



St John
Ambulance
Cymru



Pro Fide Resource Pack

The first aid charity for Wales
Elusen cymorth cyntaf Cymru

Follow us @SJACymru | www.sjacymru.org.uk

Registered in England and Wales. Charity number 250523. Company number 5071073.

Contents

Page 4	A welcome letter from the Priory Dean
Page 5	The Order of St John: its History and Awards - History - Awards
Page 8	Chaplaincy Structure - Types and roles of Chaplains a. Priory Dean b. Senior Chaplain c. Chaplain
Page 11	Chaplains Uniform and Vestments - Introduction - Getting it right inside first - Different uniforms and when to wear them a. St John Ecclesiastical b. Formal Ecclesiastical with St John badge c. Regular clerical wear d. Chaplains Service Delivery Uniform Jacket e. Non Chaplain formal Ecclesiastical
Page 18	Practicalities and curios



A welcome letter from the Priory Dean

This chaplaincy pack is designed to be a resource for all new and existing chaplains of the Priory for Wales of the Most Venerable Order of the Hospital of St John of Jerusalem and St John Ambulance Cymru.

The Order of St John has historic roots in Christian tradition and the Blessed Gerard, our founder, was committed to the care of those he called, 'our Lords, the sick and poor', caring for them as though he were caring for Christ himself. The organisation has developed from a small religious order in Jerusalem in the 12th Century, into the global humanitarian healthcare charity we have today.

Chaplains continue to uphold the Christian ethos of the Order, as well as providing pastoral care and spiritual support to all staff and volunteers of our charity, and those for whom we care. We offer a ministry that is welcoming

and inclusive of all in our contemporary and diverse organisation.

May your participation in the life-saving and life-giving work of this incredible Order and charity, be a rich source of blessing to you and to those you serve, after the example of him who came that we might have the fullness of life, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Devotedly yours in Christ,

+ David

**The Right Reverend David Morris CStJ
Dean and Trustee**

Priory for Wales, Order of St John

e. david.morris@stjohnwales.org.uk
m. 07498 318325

The Order of St John: it's History and Awards

History

St John Ambulance Cymru is a charitable expression of a wider organisation, which has its roots in many centuries of history, as part of the Order of St John.

Beginnings

The eleventh and twelfth centuries were a time of deep conflict between the peoples of Europe and the Middle East. In a way which would not find support today, Europeans, who were largely Christian in faith, and the peoples of the Middle-East, who were largely governed by leaders of the Islamic faith, engaged in conflict for control of the Holy Land – the land centred on Jerusalem which was sacred to three faiths – the ancient homeland of the Jewish people, the place where Jesus Christ had lived, died and risen again, and where Mohammed, the prophet of Islam, had visited and wrote of receiving revelations.

In 1099, European crusaders had seized control of Jerusalem, hoping to secure it as a place of Christian pilgrimage, so that the sites of the incarnation, the crucifixion and resurrection could be visited by Christians from all over Europe and the Middle East. Although this was part of the brutal history of the Crusades, many knights were faithful Christians, and concerned only to provide safety for pilgrims, and to care for their needs, particularly those who were poor, destitute or sick.

Two great Orders of Knighthood were set up to protect pilgrims: the Knights Templar, based at the site of the Temple of Solomon, and the Knights Hospitaller, based at a Hospital for pilgrims which had been founded hundreds of years earlier and which was dedicated to St John the Baptist, the cousin and forerunner of Jesus.

The Knights Hospitallers adopted a twin motto:

- **Pro fide ("for the Faith"), since they sought to protect Christian faith and pilgrims**
- and
- **Pro utilitate hominem ("in the service of humanity") because they particularly focussed their activities in caring for the sick, the poor and injured.**

Down through the centuries, the Knights Hospitaller continued their work. Even when the crusader kingdom of Jerusalem collapsed, the Order based itself first on the island of Rhodes, and then on the island of Malta.

In Wales, the Hospitallers had a strong presence throughout the medieval period, with centres such as at Slebech in west Wales, and the manor of Dolgynwal

in north Wales, still known today as Ysbyty Ioan ("the hospital of John").

In the sixteenth century, the Order adopted a particular form of cross to symbolise their common life – a design known by different names, but often associated with Malta, then the headquarters of the Order.



This cross was said to represent the qualities and values to which all knights were expected to aspire, known as the cardinal virtues, with each one of the four arms representing Prudence, Temperance, Justice and Fortitude. The eight

points represented the eight groups the knights intended to serve. These had been identified by Jesus in the Beatitudes (part of the Sermon on the Mount) as the focus of God's love and blessing: the poor, the bereaved, the meek, the hungry, the merciful, the pure in heart, the peacemakers, and the persecuted.

In time, the eight points also became associated with the values that the Beatitudes may be said to represent – humility, repentance, meekness, thirst for righteousness, mercy, purity, peace and suffering for the cause of right – and by which the knights bound themselves to live

More recently, the eight points have been interpreted to represent the values of the modern organisation: respect, unselfishness, excellence, openness, devotion, togetherness, diversity and faithfulness.

The medieval Orders of crusader Knights, both the Templars and the Hospitallers, acquired vast amounts of wealth and power in the course of the centuries, however, which also attracted jealousy, criticism and hostility, so that the Templars were entirely disbanded by order of the Pope in 1312, and in England and Wales, King Henry VIII abolished the Hospitallers by Act of Parliament in 1540.

Revival



From the 1830s in Great Britain, a number of people believed that the time was right to re-establish the Order and its charitable work. As the Order had survived in Europe, initially links were sought with the Sovereign and Military Order of Malta, as the original order was now called, but it was eventually decided to found

a separate organisation, known as the Most Venerable Order of the Hospital of St John of Jerusalem.

This initiative attracted royal support, and eventually led to a Royal Charter granted by Queen Victoria, and its recognition as a British Order of Chivalry.



This patronage allowed the Order to incorporate the Lion and the Unicorn of the royal coat of arms into our distinctive cross.

Today the Order's priories exist in eleven nations (England, Wales, Scotland, Australia, Canada, Hong Kong, Kenya, New Zealand, Singapore, South Africa, and the United States). There has also been a reconciliation between the five surviving successors to the original Order, to form the Alliance of the Orders of St John of Jerusalem.

From its revival in Britain, the Order re-asserted its ancient commitment to the care of the sick and injured, and prioritised health work, founding the St John Ambulance associations in 1877, the Jerusalem Eye Hospital in 1882, and the St John Ambulance Uniformed Brigades in 1887, all of which flourish to this day. In 1922, the Brigades were opened to Cadets, and in 1968, the associations and brigades were merged.

Today, the Order of St John in Wales is probably best understood as the support organisation for the frontline work undertaken by St John Ambulance Cymru. The Priory for Wales, founded in 1918, consists of a number of officers who make up a Board of Trustees

with over 800 members in the various grades of the Order (as explained below). Membership of the Order is awarded with the sanction of the Sovereign Head of the Order, His Majesty the King, in succession to all the monarchs since Queen Victoria, but is awarded on the basis of dedicated service to the Ambulance movement, or support of it.

One aspect of that support that the Order provides is the system of honours and awards that it organises for those who have demonstrated significant contributions to, or achievements in, the life of St John Ambulance.

Membership of the Order of St John

Finally, there is membership of the Order itself. Significant service to or support for the St John movement may be recognised by membership in the Order of St John. In common with many other Orders of Chivalry, membership of the Order is conferred in five grades, each more senior than the last:

- Member,
- Officer,
- Commander,
- Knight or Dame, and
- Bailiff or Dame Grand Cross,

These grades represent increasing recognition of commitment and service to, or engagement with, the life and work of the movement. There are internationally recognised guidelines which set out the standards for recommendation to the Sovereign to award each grade.

In Wales, the Order is headed by the Prior, supported by other officers and trustees. It retains the double commitment to service Pro Fide and Pro Utilitate Hominem in a contemporary and inclusive manner.

Beyond membership of the Order, work supporting its mission and life may be expressed by a Priory Vote of Thanks, while significant donors may be recognised by the award of the title of a Donat of the Order.

Awards

St John Ambulance Cymru is aided and supported by the activities of the Order of St John. One of the most visible of these channels of support is the recognition offered by the system of St John Ambulance awards. St John Ambulance Cymru celebrates the work and achievements of all its members, at whatever level, and the Order of St John assists in offering a number of awards and recognition for every level of its life. Valuing the contribution of all its members, there are several ways in which affirmation and recognition on behalf of the whole organisation can be indicated.

The Life Saving Medal

The Life Saving Medal is awarded by the Grand Prior to honour those who have saved, or attempted to save, the life of another, while performing "a conspicuous act of bravery", which involved a risk to the life of the nominee. The medal can be awarded in three grades, bronze, silver or gold, depending on the level of danger posed by the situation, and can even be granted posthumously.

The Certificate of Honour

Is awarded on similar grounds, but where there was no apparent risk of endangering the lives of the nominee.

The Prior of the St John Priory for Wales may also issue:

- Meritorious Service Certificates,
- Certificates of Commendation and
- Letters of Appreciation.

Where appropriate, the junior members of the organisation - Cadets and Badgers - may receive appropriate certificates to mark their achievements, while cadets are also eligible for two awards.

Certificates of Commendation

- A Cadet Commendation may be granted to a Cadet who has been recommended for showing outstanding bravery, initiative or courage in a real-life situation.
- A Brave Badger Commendation may be granted for a commendable act of courage, initiative or unusual aplomb in a real-life situation.

The Grand Prior Award

Is an award for success in a three year programme of activities and service.

The Sovereign's Award

Is given for outstanding achievement in personal development and service to the community by a young person between 16 and 25 through their involvement with St John.

Those involved in the work of St John Ambulance Cymru may also receive recognition for long service:

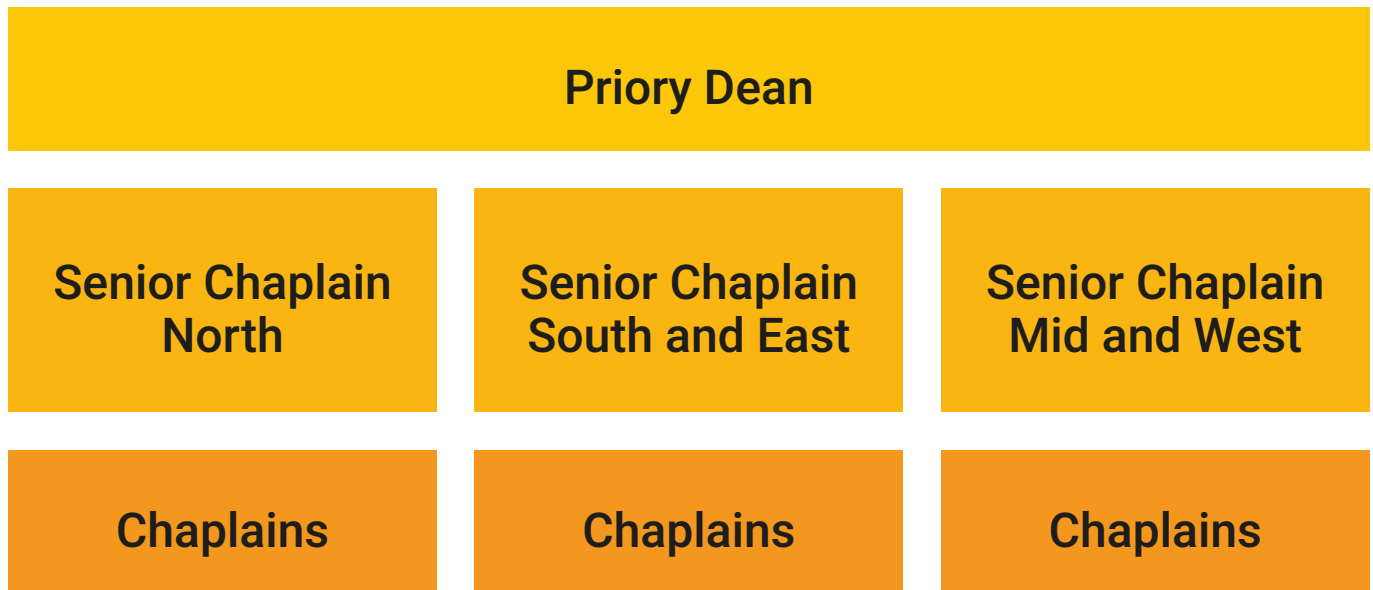
The Service Medal

Is awarded to recognise ten years or more of voluntary service to the Order. A bar may be awarded for every five years extra service thereafter. Where a person exceptionally achieves a period of fifty years or more of service, a senior version of the medal in silver-gilt is awarded, with bars also being available for every five years thereafter.



Chaplaincy Structure

St John Ambulance is rooted in Christian foundations and chaplains have an important role in upholding, preserving and promoting its 'Pro Fide – For the Faith' motto and ethos. Following a review of Chaplaincy support within the Priory for Wales the following structure is now in place.



Types and roles of Chaplains

Priory Dean

Role:

The Priory Dean is the spiritual leader of the Priory and its senior Ecclesiastical officer. The Priory Dean is responsible for safeguarding the Christian nature and ethos of the Order within the Priory; advising with regard to ecclesiastical, spiritual and ethical matters affecting the Priory. The Priory Dean oversees chaplaincy provision across Wales and chairs the Pro Fide Committee of the Priory for Wales.

Key duties and responsibilities:

- Advise the Prior and the Priory Chapter Board on all matters ecclesiastical and spiritual so far as they pertain to the Order within the territory of the Priory.
- Advise the Prior, the Priory Chapter Board on all ethical and moral matters affecting the Priory.
- Safeguard the Christian nature and ethos of the Order within the Priory while recognising that the Priory welcomes individuals of other faiths.
- Advise with regard to all recommendations for the admission to, or promotion in, the Order of members of the Clergy who are or will be carried on the Priory Roll.
- Approve the forms of service and prayers to be used at Priory services and undertake the same as necessary.

- Advise the Prior, the Priory Chapter Board and St John Ambulance Cymru as to the ecclesiastical offices which are appropriate within the Priory and on appointments to these offices.
- Act as a Trustee on the Priory Chapter Board.
- Chair the Pro Fide Committee, a sub committee of the Priory Chapter Board.
- Keep the Prelate of the Order informed of matters ecclesiastical and spiritual so far as they pertain to the Order within the Priory, and to play a full part in the International College of Deans.
- Attend the annual investiture service in Cardiff and any regional visitations and investitures each year.
- Appoint Senior Chaplains and arrange meetings as necessary.
- To hold DBS Enhanced clearance and up to date Mandatory Advanced Safeguarding training.

The role is unremunerated, but the Dean is entitled to recover out of pocket expenses incurred in accordance with the Priory's standard policy.

The statutory duties of a trustee:

- Ensuring the organisation pursues our stated objects (purposes), as defined in our governing document, by developing and agreeing a long-term strategy.
- Ensuring the organisation complies with our governing document (i.e. our trust deed, constitution or memorandum and articles of association), charity law, company law and any other relevant legislation or regulations.
- Ensuring the organisation applies resources exclusively in pursuance of our charitable objects (i.e. the charity must not spend money on activities that are not included in our own objects, however worthwhile or charitable those activities are) for the benefit of the public.
- Safeguarding the good name and values of our organisation.
- Ensuring the organisation defines its goals and evaluates performance against agreed targets.
- Ensuring the effective and efficient administration of the organisation, including having appropriate policies and procedures in place.
- Ensuring the financial stability of the organisation.
- Protecting and managing the property of the charity and ensuring the proper investment of the charity's funds.
- Ensuring that the charity provides safe, appropriate clinical care and excellence in our training provision.
- Following proper and formal arrangements for the appointment, supervision, support, appraisal and remuneration of the Chief Executive.

Accountable to: Prior for Wales

Time Commitment: 60 – 80 hours pa



Shereen Williams, chaplain

Senior Chaplain

Role:

The Senior Chaplain plays a pivotal role in leading a group of chaplains in providing ecclesiastical and pastoral support within their regions, as well as having the opportunity to influence decision making by being a member of the Priory for Wales Pro Fide Committee.

Key duties and responsibilities:

- To act as a central point of contact for all Pro Fide matters/requests within the Region.
- To recruit and manage a group of chaplains who will assist in providing Pro Fide support within the Region.
- To ensure all requests for support are distributed to relevant chaplains, and actioned.
- To organise meetings to support and instruct chaplains, both in person and via digital channels.
- To lead/participate in services eg., Blessing of ambulances and new buildings, county and regional events as required.
- To develop relationships with Assistant Chief Volunteer of Region, County Commissioners and other senior County officers.
- To become familiar with the Divisions in the Region, their officers and members by means of occasional visits.
- To become familiar with the St John Council(s) personnel (President, Chair, Secretary) within each County.
- To keep abreast of special events or pastoral needs within the Region.
- To promote awareness and use of the network of chaplains to Divisions.
- To be familiar with, and to promote, the Priory's Pro Fide resources.
- To establish and maintain a log of volunteers providing pastoral support within the Region.
- To be a member of the Priory for Wales Pro Fide Committee.
- As part of the Pro Fide Committee attend two meetings per year (held virtually or in person) providing Regional updates.
- As part of the Pro Fide Committee attend Investitures (as able), participating in the processions and by invitation contributing to the Priory's worship.
- To hold DBS Enhanced clearance and up to date Mandatory Advanced Safeguarding training.

The role is unremunerated, but Senior Chaplains are entitled to recover out of pocket expenses incurred in accordance with the Priory's standard policy.

Accountable to: Priory Dean

Time Commitment: 60+ hours pa

Chaplain

Role:

The Chaplain plays a key role in providing ecclesiastical and pastoral support within their region, to maintain and uphold the Christian foundations of the Order and to live life in accord with the Order's aims 'Pro Fide – For the Faith'.

Key duties and responsibilities:

- To act as one of the pool of Chaplains within a region, providing Pro Fide and pastoral support to members and staff as and when required.
- To develop relationships with local divisions; their officers and members by means of occasional visits.
- To support divisions in teaching of the values of the order to youth members.
- To lead/participate in services eg., Blessing of ambulances and new buildings, county and regional events as required.
- To become familiar with local St John Council(s) personnel (President, Chair, Secretary).
- To keep abreast of special events within the region.
- To be familiar with, and to promote, the Priory Pro Fide resources.
- To hold DBS Enhanced clearance and up to date Mandatory Basic Safeguarding training.

Accountable to: Senior Chaplain

Time Commitment: 40 – 60 hours pa



Chaplain's Uniform and Vestments

Introduction

St John is at times a complicated organisation and one of the frequent queries for new chaplains is 'what should I wear'.

This short guide provides a very practical interpretation for our best practice in this area, emerging from the recent Chaplaincy Review undertaken by the Priory of England and the Islands and bringing together the various regulations governing dress. These are:

- Regulations of the Order of St John 2003 ; 'Regulations'
- Royal Charter and Statutes of the Order of St John 2004 'Statutes'
- St John Ambulance Uniform and Standard of Dress 2013 'Uniform'
- Wearing of Orders, Decorations and Medals Hap004, 2015 'Medals'
- Standard of Dress Policy (v4) 2017, 'Dress'
- Wearing Role Bars on SDU, 2018, 'Role'
- Quick guide to wearing medals on SDU, 2015 'Guide'

Some of the interpretations borrow from the closest parallel, that being Chaplaincy to National Uniformed Services. The military especially delight in codifying everything. The numbering schema particularly borrows directly and allows easy shorthand for events and duties.



Getting it right - inside first

Humility

Jesus himself spoke many times about the dangers of externals masking internals. The religious sphere is no exception:

Beware of the teachers of the law. They like to walk around in flowing robes and love to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces and have the most important seats in the synagogues and the places of honour at banquets (Luke 20:46).

Uniform, rank and role are a key part, for good and bad, of the St John world. For ill, there are some in St John for whom rank and uniform has become seductively obsessive.

Part of the role of the chaplain is to lovingly and pastorally expose such ideas. In 1 Samuel 16:7 we are told that while we look on the outside, 'The Lord looks at the Heart.' Uniform like anything else that is good can become an idol.

An attitude of humility is the only place to start.

Incarnation

A value of the uniform is that we become more like those we serve. This is particularly notable when wearing the Service Delivery Softshell, where we look like those we are among.

Slightly more tangentially even when wearing the full ecclesiastical tippet there is a ready connection with members who themselves have to wear a variety of interesting St John uniforms.

Dignity and Beauty

There is also an inherent dignity in a beautiful uniform. Theologically, especially in the Old Testament there are clear pointers towards the importance of Beauty in worship and ministry.

In our aggressively informal world, uniforms have a key function at times, something explored for example in Andrew Atherstone's excellent Grove Booklet examining Clergy Robes - Clergy Robes and Mission Priorities.

If we are going to wear uniform then it is important to do it well. This is important both in the unit and perhaps even more so when visiting elsewhere.

Collegiality

Uniform also serves as a collegial helper. This is perhaps especially important in St John where there are so few chaplains around that it is important for us to recall not only are we part of something bigger, but that it is important to maintain standards.

This is also important for those joint events where more than one chaplain is in attendance.

Mission

As detailed earlier, dress regulations are a constant source of pastoral concern for St John members – especially when they have just been changed, reviewed or consulted upon.

Value

For Good, ranks and uniforms serve to delineate in a positive way and may be an outward expression of that which is good within.

As the note on a sports centre once visited said: 'A Well dressed sportsman is not necessarily a good sportsman, but a good sportsman is always well dressed.'

A prayer for vesting:

God of Compassion and mercy, grant that we who wear the white cross of St John as a mark of our commitment to the service of humanity, may practice the Christian virtues with grace and determination. May our lives reflect the courage and sympathy that has always marked people of compassion and may we honour the great traditions of service established by those who have gone before us. Let our hands be hands of caring, our hearts be the hearts of kindness and our service be to your glory, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Different Uniforms and when to wear them

a. St John Ecclesiastical

The most formal dress is:

- Cassock
- Surplice
- St John 'Tippet' (Medals or Medal Ribbon)

Types

1a. Dress With Full Medal Bar

1b. Undress With Medal Ribbon

1c. Undress (no decorations)

Dress With Full Medal Bar

Any medals are worn directly and symmetrically above the Chaplains Badge. Medals are worn as per the guidance in 'Medals'. Unofficial medals are not permitted.

This is worn when:

- Conducting or participating in Services in connection to the Order, or representing St John (eg at an installation)
- Installing of new Chaplains
- Blessing ambulances, centres etc
- Robing at St John's day Service at St John Ambulance Cymru Investitures
- Conducting a 'Full' St John funeral



1a. Dress With Full Medal Bar

Undress With Medal Ribbon

Any medal ribbons are worn directly and symmetrically above the Chaplains Badge.

Medal ribbons are worn as per the guidance in 'Medals'. Unofficial medal ribbons are not permitted.

This is worn when:

- In any circumstances where we wish to mirror the dress of St John members who are in uniform but not wearing medals

It is advisable not to use a military style sew-on ribbon bar, but rather to have a pin-on ribbon bar which allows for easy removal for the next form of dress and indeed the passing on of the tippet to your subsequent Chaplain.

The bar is worn symmetrically over the badge to a maximum of four medals width after which they are 'stacked' above military style.



1b. Undress With Medal Ribbon

Undress (No decorations)

This is worn when:

- Mirroring any St John function where neither medals or medal ribbons are being worn



1c. Undress (no decorations)

Wearing the Tippet

You will normally be vested into the Tippet when inducted by the Priory Dean.

It is permissible for all St John Chaplains to wear the Tippet as soon as appointed. This marks a change from previous regimes where it was just Chaplains who were members of the Order who wore it.

It may be worn at a Chaplain's discretion at non St John events to raise the local profile of St John and the chaplaincy, although it is expected that this would be rare rather than frequent.

Obtaining

All chaplains are provided with a Tippet on ceremonial occasions.

You should not need to purchase your own Tippet as we now provide one for all chaplains.

Legacy

If provided with a Tippet, when a chaplain retires or resigns s/he should return their tippet to the Priory Dean at Headquarters that it may be available for their replacement.

b. Formal Ecclesiastical with St John badge

- Cassock
- Surplice
- Hood
- Preaching Scarf with St John Badge on Upper Left Breast
- Medals or Medal Ribbon

This is worn when:

- A St John Ecclesiastical Tippet is not available.
- Robed, Conducting or attending other services when best robes are worn.
- Conducting a 'Partial' St John Funeral – where the family is happy for the deceased's St John connections to be incorporated but not overly so.

Where St John Chaplains have additional royal or ecclesiastical insignia such as from being a Cathedral Canon, Services Chaplain, the St John Badge is worn in addition to other insignia.

If your Tippet is not to hand or misplaced this is an entirely acceptable alternative.

- Blessing Ambulances, Centres etc
- Robing at St John day Service at St John Ambulance Cymru Investitures
- Conducting a 'Full' St John funeral

Where St John Chaplains have additional royal or ecclesiastical insignia such as from being a Cathedral Canon, Services Chaplain, the St John Badge is worn in addition to other insignia.

If your Tippet is not to hand or misplaced this is an entirely acceptable alternative.

Types

- 2a. Dress with Full Medal Bar
- 2b. Undress with Medal Ribbon

Following customary practice it is usual and even expected for Chaplains with Royal Connections (including St John) to wear (if awarded) medal ribbons at all times. Only officially sanctioned decorations and medals should be worn as per national Order of Wear guidelines. If you are at all unsure if a decoration is permitted please check with the Priory Dean before having expensive medal mounting done.



2a. Dress with Full Medal Bar



2b. Undress with Medal Ribbon

Obtaining

All chaplains are issued with the round St John Badge on appointment. If damaged or lost replacement badges are available on request from Headquarters. The badge will need to be sewn on.

Legacy

As distinct from The Tippet which is only worn by current serving chaplains, a chaplain whose service has been recognised either by membership of the Order or by the award of the Service medal, may continue as an emeritus courtesy to wear her or his round St John badge after resigning or retiring.

c. Regular Clerical Wear

- Clerical collar
- Suit or Jacket or Cassock or Equivalent

This is worn for:

- Meetings
- Visits
- Dinners
- Services at which not participating

In 2017 St John introduced a small button 'order pin' for members of the order to wear with daily wear (Medals)

Types

3a – Lounge Suit with Full Medal Bar

3b – Lounge Suit / Regular Clericals

3c – Black Tie / Clerical equivalent with miniatures/insignia

(Please note: 3C is the only wear in which miniature medals are worn)

3d – Black Tie / Clerical equivalent

3e – Regular clericals with St John name badge

3f – Military Uniform



3b – Lounge Suit / Regular Clericals

On some occasions it may be appropriate for Chaplains who are current serving Armed service Chaplains to wear their military uniform. In the past such occasions have included services with a military theme or when being invested with a St John honour as an alternative to regular clericals. It is obligatory in such circumstances to obtain the permission of:

- 1) Priory Dean as well as
- 2) Wearing a service uniform in a church service will sometimes mean also being vested with the Mantle of your grade in the Order.

Some priories internationally do have a St John best uniform for Chaplains but we do not in the Priory for Wales.

Obtaining

Your St John name badge may be obtained through National Headquarters. It is a good idea to ask for it at the same time as your ID card which may also be obtained from National Headquarters. The Order pin may be privately purchased from Worcestershire Medals or via the Order Officer at National Headquarters.



3c – Black Tie / Clerical equivalent with miniatures/insignia

d. Chaplains Service Delivery Uniform Jacket (CSDUJ)

Regular clerical wear including clerical collar.
All Purpose Softshell with 'Chaplain's' role bar and blank Wales rank slides.

This is worn for:

- Duties
- Events
- Some meetings, visits or talks

Types

4a – Chaplains SDUJ with Full Medal Bar

4b – Chaplains SDUJ with Medal Ribbon

4c – Chaplains SDUJ

(In practise 4A and 4B will almost never be worn by a chaplain as we have various alternative things to wear. It exists primarily in the St John world to allow members who have not got a St John Dress uniform (the Black and White ceremonial 'best' uniform) to wear their medals for Awards ceremonies, church services, parades, funerals and the like).



Chaplains have been granted permission to wear (4C) a version of the SDU softshell when attending events and other similar 'active' or 'messy' parts of St John life. There are some important qualifiers here with regards how we integrate especially with the professional service aspect of St John Ambulance.

- a) As chaplains we **are not wearing full SDU** – we are wearing clericals with a softshell and role bar. Those of us who wear black clericals will in practise look very similar to those on Ambulance duty except for the collar.
- b) All chaplains wanting to wear the softshell and role bar **must undertake at least some formal St John first aid training upon appointment**. This may vary from a simple acquaint course to a full First Aid at Work (FAW) week. This will give chaplains a familiarity with operational matters – it will help us 'get out of the way'

when we need to. That said, we are not primarily on events to do first aid – we are there as chaplains.

- c) Our role is that of 'Chaplain'. As per 'Role' guidance you are only in St John permitted to have one role at an event.
- d) There is nothing to stop a chaplain training as a first aider and undertaking an operational first aid role at an event or function, but then they need to fully accord with more general St John SDU clothing requirements. A chaplain that does this will need to wear a different

role bar and will not operationally be functioning as a chaplain while on duty.

St John is very clear operationally on the need for role clarity and whilst we may have no issues with combining chaplain and first aider, it may cause some confusion for members who are very clearly trained for wrole separation in this area. It would therefore also be advisable for a Chaplain when on First Aid Duty not to wear a clerical collar so as to avoid any confusion.



4c – Chaplains SDUJ

- e) We wear blank rank slides. Some parts of the international St John world give their chaplains various rank related badges but we do not in the Priory for Wales. The general rule of thumb (adopted from the Royal Navy), is that where rank is being worn, the chaplain speaks to all people in the rank structure **on their level**.
- f) The softshell does not, it must be noted, cover all eventualities – whilst it is great to wear at a cold and

rainy football match duty, it is much too hot to wear on a summers day when 3E regular clericals would be much more advisable. On very cold and wet days it is also permissible to 'upgrade' as it were to the full outdoor coat.

Obtaining

The Softshell and Role Bars should be ordered from National Headquarters. It is usually one of the Senior Volunteer team that does the ordering.

The chaplain role bar will need to be ordered as a separate item.

Legacy

All SDU is to be returned upon resignation or retirement to local area.

e. Non-Chaplain Formal Ecclesiastical

This wear falls slightly outside the scope of chaplaincy wear but is included as there are a number of clerical brethren and sistren, who, whilst not being Chaplains in the Order, are Ordained Members working within St John and/or members of the Order.

The guidance is to mirror those described earlier with the obvious exception of the Chaplains badge:

- Cassock
- Surplice
- Hood
- Preaching Scarf
- Medals or Medal Ribbon on Upper Left breast

Types

5a. Dress with Full Medal Bar

5b. Undress with Medal Ribbon

As per national chaplaincy guidelines it is expected that national accredited honours are attached at all times – ie 5b is the default. Illustrated above an ordained member of St John who has been awarded their Service Medal.



5a. Dress with Full Medal Bar



5b. Undress with Medal Ribbon

Practicalities and Curios

Senior Chaplains Vestments

The order holds and maintains various Vestments particular to the senior ecclesiastical members of the Chaplaincy including Priory Dean. These include copes and other wear. You will be inducted into these should you ever be appointed but if you are curious do ask to have a look when at Headquarters in Cardiff.

Dress with St John specific Vestments

Over the years a number of clery robe have held different offices, roles and functions within St John including county presidencies, chairs and national roles such as Chancellor. The particular uniforms, robes or mantles they wear relate to their office and are detailed elsewhere in St John regulations. There are also various mantles for some senior grades of the order which are worn over other garb.



Priory Cope (front)



Priory Cope (back)



Plymouth Cope (front)



Plymouth Cope (back)





St John
Ambulance
Cymru



The first aid charity for Wales
Elusen cymorth cyntaf Cymru

Follow us @SJACymru | www.sjacymru.org.uk

Registered in England and Wales. Charity number 250523. Company number 5071073.