



# RESEARCH GUIDE TO CANON LAW

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This guide lists works about the Canon Law of the Catholic Church, both Western and Eastern.

## 1983 CODE

In 1983 Pope John Paul II promulgated a revised Code of Canon Law. It is this Code which remains in force today.

***Codex iuris canonici.*** Vatican: Libreria Editrice Vaticana, 1983.  
[Available online: <http://www.vatican.va/archive/cdc/index.htm>]

The official text in Latin with unofficial translations in Chinese, English, French, German, Italian, Russian, and Spanish.

***Code of Canon Law.*** Latin-English edition. Washington, DC: Canon Law Society of America, 1983.  
[St. Michael's 1st Floor Reference Area – KBU 2212 .A52 1983]

The standard American-English translation.

***The Code of Canon Law in English Translation.*** Prepared by the Canon Law Society of Great Britain and Ireland. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1983.  
[St. Michael's 3rd Floor – KBU 2212 .A52 1983c]

The standard British-English translation.

***Incrementa in progressu 1983 Codicis iuris canonici.*** Edited by Edward N. Peters. Montreal: Wilson & Lafleur, 2005.  
[St. Michael's 2nd Floor – KBU 2212 .P47 2005]

A side-by-side comparison of each canon of the 1983 Code with the various draft versions.

***Complementary Norms to the 1983 Code of Canon Law.*** Ottawa: Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops, 1996.  
[St. Michael's 1st Floor Reference Area – KBU 2212 .C363 1996]

The decrees promulgated by the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops determining certain canonical matters in Canada.

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## 1983 CODE - COMMENTARIES

***New Commentary on the Code of Canon Law.*** Commissioned by the Canon Law Society of America. Edited by John P. Beal, James A. Coriden, and Thomas J. Green. New York: Paulist, 2000.  
[St. Michael's 1st Floor Reference Area – KBU 2212 .N39 2000]

The standard American commentary.

***The Canon Law: Letter & Spirit: A Practical Guide to the Code of Canon Law.*** Prepared by the Canon Law Society of Great Britain and Ireland in association with the Canadian Canon Law Society. Collegeville, MN: Liturgical, 1995.  
[St. Michael's 1st Floor Reference Area – KBU 2212 .C36 1995]

The standard British and Canadian commentary.

***Exegetical Commentary on the Code of Canon Law.*** Prepared by the Faculty of Canon Law, University of Navarre. Edited by Angel Marzoa, Jorge Miras and Rafael Rodriguez-Ocana. Montreal: Wilson & Lafleur, 2004. 5 volumes in 8.  
[St. Michael's 1st Floor Reference Area – KBU 2212 .C65513 2004]

The largest and most in-depth commentary on the Code, with essays on each canon written by a variety of canonists. Includes the complementary norms published by thirteen English-language conferences of bishops, as well as tables of correspondence between the 1983 and 1917 Codes and between the 1983 Code and the 1992 Code of Canons of the Eastern Churches.

***The Code of Canon Law: A Text and Commentary.*** Commissioned by the Canon Law Society of America. Edited by James A. Coriden, Thomas J. Green, and Donald E. Heintschel. New York: Paulist, 1985.  
[St. Michael's 1st Floor Reference Area – KBU 2212 .C37 1985]

An American commentary which appeared immediately after the 1983 Code was published. It is largely superseded by the *New Commentary on the Code of Canon Law* (above).

***Code of Canon Law Annotated.*** Edited by Ernest Caparros, Michel Theriault, and Jean Thorn. Montreal: Wilson & Lafleur, 2004.  
[St. Michael's 1st Floor Reference Area – KBU 2212 .C38 2004]

An English-language version of a Spanish commentary prepared at the University of Navarre.

***Codigo de Derecho Canonico.*** Edicion bilingue comentada por los profesores de la Facultad de Derecho Canonico de la Universidad Pontificia de Salamanca.  
[St. Michael's 1st Floor Reference Area – KBU 2212 .C387 1991]

A Spanish-language commentary prepared at the Pontifical University of Salamanca.

## 1983 CODE - INDEXES

***Index to the Code of Canon Law in English Translation.*** Prepared by the Canon Law Society of Great Britain and Ireland. London: Collins, 1984.  
[St. Michael's 1st Floor Reference Area – KBU 2210 .I53 1984]

A subject index in English.

***Codex iuris canonici, Lemmata, Stichwortverzeichnis.*** Hartmut Zapp. Freiburg: Rombach, 1986.  
[St. Michael's 1st Floor Reference Area – KBU 2212 .A12 1986]

A word and phrase index to the Latin text.

## 1983 CODE – PRACTICAL GUIDES

These works are not as detailed as the commentaries listed above, but often provide more practical advice about common pastoral issues.

***A Passion for Justice: An Introductory Guide to the Code of Canon Law.*** G.J. Woodall. Leominster, Herefordshire: Gracewing, 2011.  
[St. Michael's 2nd Floor – KBU 2212 .W66 2011]

***The Pastoral Companion: A Canon Law Handbook for Catholic Ministry.*** John M. Huels. 4th edition. Montreal: Wilson & Lafleur, 2009.  
[St. Michael's 2nd Floor – KBU 180 .M57 H83 2009]

***A Handbook on Canon Law.*** Joseph T. Martin de Agar. 2nd edition. Montreal: Wilson & Lafleur, 2007.  
[St. Michael's 2nd Floor – KBU 2212 .M3713 2007]

***The Code in the Hands of the Laity.*** Laurence J. Spiteri. Staten Island, NY: Alba House, 1997.  
[St. Michael's 3rd Floor – BX 1935 .S65 1997]

## POST-1983 LAW

***Communicationes.*** Vatican City: Pontifical Council for Legal Texts. 1969 – present.  
[St. Michael's 2nd Floor – KBU 20 .C666]

The publication of the Vatican office dedicated to canon law. Reprints almost all official documents on changes in the law, as well as articles. Some official documents on canonical matters also appear in *Acta Apostolicae Sedis* (St. Michael's 3rd Floor – BX 850 .A32) or, if liturgical, in *Notitiae* (St. Michael's 3rd Floor – BX 1970 .A1 N6).

***Roman Replies and CLSA Advisory Opinions.*** Washington, DC: Canon Law Society of America.  
[Regis College – KBU 39 .R66 1984–1992]  
[St. Michael's – KBU 39 .R66 1996–1999, 2005–2011]

Includes English translations of official interpretations of the law from the Pontifical Council for Legal Texts as well as advisory opinions authored by members of the Canon Law Society of America.

***Decisiones seu Sententiae.*** Rome: Typis Polyglottis Vaticanis, 1912–present.  
[St. Michael's 2nd Floor – KBU 43.15 .D43 volume 1 (1912) – 61 (1972)]  
[No current subscription at UofT]

The official publication of the Roman Rota, the Church's final court of appeal in cases of marital nullity. Summaries of the most important judgments are usually published approximately five years after being issued.

## WEBSITES OF CANON LAWYERS

A number of canon lawyers now have their own websites where they publish their legal opinions as well as provide links to other canon law resources. The following sites include significant material in English.

***www.canonlaw.info.*** Edward Peters.  
[Available online: <http://www.canonlaw.info/>]

A member of the faculty at Sacred Heart Major Seminary in Detroit.

***www.cormacburke.or.ke.*** Cormac Burke.  
[Available online: <http://www.cormacburke.or.ke/>]

A member of the Roman Rota from 1987 to 1999.

***www.jgray.org.*** Jason Gray.  
[Available online: <http://www.jgray.org/>]

The judicial vicar and vice-chancellor of the Diocese of Peoria.

***www.ulrichrhode.de.*** Ulrich Rhode.  
[Available online: [http://www.ulrichrhode.de/index\\_e.html](http://www.ulrichrhode.de/index_e.html)]

A professor at the Philosophisch-Theologische Hochschule Sankt Georgen in Frankfurt.

## 1917 CODE

In 1917 Pope Benedict XV promulgated a Code of Canon Law which remained the definitive collection until 1983. The code is called "Pio-Benedictine" because it was largely written during the reign of Pope Saint Pius X, but promulgated under Pope Benedict XV.

***Codex iuris canonici.*** New York: P.J. Kenedy, 1918.  
[St. Michael's 1st Floor Reference Area – BX 1935 .A5 1918]  
[Available online: <http://www.archive.org/details/codexiuriscanon00xgoog>]

The official text in Latin.

***The 1917 Pio-Benedictine Code of Canon Law in English Translation with Extensive Scholarly Apparatus.*** Edward N. Peters, Curator. San Francisco: Ignatius, 2001.  
[St. Michael's 1st Floor Reference Area – KBU 2210 .A52 2001]

An unofficial translation in English. Includes cross-references and citations to the 1983 Code and to many secondary works.

***A Dictionary of Canon Law.*** P. Trudel. St. Louis, MO: Herder, 1919.  
[St. Michael's 3rd Floor – BQV 219 .T7]  
[Available online: <http://www.archive.org/details/adictionaryofcan00truduoft>]

A summary of the Code arranged under over 600 subject headings.

***The Sacred Canons: A Concise Presentation of the Current Disciplinary Norms of the Church.*** John A. Abbo and Jerome D. Hannon. 2nd edition. St. Louis, MO: Herder, 1960. 2 volumes.  
[St. Michael's 3rd Floor – KBU 2210 .A63 1960]

The standard English-language commentary to the 1917 Code.

***The Canon Law Digest: Officially Published Documents Affecting the Code of Canon Law.*** Milwaukee, WI: Bruce, 1934 – Mundelein, IN: St. Mary of the Lake Seminary, 1986. 10 volumes + 5 supplements.  
[St. Michael's 1st Floor Reference Area – BX 1935 .B6]

English-translations of documents which changed the law of the 1917 Code, or provided authoritative interpretations of that law.

***Rotal Anthology: An Annotated Index of Rotal Decisions from 1971 to 1988.*** Compiled by Augustine Mendonça. Washington, DC: Canon Law Society of America, 1992.  
[Regis Reference Area – KBR43 .M46 1992]

English-language summaries of all marriage cases heard by the Roman Rota from 1971 to 1988.

## PRE-1917 CANON LAW

***Corpus iuris canonici.*** Leipzig: Bernhard Tauchnitz, 1879-1881. 2 volumes.  
[PIMS Library Reference Area – BQV 154 .F8 1879]  
[Available online: <http://www.archive.org/details/corpusjuriscanon00cath>]

This collection contains the six major canonical collections on which the 1917 Code is based: the *Decretum* of Gratian, the *Decretals* of Gregory IX, the *Liber sextus* of Boniface VIII, the *Constitutions* of Clement V, the *Extravagantes* of John XXII, and the *Extravagantes communes*.

***Codicis iuris canonici fontes.*** Edited by Pietro Gasparri. Rome: Typis Polyglottis Vaticanis, 1923. 9 volumes.  
[St. Michael's 1st Floor Reference Area – BX 1935 .A1 G24 1923]

This collection reproduces all the documents cited in footnotes to the 1917 Code – with the exception of those found in the *Corpus iuris canonici*. It includes numerous conciliar, papal, and curial texts.

***History of Medieval Canon Law.*** Washington, DC: Catholic University of America Press, 1999-present. 4 volumes published.  
[Vol. 1 (ca. 400-1140) – St. Michael's 2nd Floor KBR 3 .K47 1999]  
[Vol. 2 (1140-1234) – St. Michael's 2nd Floor KBR 160 .H57 2008]  
[Vol. 3 (Early Middle Ages) – St. Michael's 3rd Floor BX 863 .F84 2001]  
[Vol. 4 (Byzantine and Eastern, to 1500) – St. Michael's 2nd Floor KBS 132 .H57 2012]

When complete this series will be the major secondary source about canon law up to 1500. It includes essays by different canonists.

## EASTERN CANON LAW

***Codex canonum Ecclesiarum Orientalium.***  
[Available online: <http://www.vatican.va/archive/cdc/index.htm>; click on “Codex Canonum Ecclesiarum Orientalium”]

The official Latin text of the 1992 Code for Eastern Catholic Churches.

***Code of Canons of the Eastern Churches.*** Latin-English edition. Washington, DC: Canon Law Society of America, 1992.  
[St. Michael's 1st Floor Reference Area – BX 4710.52 .C63 1992]

The official Latin text with an unofficial English translation of the 1992 Code.

***Index analyticus Codicis canonum Ecclesiarum Orientalium.*** Ivan Zuzek. Rome: Pontificum Institutum Orientalium Studiorum, 1992.  
[St. Michael's 1st Floor Reference Area – BX 4710.5 .Z98 1992]

A subject index in Latin.

***Two Codes in Comparison.*** Jobe Abbass. Rome: Pontificio Istituto Orientale, 1997.  
[St. Michael's 3rd Floor 0 BX 4710.55 .A23 1997]

A comparison of the 1983 Latin Code with the 1992 Eastern Code.

***Iuris ecclesiastici graecorum historia et monumenta.*** Edited by Jean Baptiste Pitra. Rome: Typis Collegii Urbani, 1864-1868.  
[PIMS Library – BX 343 .P6 Folio]  
[Available online for UofT use: <http://www.library.utoronto.ca>]

A collection of Greek canonical works from the councils and the fathers. Includes Latin translations.

***An Overview of Orthodox Canon Law.*** Panteleimon Rodopoulos. Rollinsford, NH: Orthodox Research Institute, 2007.  
[St. Michael's 3rd Floor – BX343 .R6413 2007]

An introductory manual by a Greek Orthodox bishop and canon law professor. Includes chapters on the sources of canon law, ecclesiastical government, property, marriage, divorce, and relations between Church and state.

***Orthodox Canon Law: A Casebook for Study.*** Patrick Viscuso. 2nd edition. Brookline, MA: Holy Cross Orthodox Press, 2011.  
[St. Michael's 3rd Floor – BX343 .V57 2011]

Case studies with discussion questions and answers about canon law issues in ecclesiastical government, marriage, and autocephaly.

## ENCYCLOPEDIAS AND DICTIONARIES

***The Canon Law of the Roman Catholic Church and the Church of England: A Handbook.*** Rhidian Jones. 2nd edition. London: T.&T. Clark, 2011.  
[St. Michael's 3rd Floor – KBU 56.5 .J66 2011]

A dictionary with brief definition articles comparing canon law vocabulary as used in the Catholic Church and the (Anglican) Church of England.

***Dictionnaire de droit canonique.*** Edited by R. Naz. Paris: Letouzey et Ané, 1935-1965. 7 volumes.  
[St. Michael's 1st Floor Reference Area – BX 1936 .D5 1935]

The standard encyclopedia of canon law with long signed articles on terms, historical topics, and biographies.

***Dictionnaire de droit canonique.*** Edited by Andre d'Avallon. Paris: Walzer, 1888. 3 volumes.  
[St. Michael's 1st Floor Reference Area – BX 1936 .D53 1888]

***Dictionarium morale et canonicum.*** Edited by Pietro Palazzini. Rome: Officium Libri Catholici, 1962-1968. 4 volumes.  
[St. Michael's 1st Floor Reference Area – BX 841 .P4 1962]

In Latin.

## FINDING MORE RESOURCES

***Canon Law Abstracts.*** 1958-present.  
[St. Michael's 1st Floor Reference Area – KBU 192 .C3 volume 1 (1958) – present]

The major index to books and journal articles on canonical subjects. Includes works published in all the major European languages.

***Catholic Periodical and Literature Index (CPLI).***  
[Available online (1981 – present) for UofT use: <http://www.library.utoronto.ca>]  
[Print version (1930 – 1980): St. Michael's 1st Floor Reference Area – AI 3 .C3]

Over 200,000 bibliographic citations to Catholic books, book reviews, and journal articles from more than 160 Catholic magazines. Includes both scholarly and popular material. Use the print version to find articles published before 1981.

## JOURNALS

***L'Année canonique.*** Paris: Institut catholique, 1952–present.  
[St. Michael's 2nd Floor – KBU 20 .A56 volume 1 (1952) – present]

Articles in French. Each volume has articles on a specific theme, as well as more general articles. 1 issue per year.

***Apollinaris.*** Rome: Lateran University Press, 1928–present.  
[St. Michael's 2nd Floor – KBU 20 .A66 volume 1 (1928) – 80 (2007)]  
[Regis College – Current subscription]

Articles mostly in Italian. 2 issues per year.

***Archiv für katholisches Kirchenrecht.***  
[PIMS Library 4th Floor – Journals volume 1 (1857) – 40 (1878), 97 (1917) – present]

Articles in German. 2 issues per year.

***The Jurist: Studies in Church Law and Ministry.*** Washington, DC: Catholic University of America.



[Available online for UofT use: <http://library.utoronto.ca>]

Almost all articles in English. 2 issues per year.

***Monitor ecclesiasticus.*** Rome: Desclée, 1949–2005.  
[Regis Library]

Ceased publication. Most articles in Italian, but with some in French or English.

***Periodica de re canonica.*** Rome: Pontificia universita gregoriana, 1911–present.  
[St. Michael's 2nd Floor – KB 57 .E75]

The publication of the Faculty of Canon Law at the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome. The first issue each year includes a bibliography of canon law publications from the previous year. 4 issues per year.

***Proceedings of the Annual Convention of the Canon Law Society of America.*** Washington, DC: Canon Law Society of America.  
[Regis College – KBU 21 .R66 1979-1991, 2005]  
[St. Michael's 1992 – present, on order]

Addresses and seminar papers in English.

***Revue de droit canonique.*** Strasbourg: Institut de droit canonique, 1951–2005.  
[St. Michael's 2nd Floor – KBU 20 .R5 volume 8 (1958) – 55 (2005)]

Ceased publication. Articles in French. 2 issues per year.

***Studia canonica.*** Ottawa, ON: Saint Paul University, 1967–present.  
[Available online for UofT use: <http://library.utoronto.ca>, volume 1(1967) – present]

Articles in English and French. 2 issues per year.

G.J. Woodall, priest of the Diocese of Nottingham, moralist (S.T.D.), canonist (J.C.L.), and professor at the Pontifical Athenaeum Regina Apostolorum in Rome, has produced in this work a useful introduction to the Code of Canon Law for the non-specialist.Â Nature of Marriage (344-369); Impediments to Marriage and Matrimonial Consent (370-405); Canonical Form and Other Questions (406-428); Places, Times, and Other Acts of Divine Worship (429-438); The Temporal Goods of the Church (439-462); Penal Law (463-494); and Procedural Law (495-545).