

# The Blessing of New Priestly Vestments

Holy Trinity Orthodox Church  
*Willimantic, Connecticut*

*At table, is set and placed before the Ambon, the new Vestments.  
For the sanctification, the Priest, vested in Epitrachelion and Phelonion,  
proceeds through the Holy Doors with the censer.  
Having censed the vestments, he begins:*

**Priest:** Blessed is our God, always, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

**Reader:** Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity. It is like the myrrh upon the head, that runs down upon the beard, the beard of Aaron, that runs down the collar of his robe. It is like the dew of Hermon that descends upon the Mountains of Zion; for there the Lord commands the blessing, life for evermore. Glory ... now and ever. Alleluia (3x).

**Priest:** Let us pray to the Lord.

**Choir:** Lord, have mercy.

**Priest:** O Lord God Almighty, who sets in motion from the beginning all that is profitable for the human race; Who willed that temples should be erected to Thy holy Name by hands of men, and that these should be consecrated to Thy glory, and that these places should be called the abode of Thy glory; Who through Thy servant Moses commanded that the vestments of the high priest, the priests and the Levites, and other various adornments should be made for the magnificence and beauty of Thy sanctuary and altar: Do Thou hearken now mercifully unto our supplication and bless, purify and sanctify these Vestments (*Epitrachelion, Belt, Cuffs, Phelonion*) in honor of, and to the glory of Thy most-holy Name, for the adornment and splendor of the servants of Thy Holy Altar and the preparation of Thy Holy Mysteries, that they may be shown worthy of every doxology to Thy most-holy Name, and for the priestly servants who shall be vested in them, that they be delivered and protected from all snares and temptations of enemies, that they be for a means of pleasing Thee, for worthy service of Thy Holy Mysteries, and for the ministrations of Thy grace and mercies: Through the grace and compassion and love for mankind of Thine Only-begotten Son, with Whom Thou art blessed, together with Thy Most-holy, Good and Life-giving Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

**Choir:** Amen.

**Priest:** Peace be unto all.

**Choir:** And to thy spirit.

**Priest:** Let us bow our heads unto the Lord.

**Choir:** To Thee, O Lord.

**Priest:** O Master, God Almighty, Bestower of all good things and Fountain of sanctification: Look down on our prayers and these Vestments (*Epitrachelion, Belt, Cuffs, Phelonion*) prepared for the adornment and splendor of Thy priestly servers, and make them, by the grace of Thy Most-holy Spirit, through the sprinkling of this Holy Water, to be blessed, holy, and sanctified, and to all those who shall vest themselves with them, to be found worthy and to serve Thy Holy Mysteries, and to please Thee at all times.

*And he exclaims:*

For Thou art our sanctification, and unto Thee do we send up glory, together with Thine Only-begotten Son, and Thy most-holy, Good and life-giving Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

**Choir:** Amen.

*And immediately he sprinkles the Vestments, with Holy Water, saying:*

These vestments (*Epitrachelion, Belt, Cuffs, Phelonion*) are sanctified by the grace of the Most-holy Spirit, through the sprinkling of this Holy Water, in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen (3 x).

*The priest shall carry the Vestments into the Holy Altar, vest in them,  
and proceed with the Divine Liturgy.*

This new set of Priestly Vestments have been offered to Holy Trinity  
in loving memory of devoted and beloved parishioner,  
**+Mrs Evelyn “*Evangelia*” Reynolds**  
by her son, Norman Copolla, and daughter-in-law, Judith-Ann,  
also +Evelyn’s Godmother on the day of her Chrismation into the Orthodox Church,  
June 3, 2001, on the Great Feast of Holy Pentecost at  
Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church, Norwich, Connecticut.  
+Evelyn reposed in the Lord, at age 98, on November 18, 2018.

*March 17, 2019*