



May 16, 2006

Teleturgical Encyclical 17

The Priests and Deacons
the Holy Metropolis of Denver

Beloved in the Lord,

CHRIST IS RISEN!

As you are aware, it has been an accepted practice in our parishes to have young men perform the functions of a subdeacon during the divine services and to wear the corresponding vestments of the subdiaconate. We refer to these young men as "acolytes" or "altar boys."

Men and boys serving as acolytes shall wear a sticharion and orarion. These are not to be put on, until a blessing is received from the celebrant to do so.

It is desirable that parishes provide a selection of sticharia and oraria in various liturgical colors, at least in both "bright" and "dark" for celebratory and Lenten services, respectively.

No one except a priest, deacon, or seminarian may wear an anteri, or "cassock," in the parish. Nor may anyone but these wear an exorasson.

If the Proistamenos decides that older teenagers and/or men serving in the altar should not wear the sticharion and orarion, they must wear a black rasson of the type that the chanters wear.

The male chanters, or male readers, may, at the discretion of the Proistamenos, also wear a chanter's rasson

With Paternal Blessings,

✠ Metropolitan Isaiah of Denver