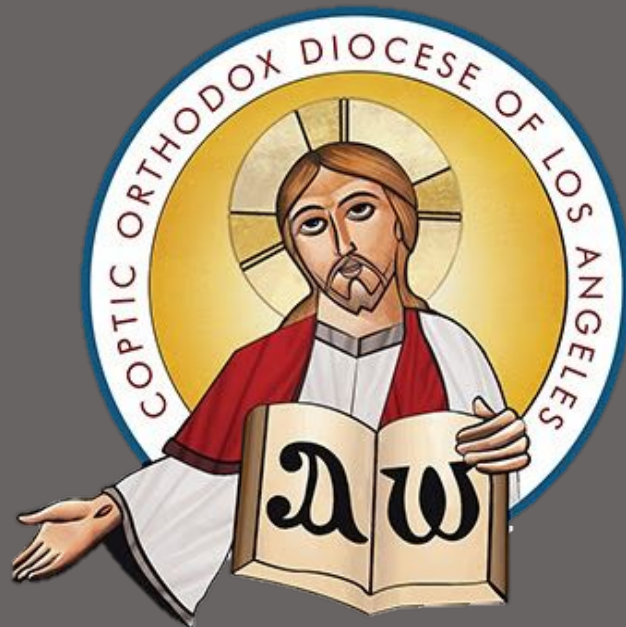


Vestments



Purpose of Liturgical Vestments

- The concept of devoting special apparel for use at worship services has its origin in the Old Testament
 - God commanded Moses to prepare sacred garments that would impart dignity and grandeur to those who serve in the tabernacle.

Consecration of Liturgical Vestments

- Liturgical vestments must be consecrated by a Bishop, who makes the sign of the cross over the vestment, consecrating it in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
- Before the celebration of the Divine Liturgy, the officiating priest makes the sign of the cross over the deacons' vestments. When a bishop is present, it is he who makes the sign of the cross over them.

Meanings of Colors

White	Signifies purity, cleanliness, innocence, sanctification of the heart, and the virtues that God's servants should have <ul style="list-style-type: none">• "He was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and His clothes became as white as the light." Matthew 12:2• St. John saw around the throne of God, twenty-four presbyters "clothed in white robes; and they had crowns of gold on their heads" Revelation 4:4
Gold	Represents royalty and majesty
Red or Crimson	Symbolic of the Blood of our Savior in which we have the New Covenant of the remission of our sins
Purple or Dark Blue	Represent mourning, used only during funeral services, and the Holy Passion Week.
Black	-Indicates spiritual poverty – historically the easiest and cheapest color to dye fabric -Color of mourning/death – symbolizes dying to oneself to rise and serve the Lord

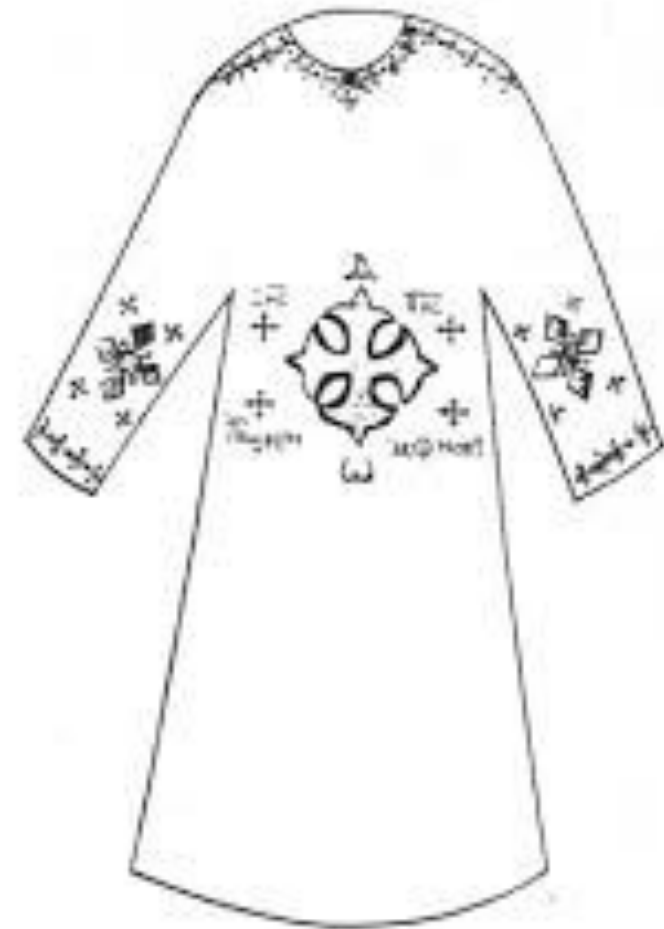
Types of Liturgical Vestments

Each of the three grades of the ecclesiastical hierarchy has its own liturgical vestments. This chart illustrates the different types of vestments for each order

Bishop	Priest	Deacon
Tunic (Tonia)	Tunic (Tonia)	Tunic (Tonia)
Presbyterial/Episcopal Stole (Sadra)	Presbyterial/Episcopal Stole (Sadra)	Stole (Badrashel)
Sleeves (Epimanikia)	Sleeves (Epimanikia)	
Girdle (Al Mintaqa)	Girdle (Al Mintaqa)	
Cape (Bornos)	Cape (Bornos)	
Cap (Em'ma)	Cap (Em'ma)	
Crown	Taylassan	
Ballin		
Pastorial Staff		

The Tunic (Tonía)

- The tunic is a white robe
- The tunic should be long, reaching from the neck down to the ankles
 - Symbolizes God's grace that covers the servant
- Stripes around the edges of the sleeves and around the neck symbolize the ropes by which our Savior was bound.



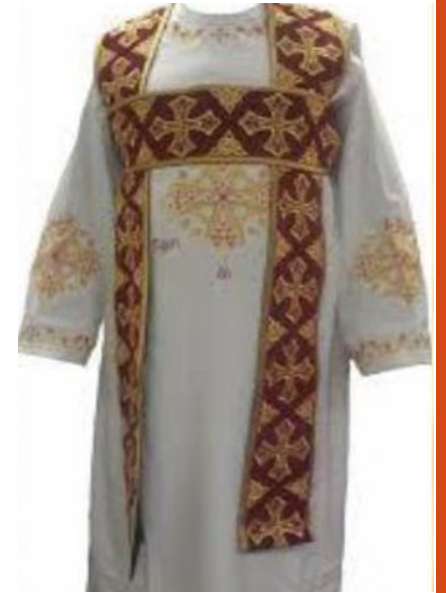
Tunic

The Stole (Badrashil)

- A wide red ribbon worn over the shoulders of the deacon
- The stole can be reversed to a dark blue, purple, or black color to be worn for funerals or during Holy Week
- The way it is worn varies depending on the rank of the deacon. Chanters do not wear a stole.

The Stole (Badrashil), cont.

- Readers and Subdeacons wear the stole in the form of a cross on his back, with it wrapped around the front as a belt
 - The cross on the back represents carrying the cross with Christ
 - The belt in the front is a sign of getting ready for service, like John the Baptist who used to gird his waist
- Deacons and Archdeacons wear the stole on their left shoulder
 - It is a sign of carrying the cross, while the edges of the stole resemble the wings of angels



Presbyterial/Episcopal Stole (Sadra)

- Similar to the breastplate worn by Aaron, according to God's command
- Essentially like the deacons' stole wrapped around the neck with both ends hanging on the front side (instead of on one side of the shoulder)
- These ends were later connected from under the neck through the bottom to be as one strip in the front with a visible connection
- Embroidered with crosses, or if worn by a bishop/patriarch, with figures of the 12 apostles



Cape (Bornos)

- Round, sleeveless loose robe worn over the shoulders by priests, bishops and the patriarch. It is given to them at their ordination
- Made of fine material and is embroidered with elegant artwork, especially crosses
- Worn over all other vestments – described as “the garment of celestial glory”
- Putting on the cape at the beginning of the Divine service, the minister remembers the responsibility of carrying the lost sheep joyfully on his shoulders (Luke 15:4,5), but at the start of the Liturgy of the Faithful, he removes it in honor of the Chief Shepherd, our Lord Jesus Christ.



Girdle

- A band of silk or linen embroidered with gold or silver crosses
- Worn over the Sadra around the waist
- Historically used by priests and bishops, but now is restricted to bishops/the patriarch on certain ceremonial occasions
- Monks wear a simple girdle/belt made of leather



Cap (Em'ma)

- A round hat worn by bishops and priests
- Originally a hat with a turban wrapped around it
- Its significance is to remind the pope/bishop/priest that although they have authority, they are still under the commandment and authority of God



Taylassan

- Head cover worn by the priest during the divine liturgy
- A wide rectangular cloth with crosses drawn on the front and back
- In the past, it was folded around the head like a turban then lowered from the back
- Wearing it on the head reminds us of spiritual alertness and the concentration of the mind during the service (1 Thes 5:8, Ephesians 6:16)



Ballin

- A white silk scarf about 13 feet long and 4 feet wide, embroidered with large gold or silver crosses and sometimes embedded with precious stones
- May be worn at the liturgy on top of the Em'ma and folded crosswise on the chest and back



Crown/Miter

- A royal headdress of the patriarch and bishops during liturgy, made of crimson velvet with precious stones and decorations, topped with a jeweled cross
- A bishop is crowned upon his enthronement and installation in his diocese



Pastorial Staff

- The staff is used by the patriarch and bishops at times other than the Divine Liturgy
- It refers to the shepherds staff that as received from the great Shepherd
- The bishop does not carry the staff in the presence of the patriarch, and not in a parish or diocese other than his own, unless the bishop of the diocese approves this
- During the Divine Services, the staff is replaced by a beautifully ornamented stick, called a crosier, with one or two serpents made of precious metal.
 - It refers firstly to wisdom..."be wise as serpents" (Matt. 10:16) and secondly, to the Cross, in which we get the healing from the sting of the old serpent, similar to the bronze serpent that was raised in the wilderness (Num 21:4-9;



Priestly and Monastic Garb

- Priests and monks and nuns wear black tunics at all times except when celebrating the divine liturgy. Black symbolizes many things, as previously discussed



Monastic Hood (Qalansuwa) & Nuns' Scarf

- Covered with 12 crosses symbolizing the 12 apostles, to protect the wearer from evil thoughts and keep him clean
- The seam on the top reminds the monks of St. Anthony the Great and how demons pulled on his hood and tore it, but he resisted temptation and sewed it back together.
- The scarf that a nun wears on her head refers to the fact that she threw the world behind her back.



Significance of Wearing Beards

- As the priest celebrates liturgy, he is a reminder of Christ for us, even to the point where he is a living semblance of Him
- Beards are a rejection of the world and its vanity
- Orthodox piety begins in the traditions of the Old Testament, where the Lord gave the following commandment regarding priestly holiness “...nor shall they shave the edges of their beards, nor make any cuttings in their flesh”(Leviticus 21:5)



Review!

Which of these do priests wear?



A. Ballin



B. Taylassan



C. Badrashel

Who wears the crown?

- A. Deacons
- B. Priests
- C. Bishops



What is this called?

- A. Taylassan
- B. Pastoral Staff
- C. Ballin



What is this called?

- A. Girdle
- B. Stole
- C. Ballin



Match the rank to the description

- 1. The Chanter (Epsaltos)**
 - 2. The Reader (Anagnostis)**
 - 3. Subdeacon (Epideacon)**
 - 4. Deacon**
 - 5. Priest**
 - 6. Hegumen**
 - 7. Bishop**
 - 8. Patriarch**
- a) They are the shepherd of the flock.
 - b) Their role is to provide for the Church services.
 - c) Their role is to read the Holy Scriptures in Church during the Liturgy.
 - d) Required to learn and sing the Church hymns.
 - e) Their main work is to sanctify the bread and wine during the Holy Liturgy and to give communion to the congregation.
 - f) One of the duties is to pour water for the priest to wash his hands upon the start of the Mass.
 - g) Can ordain bishops
 - h) Their most important role is keeping the Church organized.