



*Cream and Gold lurex cope with red hood, gifted by the family of Rev'd Ian Robinson*

## CHURCH VESTMENTS

The vestments (or robes) worn by the clergy during services originated from those worn by officials in the Roman Empire, in which Christianity first became an official religion.

The white alb or cassock alb (from the Latin “albus” – white), worn under liturgical vestments, was originally simply the tunic worn in Roman times, when priests wore ordinary clothes, but were required to keep them particularly clean and beautiful.

The president at the Eucharist will then wear a chasuble, derived from a Roman outer garment, but now traditionally representing the all-enveloping love of Christ.

For great processions, special services or to celebrate baptisms, weddings or funerals, a cope may be worn. This is shaped like a cloak and also comes from a design of Roman outer garment. A cope is not worn to celebrate the Eucharist.