

Contents

Acknowledgments	9
Introduction to the Second Edition—1999	11
Introduction to the First Edition—1992	12
Linen: A Tradition	15
The Holy Linens	16
Materials and Equipment	19
Preparing the Linen for Cutting	22
Hems: Convent, Flat, and Rolled	25
The Flat Hem	26
The Convent Hem	27
The Rolled Hem	28
Folding the Hem	29
Stitching the Hem	30
Setting the Corners	34
Constructing the Small Linens	39
The Purificator	39
Lavabo Towels and Baptismal Towels	40
The Corporal	40
The Chalice Veil	41
The Pall	41
The Credence Cloth	43





Fair Linens	44
Planning the Fair Linen	45
Getting Your Numbers Right	46
Fair Linen Worksheet	47
Working with Large Pieces of Fabric	48
Preparing the Fair Linen	49
Ecclesiastical White-Work Embroidery	52
Advice for Beginning Embroideresses	52
Symbols and Symbolism	53
The Function of Embroidery	54
Materials	54
Transferring the Pattern to Linen	55
How to Choose an Embroidery Pattern	55
Simple Embroidery Patterns for Small Linens	58
Points and Corners—Chain Stitch	59
Other Useful Stitches	60
Beginning and Ending: Do Not Knot!	60
Church Linens: Washing—Ironing—Folding	61
Conclusion	65
Sources and Resources	67