

Chapel of Saint Valentine

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them.

1 John 4:16b

5 Pear Court
Mount Sinai, New York 11766-1826
www.ChapelofSaintValentine.org

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VESTURE OF CLERGY

As presbyters of the World Christianity Ministries, the clergy of the Chapel of Saint Valentine are to wear at least choir dress (cassock, surplice and tippet/stole) or alb/cassock-alb and stole at all public services except in special circumstances. It is generally not permitted to officiate at regular public worship in clerical or lay street wear. Common sense should guide the cleric in his choice of vesture at all times. A dignified appearance that reflects the cleric's mission and position as a minister of the Church should be the goal in every case.

BASIC VESTURE / CHOIR DRESS

When presiding at the Daily Office, clergy should vest in cassock, surplice, and tippet (preaching scarf), donned in that order. Academic hoods and preaching bands may be worn. If attending services *in choro*, vesture is identical, or a cotta may be worn instead of a surplice, but then a mozzetta replaces the tippet.

Tippet, academic hood, and preaching bands are not worn with an alb or a mozzetta.

Optionally, orders and medals may be worn on the tippet (*not* on the mozzetta) with choir dress (e.g. on Memorial Day).

ACADEMIC DRESS

Academic dress consists of cassock, sash (fascia, cassock cincture), preaching bands, academic gown of your highest degree, academic hood of your highest degree, and academic hat, Canterbury hat, or biretta.

GENEVA GOWN

When presiding at weddings or funerals for those who do not profess the Christian faith, or at certain other occasions, including ecumenical or interfaith services, a Geneva (pulpit) gown may be worn, with or without preaching bands. A stole should not be worn with a Geneva gown, though a tippet may be worn if celebrating a Service or Liturgy of the Word.

EUCCHARISTIC VESTMENTS

Alb and amice or cassock-alb, cincture/girdle, stole, and chasuble, donned in that order.

Cassock, surplice, and stole (or alb and stole, with or without cincture) are also approved Eucharistic vesture.

COPES

If a cope is worn for a choir office then it is worn over a cassock, surplice, and tippet, but an academic hood is not worn. If a cope is worn for a service when a stole is worn, then it can be worn over either a cassock and surplice or an alb (or cassock-alb).

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CASSOCK-ALBS

Some albs are made in such a way that they can be treated as if they were white cassocks (used commonly in hot climates or in the summer). However, a cassock-alb must be treated as one or the other, a cassock or an alb, and not both at the same time. If it is being treated as a white cassock, then a cassock sash may be worn and something (surplice/cotta or alb) is worn over it, as one would over a black cassock. If it is being worn as an alb, then it cannot be treated as a cassock – e.g., with the belt, sash or cincture of a cassock and a stole, at the same time.

ZUCCHETTO

When the zucchetto is worn, it is worn in- or outdoors, and, only if a bishop, in the liturgy. Other clerics leave it in the sacristy or remove it during the mass.

All bishops, priests and deacons may wear the zucchetto indoors outside the mass. This includes the choir offices and other prayer or liturgical functions, except those involving the Eucharist. Those who wear the zucchetto in choir remove it whenever they genuflect or bow to the altar, when kneeling, when they receive the sprinkling of holy water, while they say the *Kyrie Eleison*, *Gloria in Excelsis*, the Creeds, the *Sanctus*, the *Agnus Dei*, during the proclamation of the Gospel, while they are incensed, at the Confession of Sin, and while being blessed by the celebrant.

The zucchetto may be worn with house dress or formal dress.

BIRETTA (OR CANTERBURY CAP)

When the biretta is worn, it is worn outdoors. It is only worn indoors as follows:

High Mass:

- The officiant and ministers wear the biretta during procession and while seated.
- Clergy in choir carry the biretta in procession, wear it while seated, and remove it while standing or kneeling.
- The biretta is removed during the mention of the name of Jesus. It is touched, but not removed, during the mention of the name of the Blessed Virgin.
- The biretta is removed prior to the genuflection by the ministers upon arriving at the altar, when it is handed to the server.
- The biretta may be worn while preaching and while going to and from the pulpit. It is removed for the prayers before and after the sermon.
- When it is to be removed, the biretta is always removed prior to standing and replaced after sitting.
- When removing the biretta, it is held in the right hand by the raised edge. While standing, hold the biretta against the breast with both hands. When sitting, rest the biretta on the right knee, while the left hand lies extended on the left knee.

Low Mass:

- The biretta is worn to the altar and then removed.

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- The biretta may be worn while preaching and while going to and from the pulpit. It is removed for the prayers before and after the sermon.
- Unless a reader is used for the Epistle, or another priest is present to deliver the sermon, the biretta is not worn again until after the altar is revered at the end of the mass.

Other Liturgical and Sacramental Rites:

- The officiant wears the biretta in procession as at mass. All others carry the biretta. The other rules for mass apply to other liturgies.
- Optionally, the biretta may be worn while pronouncing absolution in the Reconciliation of a Penitent (confession).
- Optionally, the biretta may be worn when proceeding to the font for Baptism.
- Optionally, the biretta may be worn at the graveside portion of a funeral. It is removed for the prayers and for the blessing of the grave.

Outside Liturgy:

- The biretta may be worn with house dress, particularly at formal or solemn non-liturgical occasions.
- It may be worn with academic dress in lieu of the mortarboard or tam.
- It may be worn while entering and exiting the church.

HOUSE DRESS

Cassock with rabat and clerical collar and fascia (sash). Optionally, a pellegrina (shoulder cape) may be worn. A mozzetta is not to be substituted for the pellegrina. The mozzetta is not worn with the cassock alone, as it is properly worn only over a cotta or rochet.

The cassock is the preferred “everyday” clerical garment, though a clerical shirt or vest and conservative suit in black or charcoal grey is sometimes preferred by many clerics.

Purple cassocks and clerical shirts are reserved for bishops. Cassock fasciae and/or trim may be colored according to the cleric's rank or station.

FORMAL DRESS (BLACK OR WHITE TIE)

Cassock with rabat and clerical collar, fascia, and pellegrina with ferraiolone (silk floor-length cape) and zucchetto (and optionally, a biretta). Also optionally, orders and medals may be worn for formal dress occasions (if they would be appropriate for civilian formal attire).