Liturgical Colors

Roman Rite • Main uses in the dioceses of the United States

The colors of vestments help express the mystery we celebrate.

COLOR	WHEN IT IS USED	ASSOCIATIONS
White	Christmas and Easter seasons; celebrations of Christ (other than his Passion), Mary, angels, and saints, who are not martyrs; All Saints Day and certain other celebrations.	Purity • Innocence Light • Joy • Glory Resurrection
Red	Palm Sunday; Good Friday; Pentecost; most feasts of Apostles and Evangelists celebrations of martyrs.	Blood • Fire Martyrdom The Holy Spirit
Green	Ordinary Time.	Hope Growth in Christ
Violet (Purple)	Advent and Lent. Also permitted at funerals and other Masses for the dead.	Conversion/Penance Preparation Sorrow
Rose	Optional on *Gaudete* Sunday (3rd Sunday of Advent) and *Laetare* Sunday (Fourth Sunday of Lent).	Joy amid preparation
Black	Permitted at funerals and other Masses for the dead, including All Souls' Day.	Mourning Prayer for the dead
Gold / Silver	Permitted on more solemn occasions in the dioceses of the United States. In practice, would most often replace white vestments.	Festivity Solemnity

The Paschal Triduum has more than one vestment color

Holy Thursday	Good Friday	Easter Vigil	Easter Sunday
Mass: White	Liturgy: Red	Mass: White	Mass: White

At funerals in the United States, violet, white, or black may be used.
A particular feast can use a different color from the surrounding season.
The associations above explain the significance of the colors; they do not determine the color of the day.

Sources: General Instruction of the Roman Missal, 345–347 (U.S. adaptations);
USCCB, Understanding the Liturgical Colors; USCCB liturgical calendars.