

From: PROPHET OF THE PEOPLE
By Dorothy Gaudiose published by Alba House

Padre Pio wouldn't tolerate low-necked dresses or short, tight skirts...Each year his severity increased. He stubbornly dismissed certain women from his confessional...if he judged them to be improperly dressed. On some mornings he drove away one after another, until he ended up hearing very few confessions. His brothers fastened a sign to the door that read, "women must enter the confessional wearing skirts at least 8 inches below the knee."

Modest Quotes

"How beautiful then is modesty and what a gem among virtues it is."

(St. Bernard, Confessor and Doctor of the Church)

"The secret is to regard our bodies as beautiful gifts from God, miracles of His handiwork, chosen by Him to be His living temples on earth and to be glorified forever in heaven." *

"Modesty is important because it is the fort that protects the castle, but it is also the frame that enhances the picture." *

"A true love of God is necessary to grow in modesty" *

*from MODESTY
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Saint John Chrysostom

Saint John Chrysostom instructed women of all times about dress when in the fourth century he declared: "You carry your snare everywhere and spread your nets in all places. You allege that you never invited others to sin. You did not, indeed, by your words, but you have done so by your dress and your deportment. ... When you have made another sin in his heart, how can you be innocent? Tell me, whom does this world condemn? Whom do judges punish? Those who drink poison or those who prepare it and administer the fatal potion? You have prepared the abominable cup, you have given the death dealing drink, and you are more criminal than are those who poison the body; you murder not the body but the soul. And it is not to enemies you do this, nor are you urged on by any imaginary necessity, nor provoked by injury, but out of foolish vanity and pride."

Standards of Modesty in Dress

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"A dress cannot be called decent which is cut deeper than two fingers breadth under the pit of the throat; which does not cover the arms at least to the elbows; and scarcely reaches a bit beyond the knees. Furthermore, dresses of transparent materials are improper."

The Cardinal Vicar of Pius XII

Let us ask our Heavenly Mother Mary, whose soul was pure from conception, to guide us. Let us ask Her to help us understand what Jesus wants of us.

Let all teachers and parents realize the importance of teaching modesty and reverence and that they, themselves, should set the example.

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Modesty

"A Gem among Virtues"



Whenever the Blessed Sacrament is present in the tabernacle, carried in procession, or taken to the sick; whenever the Sacred Host is raised at the Consecration in the Mass, our infallible faith says to us: "Behold your King! Behold your Redeemer, your Judge, your Creator, your God!"

If then in the presence of the Most Holy Sacrament we feel no devotion interiorly and show no modesty exteriorly, what would someone think? They would say with truth and justice, "That woman does not believe that her God is present there"; or again, "that woman's faith is cold and dead."

Who could believe that Jesus Christ is present in this Sacrament and fail to reverence Him?

In the Holy Eucharist, faith tells us that God Himself is present, He who made all things out of nothing and could destroy them in a moment. He who at the last day will come on the clouds of Heaven to judge the living and the dead.

If only Catholics will believe this with a lively faith, then our churches will be filled with worshippers, whose deportment will correspond to their belief. The modest attire, the guarded eye, the bended knee, the meekly folded hands will speak of the conviction of their hearts. Let Catholics have a lively faith in this Mystery, and our dear Jesus will seldom be left alone. ¹

¹ Müller, *THE BLESSED EUCHARIST* p30-31

MODESTY

To say that "...modesty is a matter of custom" is just as wrong as to say that, "...honesty is a matter of custom."

Pope Pius XII

From the Catechism of the Catholic Church:

2521. Modesty protects the intimate center of the person. It means refusing to unveil what should remain hidden.... It guides how one looks at others and behaves toward them...

2522. Modesty protects the mystery of persons...Modesty is decency. It inspires one's choice of clothing.

2523. There is a modesty of the feelings as well as of the body....Modesty inspires a way of life which makes it possible to resist the allurements of fashion and the pressures of prevailing ideologies.

Words of blessed Jacinta Marto of Fatima, 1910-1920

....*"the sins which bring most souls to hell are the sins of the flesh. **Certain fashions are going to be introduced which will offend Our Lord very much...the Church has no fashions; Our Lord is always the same...**"*

From the Holy Bible:

Dt. 22:5 "A woman shall not be clothed with man's apparel, neither shall a man use woman's apparel: for he that doeth these things is abominable before God."

1 Cor. 3:16,17 "Know you not, that you are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? But if any man violate the temple of God, him shall God destroy. For the temple of God is holy, which you are."

1 Cor. 11:5 "But every woman praying or prophesying with her head not covered disgraceth her head: for it is all one as if she were shaven."

1 Corinthians 11:10 Therefore ought the woman to have a power (*covering*) over her head, because of the angels. (*who are present in the assemblies of the faithful*)

[The rule of women covering their heads, has been the teaching of many Popes, and Pope St. Pius X had it included in the code of Canon law (Canon 1262). It is a sign of humility and draws down God's graces and blessings.]

Rom 12; 1,2 "I Beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercy of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, pleasing unto God, your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world; but be reformed in the newness of your mind, that you may prove what is the good, and the acceptable, and the perfect will of God."

Gal.5:22-23, Latin Vulgate, "But the fruit of the Spirit is, charity, joy, peace, patience, benignity, goodness, longanimity, mildness, faith, modesty, continency, chastity."

Matthew records the words of Our Lord: (5:27-28) "You have heard that it was said to the ancients, 'Thou shalt not commit adultery.' But I say to you that anyone who so much as looks with lust at a woman has already committed adultery with her in his heart."