

St. Mark's Chronicles

JANUARY 2023



Comments from the Clergy

By The Rev'd Canon Lynne Thackwray

A Brief History of Clergy Attire



On the third Sunday of Advent, which was the lessons and carols service, I was asked why the clergy were all wearing different robes – the “black and white” ones (cassock and surplus) as opposed to our usual alb (gown) and appropriately coloured stole (scarf around our neck). So... a brief history of clergy attire.

Way back in history (around 572) clergy were required to wear a tunic to distinguish them from lay people. The tunic was to reach to the feet, as undraped lower limbs were not regarded as seemly in the clergy, at any rate during their service at the altar.

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Comments from the Clergy

By The Rev'd Canon Lynne Thackwray

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Cassock

For much of church history until the 20th century the Cassock was the street wear / uniform of the clergy. When combined with a Surplice and black English stole called either a "Tippet" or "Preaching Scarf" and sometimes accompanied with the academic hood is often designated being dressed in "Choir Office" as the norm for clergy at services of Morning and Evensong as those have traditionally been known in the Church as the Choir offices. The cassock worn so is highly distinctive of Anglicanism. Traditionally Anglican Cassocks are double breasted, buttoning on the shoulders and waist . An Anglican variant of the Roman Cassock exists with 39 buttons (reflecting the 39 Articles of Religion). Other types of the typical black Cassock include variations with red piping worn by Canons and Deans. Bishops typically wear purple Cassocks. The cassock was once the most common form of clerical attire in the parish setting, but beginning in the late 1960s it has been almost universally abandoned.



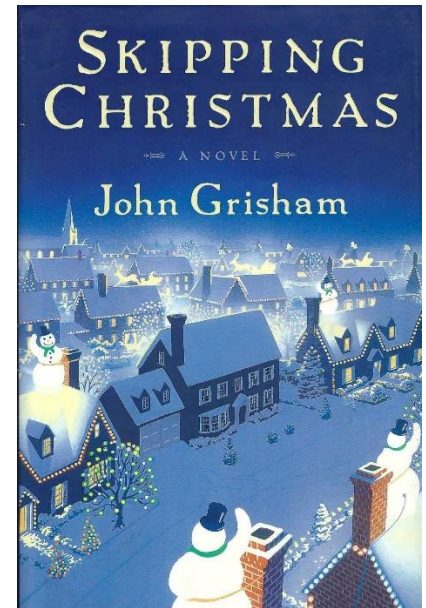
Surplice

A full white vestment with wide sleeves. It has an opening for the head at the top and typically reaches to the knees or beyond. The term is from the Latin superpelliceum, meaning "over a fur garment." It was an oversized alb that was worn as a choir vestment over a fur coat in the drafty and cold churches of northern Europe. It is usually worn over a cassock by clergy. It may also be worn by lay people with particular liturgical ministries at worship such as lectors or choir members. The academic dress of clergy may include cassock, surplice, and tippet, . The Surplice and stole may also be worn by the clergy who presides at a Eucharist or baptism. . Traditionally, however the surplice is used for non-sacramental services, worn over the cassock, such as morning prayer, Vespers, and Compline without Eucharist.

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Book Review

By Bobbie Fowler



***Skipping Christmas* by John Grisham**

John Grisham has become best known for his legal thrillers but this book has become "a classic tale for modern times." The Krank family, Nora and Rupert along with their daughter Blair, has always celebrated Christmas in a BIG way. This year Blair is away in Peru on a peace mission and it would seem that the Kranks can't face Christmas without her. *Skipping Christmas* is an amusing book about the commercialisation of seasonal festivities and the empty nest syndrome. Highly recommended.

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Tippet

A large black scarf worn by clergy over surplice and cassock at the Daily Offices and often at Funerals.



It resembles a stole and is worn around the neck with the ends hanging down the front. It has also been known as the "Preaching Scarf" as it is often worn at various services by the one designated as the Preacher.

Alb



The Alb originated from the white tunic worn by Romans in the first century and was largely worn as an undergarment. It was adopted by the early church for liturgical use. Its name is derived from the Latin "Albus", meaning white. Albs are simple ankle length robes, usually worn by clergy with a Stole and Cincture around the waist. The Alb is typically worn as the base vestment with other special garments over the top, although it is often worn by itself. Albs are especially used during Eucharistic celebrations (Holy Communion). Lay people who act as servers and many who are Layreaders may also wear an Alb.

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The Quiet Corner

By Wilma Jonkheer, from *Quiet Waters*

Christmas is seeing with
childlike
wonder each year once again
God's greatest gift to
man
wrapped up also for you.

Christmas is accepting His gift of grace
with silent amazement,
and holding a love in your heart
too great to contain.

Christmas is letting God transform
your unrefined life into
His own handmade vessel of gold
worthy of pouring His love.

Christmas is already hearing above
the
rumble of our world's events
the grand preparations for the second
coming of the Christ Child.

A Little Bit of Humour

By The Rev'd Canon Lynne Thackwray

The First Pancake

A mother was preparing pancakes for her son Christopher and his younger brother Tyler. The boys began to argue about who would get the first pancake, and their mother saw the opportunity for a moral lesson. She taught them, "If the Lord were sitting here he would say, "Let my brother have the first pancake, I can wait." Christopher's eyes got really big. Then he turned to his younger brother and said, "Tyler, you be the Lord."

Comments from the Clergy

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Stole

The Stole is a scarf-like vestment that hangs around the neck and reaches to the wearers knees, each side sitting parallel. Usually ornately decorated in liturgical colours, with Christian symbols on each end. The Stole is worn over the Alb or the Surplice.



Stoles like many vestments went out of favour in the English Reformation but saw a revival in the 19th century. Only Clergy may wear a Stole. Deacons wear them on their left shoulder crossed diagonally over the chest and Priests and Bishops wear them over the neck, each end hanging parallel.

Chasuble

A highly decorative Eucharistic vestment, the Chasuble is a round/oval piece of fabric with a hole for the wearers head and are usually ornately decorated. Derived from the 'Casula' of ancient Rome which was an outer traveling garment, similar to a poncho. It is a highly formal liturgical vestment worn almost exclusively during the Eucharist, denoting solemnity. Chasubles are always worn as the top layer of vestments, with the Alb and Stole underneath. Only clergy may wear Chasubles. Chasubles match the colour of the liturgical calendar. In Church history Chasubles saw a revival in the 19th century Oxford movement after being banned in the 16th century Reformation.



At St. Mark's we traditionally wear the cassock and surplus on Good Friday and on Advent 3 for the Lessons and Carols. There is no eucharist celebrated at either service.

Poems for the Journey

By Kim McKellar



What the Earth Already Knows

*wind
is only seen
through the lens
of what it touches,
whitecap waves
trees bent low
a full sail a bird that's caught
an upward draft
a toppled barn,
we judge its power
by its impact,
by the
path
it leaves behind*

like this virus

*but also,
like love.*

New Years Trivia Quiz

By The Rev'd Canon Lynne Thackwray

1. Which of the following songs is often used on New Year's Eve in many English-speaking countries?

"Happy New Year" Auld Lang Syne" "This Will Be Our Year"

2. What is traditionally dropped in Times Square, N.Y. City to celebrate New Years' Eve?

a star a ball a giant orange

3. The New Year is the first day of the year for which calendar?

Christian Gregorian Lunar

4. On New Years Eve in London which clock is supposed to strike at midnight?

The Saviour Tower Big Ben Rathaus Glockenspiel

5. What is the first country to celebrate New Years? Tonga Fiji Tuvalu

6. Which film has the highest box office sales of all time on a New Year's Day?

Titanic "Harry Potter And The Order Of The Phoenix" Avatar

7. What is Scotland's well-known tradition for celebrating New Year called?

Pygmalion Hogmanay Hogenkamp

8. According to superstition and tradition in Spain, how many grapes should you eat at midnight on New Year's Eve to bring good luck for the next year?

3 9 12

9. What do people in Romania often toss into rivers at New Year?

Salt coins rice

10. According to traditional customs in some countries, who should be spanked by the head of the household on New Year's Day to bring health to the family?

The oldest family member The children The wife

11. Rosh Hashanah is the New Year in which religion?

Hindu Muslim Jewish

12. At Chinese New Year, what do children receive from their parents as a gift?

Clothes Money Toys

13. Chinese New Year is the occasion to celebrate the beginning of which season in China?

Spring Summer Autumn

14. In which nation would banging walls and doors with bread at New Year dispel bad luck from your house? Ireland Norway Iceland

15. What is the meaning of "Auld Lang Syne"?

For God's sake Old times New beginnings

16. At what time does New Year's Eve end?

12 a.m. 12 p.m. 6 a.m.



Answers available on page 7.

A Little More Humour

By The Rev'd Canon Lynne Thackwray

Morning or Evening

One Sunday morning, the pastor notice little Eric staring at the large plaque that hung in the foyer of the church. The seven year old had been staring at the plaque for some time, so the pastor walked up, stood beside the boy and said quietly, "Good morning Eric." "Good morning, pastor," the young man replied, still staring at the plaque. "Pastor, what is this?" Eric asked. "Well son, those are the names of all the people who died in the service." Soberly, they stood together, looking at the large plaque. Little Eric's voice barely broke the silence, when he asked quietly, "Which one, the morning service or the evening service?"

French Toast Casserole

By The Rev'd Canon Lynne Thackwray

Ingredients

½ c of butter
 12 slices of bread
 ¾ c brown sugar
 1tsp cinnamon
 5 eggs
 1½ tsps. Vanilla extract
 1½ cups of milk
 powdered sugar for dusting



Directions

Melt ½ cup of butter and pour it into the bottom of a 9 x13 casserole dish. Lay 6 pieces of white bread on top of the melted butter. Mix ¾ cup brown sugar and 1 tsp of cinnamon. Pour half the brown sugar mixture on top of the first layer of bread. Add the second layer of 6 pieces of bread on top of the brown sugar mixture.

In a second bowl, mix 5 beaten eggs, 1½ tsps. vanilla extract and 1½ cups of milk. Pour the egg mixture over the casserole. Top with the remaining brown sugar mixture. Cover and refrigerate overnight.

Next morning, cover the casserole dish with aluminum foil and bake at 350 degrees for 30 minutes, uncover and bake another 15 minutes. Dust with powdered sugar and serve.

Trivia Challenge

By The Rev'd Canon Lynne Thackwray

I recently came into possession of THE BOOK OF LISTS published in 1977. In it is a list of the 10 greatest pro hockey players of all times. Here is the list:

1. Gordie Howe
2. Bobby Hull
3. Bobby Orr
4. Eddie Shore
5. Max Bentley
6. Phil Esposito
7. Bernie Geoffrion
8. Stan Mikita
9. Elmer Lach
10. Ted Lindsay

And here is your challenge. How would you see that list looking today? *And I haven't got the right answer (if there really is one!)*

New Years Trivia Quiz

Answers

By The Rev'd Canon Lynne Thackwray

Questions on page 5.

1. Auld Lang Syne 2. Ball 3. Gregorian 4. Big Ben
 5. Tonga 6. Avatar 7. Hogmanay 8. 12 9. Coins
 10. The wife 11. Jewish 12. Money 13. Spring
 14. Ireland 15. Old Times 16. 12 a.m.

Church Information

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Services

Sunday Eucharist – 8:30 a.m.
 Sunday Choral Eucharist – 10:00 a.m.
 Thursday Eucharist – 10:00 a.m.

Office Hours

Monday to Friday
 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon

Food Cupboard Hours

Monday, Tuesday & Thursday
 11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.

The Beacon Drop-In Centre

Monday, Wednesday & Friday
 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

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