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.

[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.

[St. Michael’s 1st Floor Reference Area – KBU 2212 .A52 1983]

The standard American-English translation.

[St. Michael’s 3rd Floor – KBU 2212 .A52 1983c]

The standard British-English translation.

[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.

[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.


1983 Code - Commentaries


The standard American commentary.


[St. Michael’s 1st Floor Reference Area – KBU 2212 .C36 1995]

The standard British and Canadian commentary.


[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.


[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 It is largely superseded by the New Commentary on the Code of Canon Law (above).


[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.


A Spanish-language commentary prepared at the Pontifical University of Salamanca.
## 1983 Code - Indexes

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## 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.

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## Post-1983 Law

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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.


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.


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.


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


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.

[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.

[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.

[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.

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

[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 Constituions of Clement V, the Extravagantes of John XXII, and the Extravagantes communes.


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.

[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”]


[St. Michael’s 1st Floor Reference Area – BX 4710.52 .C63 1992]


[St. Michael’s 1st Floor Reference Area – BX 4710.5 .Z98 1992]

A subject index in Latin.
[St. Michael's 3rd Floor 0 BX 4710.55 .A23 1997]


[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.

[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.

[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**

[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.

[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]

[St. Michael's 1st Floor Reference Area – BX 841 .P4 1962]

In Latin.

**FINDING MORE RESOURCES**

**Canon Law Abstracts.** 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]  

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**

[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.

[Regis College – Current subscription]

Articles mostly in Italian. 2 issues per year.

**Archiv für katholisches Kirchenrecht.**  

Articles in German. 2 issues per year.

Almost all articles in English. 2 issues per year.

[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.

[St. Michael's 1992 – present, on order]

Addresses and seminar papers in English.


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

**Studia canonica.** Ottawa, ON: Saint Paul University, 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. 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).
This opinion gives an explanation of canon 668 of the Code of the Canon Law for the Latin Rite. It deals with the question of a member of a religious institute who inherits a great deal of money. In this particular case the member is a Sister who has professed perpetual vows. (Canon 6, 1.) 2. Canons of the Code that restate former laws exactly as they were before, must be interpreted according to the approved and accepted interpretation of commentators on the old law. Canons which agree only in part with the former law are to be interpreted like the former law in the points in which they agree; but in the points in which the new law differs from the former they must be judged by their wording and context. 51. Doubts concerning privileges must be solved according to Canon 50, which decrees that rescripts as well as privileges that injure the acquired rights of a third party, or such that are against the law, in favor of private individuals, are to receive a strict interpretation. status of canon law and defying that canon law is. the individual legal system. Presentation of the main research material. Two decades ago, after the collapse of ideas. of socialism in Eastern Europe, legal systems of. Ukraine and Russia embarked on the course of. ideologization and addressing to their tradition. This was primarily reflected at the doctrinal level. such circumstances, the law becomes not the guide. of divine will and not the art of goodness and equity (ars boni et aequi), but only turns into the. law by the will of the ruling class [3, p. 443], based. on personal benefit. Legal apostasy was also the. result of systematic activities of party and state. Online guide to researching Canon Law written by Don Ford who is Foreign, Comparative and International Law Librarian at the University of Iowa College of Law. The guide gives an introduction to the term “Canon law” and goes on to look at religious law for the following religions: Catholic Church (Roman and Eastern rites); the Orthodox Churches; the Anglican Churches; the Lutheran Churches and the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (Mormons). For each religion there is an overview, links to online resources and references to printed materials including scriptures, catechisms.