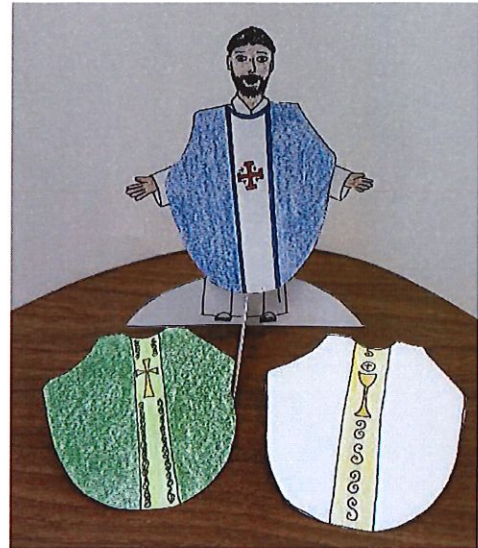


# Priest and Vestments at Mass Craft

*You can make a priest stand-up figure to go with your altar. You can also color vestments that the priest would wear to celebrate Mass in all the different colors of our Liturgical seasons.*

## Instructions for Craft

- 1.** Print out the priest and vestments, preferably on card stock. If you want to make all the possible colors, you'll need to print out two copies so that you have 6 chasubles.
- 2.** Color the priest, but remember that the alb he is wearing is white, as is the cincture, the rope belt, so there is not much to color! I did not put a stole on the priest, but you could draw one in if you want.
- 3.** Cut out the priest and the stands. Cut the slits in each part of the stand so they can fit together. Alternatively, you can attach the priest figure to a toilet-paper tube cut in half (the tube can't be as tall as the priest, or it interferes with the chasuble tabs).
- 4.** Color and cut out the chasubles, making sure to keep the tabs on each one. The chasubles should be colored to match our liturgical seasons: white (Easter and Christmas and other Solemnities), purple (Lent and Advent) and green (Ordinary Time). If you print out a second set, you can also make chasubles that are red (Good Friday, Pentecost and feast days of Martyrs) and rose (3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent). A black chasuble is also permitted to be used for funeral Masses and on the Feast of All Souls. If you have a gold marker, you can highlight the chasubles with gold (or silver).
- 5.** Put your priest behind the altar you constructed from the Table of the Lord Altar Craft, and make sure he is in the proper color for the season! Reflect on the vestments of the priest—and how these special vestments can teach us about our own vocation to holiness. (see next page)



## Praying and Thinking About the Priest and Vestments

<b>Name</b>	<b>Function/Purpose</b>	<b>Connection to You</b>
<b>Priest</b>	A man ordained to lead the People of God. When a priest celebrates a sacrament, he ministers in the person of Christ. It is Jesus who it at work in the Sacrament, through the priest. A priest works to support the Bishop's three main jobs: to lead worship, to teach, and to pray.	<i>Pray for your priest and for all priests and bishops and deacons—they need our prayers to accomplish God's plan! If you are a young man, be open to God's call—God might be inviting you to be a priest! If you are a young woman, be open to God calling you to religious life—following God's call will bring you great joy!</i>
<b>Alb</b>	The white garment a priest puts on under his other vestments. The alb is a symbol of Baptism and of purity of soul. The priest serves all the baptized (and those seeking baptism) and hopes to be a model of the new life we are given at Baptism. (The word "alb" comes from the Latin word for white)	<i>When you were baptized, you were clothed in a white garment—and the priest/deacon prayed that you would bring that garment unstained into God's kingdom. Repent of any sins and go to Confession often so your soul is as beautiful and pure as on the day of your Baptism.</i>
<b>Cincture</b>	The rope cord that works as a belt around the abl. The cincture symbolizes the discipline of chastity—or using our body in good and holy ways for the glory of God.	<i>Everyone is called to holiness—that is the vocation (or sacred calling) of every Baptized person. Seek ways to discipline (teach and strengthen) yourself so that you put God first in your life. Practice showing true love to God, to others and to yourself.</i>
<b>Chasuble</b>	The outer garment worn by the priest who presides (leads) at Mass. The chasuble is meant to conceal the priest's appearance—to remind him and us that he is acting in the person of Jesus Christ in celebrating the Mass, not to glorify himself. (The word "chasuble" comes from the Latin word for little house.)	<i>When you see the priest in the chasuble as he celebrates the Mass, pray that you, too, will glorify God and give Him the adoration and praise that is His due. When we go to Mass, our first and most important job is to worship God. Think about ways you can keep your focus on God and not on yourself when you are at Mass.</i>
<b>Stole</b>	The stole is the narrow strip of cloth worn by a priest when he celebrates a Sacrament—it is usually worn under the Chasuble for Mass. The stole is a sign of the priest's ministry to lead the people in worship of God, especially when we gather to celebrate a Sacrament. A deacon wears a stole that goes across his body, over the right shoulder and attaching at his waist.	<i>When you see a priest or deacon in their stole, it is a sign that they are ready to lead the People of God in a Sacrament. Pay close attention to the words and actions of each Sacrament. Pray for those receiving the Lord (whether yourself or others)—that we may receive and use the graces God showers upon us.</i>

*God my Father,*

*Thank you for the care you show your Church in giving us bishops, priests and deacons. Bless these men called by you to live the vocation of Holy Orders.*

*I pray that you bless in a special way every priest who has celebrated a Sacrament with me—especially those who hear my confessions and offer me Holy Communion.*

*Help me and every Baptized Christian to live out our vocation of holiness.*

*Help us all to live out our Baptismal mission to be priests in your kingdom—to offer you worship, to give you the sacrifice of our praise, and to pray for others.*

*Amen.*

