

Improving Our Temple Experience

By the First Presidency

“The crowning jewel of the Restoration is the holy temple. Its sacred ordinances and covenants are pivotal to preparing a people who are ready to welcome the Savior at His Second Coming.”¹

From time to time, the First Presidency has made adjustments to temple ceremonies and procedures in order to improve the temple experience for members and help all who enter to feel a closer connection to God within these sacred spaces.

As part of the temple experience, members put on ceremonial clothing with doctrinal and symbolic significance that can be traced back to temple worship in the Old Testament (see Exodus 28 and Leviticus 8).

Some adjustments have been made to temple ceremonial clothing. These adjustments don’t reflect changes to temple symbolism or doctrine but are intended to make the temple experience more simple, comfortable, and accessible by making the clothing easier to put on, care for, and afford.

Some of these adjustments include:

- A simpler design for the veil and robe.
- Removing the plastic insert from the cap and the tie from the cap and veil.
- Using a more durable material that is the same for the robes, cap, and sash, which helps them last longer and makes them easier to care for.

We hope these adjustments will help improve this sacred experience for you as you make temple worship a regular part of your life. ■

NOTE

1. Russell M. Nelson, “Closing Remarks,” *Ensign or Liahona*, Nov. 2019, 120.

“Any adjustments made to ordinances and procedures do not change the sacred nature of the covenants being made [in the temple]. Adjustments allow for covenants to be planted in the hearts of people living in different times and circumstances.”

President Russell M. Nelson, general conference leadership training meeting, Oct. 2019.



PHOTOGRAPH OF COUPLE BY MATT REIER; PHOTOGRAPH OF PORT-AU-PRINCE HAITI TEMPLE BY CODY BELL

ANSWERS TO COMMON QUESTIONS

Can I continue to use the ceremonial clothing I already have?

Yes. Previous styles can continue to be used until they need to be replaced.

How do I appropriately discard old ceremonial clothing?

“To dispose of worn-out temple ceremonial clothing, members should destroy the clothing by cutting it up so the original use cannot be recognized” (*Handbook 2: Administering the Church* [2010], 21.1.42).

Can I alter my existing clothing to reflect the new adjustments?

Yes. Further information about how can be found at store.ChurchofJesusChrist.org when you

log in with your membership account or by visiting Distribution Services and asking a store clerk.

Can I donate old ceremonial clothing?

When appropriate, you may give gently used clothing to endowed family members or friends. However, ceremonial clothing, regardless of condition, should not be donated to a temple, Deseret Industries, or any clothing exchange.

How do I obtain the new clothing?

For information about cost and availability in your area, go to store.ChurchofJesusChrist.org or visit Distribution Services.