

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

FOR THOSE ENTERING THE SEMINARY

I. Clothing

- Two cassocks. *Cassocks must be tailor-made and ordered from Magnarelli-Renzetti in Philadelphia, Hansen's in Chicago, or Gammarelli in Rome, or some other reputable tailor. A sash may be worn. Cloth must be wool, or wool blend at least. All cassocks made of synthetic materials or of summer weight cloth are unacceptable. (Synthetics are never sufficiently black, and summer weight cassocks tend to be see-through). Always order a medium to heavy weight cloth, preferably 100% wool. N.B.: the seminarian must have at least two cassocks, but may have more.*
- Personal articles such as underwear, socks, etc. (enough to last at least one week). *Seminarians will do their own laundry, but they should have enough so as not to be obliged to do their laundry too often. Black socks only.*
- Clerical white shirts. *The black clerical shirt is not worn in the seminary. (Possible exceptions could be for activities like bike riding or hiking or manual labor of some type). Under the cassock is worn a white clerical shirt, i.e., one without a collar but with a collarband. French cuffs or button cuffs. The seminarian should own at least six of these shirts, but to own more is preferable. These are usually available from Toomey or Almy's.*
- Biretta. *The non-folding type, although a second folding biretta for travel is very useful. Pom-pom required. (Available from Toomey and from Almy's)*
- Surplice. *Must be either of pure linen (no "blends") or of cotton lace (no nylon). Must have the square (Roman) yoke. If it is impossible to procure one of these, the seminary can provide one.*
- Shoes. *Black leather tie shoes of very conservative style, with thin leather soles.*
- Trousers. *Black trousers are to be worn under the cassock. They must not be seen at the bottom of the cassock, but must either be shortened or rolled up in such a way as not to be seen. Permanent alteration is the best solution. These may be of synthetic or cotton or wool, but no jeans.*
- Black suit. *Street attire for the seminarian in the United States is the black suit. Until subdiaconate, the seminarian will wear a rabat with a closed collar (available from Almy's). Upon subdiaconate, the seminarian will wear the rabat with an open collar. Black suits should be very conservatively styled, and should be of 100% worsted wool, or a blend. These are available on the Internet at Joseph A. Bank, Magnarelli-Renzetti, and from Hansen's in Chicago, and other ecclesiastical tailors.*

- The Clerical Cloak. *The normal winter attire for the clergy, when wearing the cassock, is not a coat but a cloak. Clerical cloaks or capes are available from Almy's, but are expensive. Renzetti's may also carry them, as well as Gammarelli. (The cloak or cape is recommended but not obligatory). In Florida, there is some cold weather (low temperature as low as 28 degrees F), in November, December, and January, particularly in the morning. Cardigan sweaters, which are **black** and not charcoal, are a necessity in Florida.*
- The Clerical Coat. *Very practical and highly recommended is a clerical coat (in Italian it is called "La Greca"), which is simply an ordinary coat which goes to the floor. Consult Gammarelli or Magnarelli-Renzetti about these. They are normally of lighter "topcoat" material, but it is probably available in a heavier cloth. (The clerical coat is recommended but not obligatory). Nevertheless what is obligatory is a wool or wool blend dress coat of black color. Forbidden are plastic ski jackets and similar sporty or casual coats or jackets.*
- Accessories. *Accessories such as scarves, gloves, etc. must always be black. The normal hat to be worn with the cassock outdoors is the biretta. Likewise, umbrellas, briefcases, and sweaters must be black. In Florida, the sun is more of a problem than the cold, and therefore we highly recommend the Roman hat, available from Gammarelli. It should be of plain felt or straw, and not of beaver skin.*
- Roman Collars. *It is necessary to procure Roman collars for the cassock and rabat, when this will be worn. Pontiff 3 height is the most common. You will need a good supply of collar buttons with them, as these are easily lost. With the Roman collar on the cassock is also worn the miniature rabat, which anchors the collar in the front. Make sure that collars are the right size. If too small, one finds it difficult to breathe; if too large, one looks poorly groomed, since the T-shirt often becomes visible underneath.*

II. Books

- Liber Usualis. *This book is used every day for the Divine Office and Mass. Pre-1955 edition.*
- Holy Bible. *Douay-Rheims version only. No Confraternity (1940's) or newer versions. In addition, it will be necessary to acquire a Latin Vulgate eventually. (The Douay-Rheims is available from TAN).*
- Breviarium Romanum. *Four volume, pre-John XXIII, and vulgate or "old" Psalter. This is difficult to find. For now, you may have to settle for non-matching "stray" volumes until you find a set.*
- Missal. *A daily missal, preferably the Fr. Lasance, is needed. A small, hand-size **missale romanum** will also come in handy and will even be obligatory after a sufficient knowledge of Latin is acquired.*
- Denzinger. *The **Enchiridion Symbolorum**. There are two editions, the older one is called "Denzinger-Bannwart" and the newer one is called the "Denzinger-Schönmetzer." The former*

is preferred, for the fact that the newer one has suppressed certain “embarrassing” passages for the modernists. However, the newer one does contain many texts which the older one does not contain. Both are useful, but the older is preferred.

- Codex Iuris Canonici. 1917 code. A copy of the 1983 is not without usefulness, however.
- Summa Theologiae. St. Thomas Aquinas. The seminarian must eventually possess a Latin Summa, although not necessarily on his first day. Many editions are available. The only new edition available is the one put out by the Paulists, available at the Daughters of St. Paul bookstores, which comes in one volume. It is a magnificent edition, but cumbersome, and ill-suited as a textbook. The Marietti edition put out in the 1950's is excellent, and its indexes are the best. Hard to find. The Spanish BAC is a very handy edition, very suitable for classroom use, but the paper usually leaves something to be desired.
- Imitation of Christ. This spiritual classic should be owned by every seminarian. Also recommended are Garrigou-Lagrange's **Three Ages of the Interior Life** and Tanqueray's **The Spiritual Life**.
- A Latin Dictionary. The best general Latin dictionary is, apart from the very expensive and excellent Oxford dictionaries, the **Cassell's Latin Dictionary**. It is readily available in local bookstores and is more or less reasonably priced. Get a hard-bound edition, since you will use it a great deal. Also recommended on this subject are **A Dictionary of the Psalter** by Matthew Britt (New York: Benziger Bros., 1928) and **Dictionary of Liturgical Latin** by Wilfred Diamond (Milwaukee: Bruce, 1961).
- Other books. The textbooks that will be used in the Seminary, in addition to the ones already mentioned, are the following:

Church History. *A General History of the Catholic Church*, by Fr. J. E.. Darras. New York: O'Shea, 1866. (4 vols.)

Canon Law. *The Sacred Canons*, by John A. Abbo & Jerome D. Hannan. St. Louis: B. Herder, 1957. (2 vols.).

Moral Theology. *Summa Theologiae Moralis*, by Benedict Henry Merkelbach, O.P. Bruges: Desclée de Brouwer. (3 vols.) Any edition will do.

Dogmatic Theology. *Tractatus Dogmatici*, by Edouard Hugon, O.P. Paris: P. Lethielleux. (3 vols.)

Philosophy. *Cursus Philosophiae Thomisticae*, by Edouard Hugon, O.P. Paris: P. Lethielleux, 1927. (3 vols.) (This is available at the seminary).

Also recommended for both Sacred Scripture and Sacred Liturgy: Callan, Charles J., *The Psalms, with Introductions, Critical Notes and Reflections*. New York: Wagner, 1944. (N.B.: not the earlier McHugh—Callan edition) and Britt, Matthew, *Hymns of the Breviary and Missal*. Benziger 1922.

III. Other Information

Each seminarian will have his own room. Seminarians may not bring radios or television sets, but may bring computers. They may not play computer games, and all such software should be left home. It is forbidden to have sound equipment in the room. They may bring their own discs, but these may only contain classical music, chant, or Renaissance polyphony. All popular music, as well as jazz, rock, country, big band, Broadway and similar music is forbidden. Seminarians may bring as many books as they want (within reason), but only those pertaining to serious subjects. Spy or detective novels, for example, may not be read by seminarians. Seminarians may not bring VCR's, DVD players, or any other electronic equipment for the purpose of listening to music or watching videos. They may not bring videos or DVD's. Seminarians do not have access to the Internet except by special permission. They may send and receive emails on Sundays only, except by special permission. They may not use the telephone, or receive calls, except by permission of the Rector or Vice-Rector, when there is a sufficient reason. The usual manner of communication with family and friends is by ordinary mail. Seminarians may not have cell phones except after they are ordained priests, or by special permission.

IV. Arrival Information

By car: Take Interstate 75 to Exit 293 in Florida, which is the County Road 41 exit. Go west on County Road 41 for about 2 miles. The seminary will be very visible on the east side of the road. The address is 1000 Spring Lake Highway, Brooksville, Florida 34602.

By plane: Fly to Tampa. Orlando is an alternate, but Tampa is preferred. Inform the Seminary of your airline, flight number and time of arrival. You will be met at the point where passengers exit from security, or in the baggage area, if you have baggage. If for any reason you are not met, call 586 909 0137.

By train: Take the train to Orlando. Inform the Seminary of train arrival time, as well as the name and/or number of the train, if it has one. If for any reason you are not met, call 586 909 0137.

V. Useful Addresses

Clerical Tailors

C.M. Almy & Son, Inc.

228 Sound Beach Avenue

Greenwich, Connecticut 06870

Telephone: 800 225 2569

(Contact them for a catalogue, or visit their web site).

Magnarelli Clerical Tailors

2216 South Broad Street

Philadelphia, Penna. 19145

Telephone 215 339 0558

(You may write to them for an order and measurement form. Specify that the cassock should be of plain wool blend cloth [year-round], of pontiff 3 collar height, and should come with piping [optional], half-lining, covered buttons, padded shoulders, slightly deeper pockets [+2"] and the buttons spaced 1 3/4" apart.).

Ditta Annibale Gammarelli

Via Santa Chiara, 34 00186

Rome Italy

Fax: 011 39 6 688 01314

(You may write or fax for a measurement form). (Gammarelli is now taking six months to produce a cassock, at least)

N.B. Toomey products are available at nearly all church goods stores.

Used Book Dealers

Preserving Christian Publications

P.O. Box 221

Boonville, New York 13309

Loome Theological Booksellers

320 North 4th Street

Stillwater, Minn. 55082

Tel: 612 430 1092