

Proper Orthodox Church Attire

Our Saviour said, "My house shall be called the house of prayer" (Matthew 21:13). We gather in the temple to pray and worship. During the Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom, celebrated each Sunday and on high feast days, we behold the mystical presence of Christ, as noted by the prayer of the celebrant priest:

"Look down, O Lord Jesus Christ our God, from Thy Holy dwelling place, and from the Throne of Glory of Thy Kingdom, and come to sanctify us, Thou Who sittest on High with the Father, and art here invisibly present with us."

It is therefore appropriate and necessary for participants in the holy services to dress neatly and modestly, showing reverence, honor, and humility before God. Traditionally, men should wear pants and shirts with long sleeves. Hats should not be worn by men, (1 Cor. 11:3). Women should wear skirts or dresses below the knee. Woman should wear a head covering (1 Cor. 11:5).

May our physical presence in Church be a reflection of the state of our hearts: meek, humble and subservient to our Lord.