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 City: 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.

[St. Michael’s 1st Floor Reference Area – KBU 2212 .A52 1999]

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 It is largely superseded by the *New Commentary on the Code of Canon Law* (above).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

[St. Michael’s 1st Floor Reference Area – KBU 2210 .I53 1984]

A subject index in English.

[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.

Leominster, Herefordshire: Gracewing, 2011.  
[St. Michael’s 2nd Floor – KBU 2212 .W66 2011]

[St. Michael’s 2nd Floor – KBU 180 .M57 H83 2009]

[St. Michael’s 2nd Floor – KBU 2212 .M3713 2007]


POST-1983 LAW

[St. Michael’s 2nd Floor – KBU 20 .C666]

**Roman Replies and CLSA Advisory Opinions.** Washington, DC: Canon Law Society of America.  

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]

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/codexjuriscanon00xgoog]

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.
[St. Michael’s 2nd Floor – KBU 30.5 .B68 1934]

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.
[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*.

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

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.

[Available online: http://www.catholicUniversity.edu/collections/catholiclaw/]

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”]


[Available online: http://www.catholicUniversity.edu/collections/catholiclaw/]


[Available online: http://www.vatican.va/archive/cdc/index.htm; click on “Index analyticus Codicis canonum Ecclesiarum Orientalium”]

A subject index in Latin.
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<td>A canon-by-canon commentary.</td>
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<td>Available online for UofT use: <a href="http://www.library.utoronto.ca">http://www.library.utoronto.ca</a></td>
<td>A collection of Greek canonical works from the councils and the fathers. Includes Latin translations.</td>
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<td>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.</td>
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<td>Case studies with discussion questions and answers about canon law issues in ecclesiastical government, marriage, and autocephaly.</td>
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**ENCYCLOPEDIAS AND DICTIONARIES**

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<td></td>
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<td>A dictionary with brief definition articles comparing canon law vocabulary as used in the Catholic Church and the (Anglican) Church of England.</td>
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[St. Michael’s 2nd Floor – KBU 56.5 .D5 1935]

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

**Dictionnaire de droit canonique.** Edited by Michel André. Paris: Walzer, 1888. 3 volumes.
[St. Michael’s 2nd Floor – KBR 56 .A54 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.

**ATLA Religion Database with ATLASerials.**
[Available online (1949–present) for UofT use only: http://www.library.utoronto.ca]

Over one million bibliographic citations to journal articles, essays in books, and book reviews in the field of religion. Covers all aspects of the major world religions and now includes all the content of the online *Catholic Periodical and Literature Index*. For Catholic journal articles published between 1930 and 1980 use the print version of *Catholic Periodical and Literature Index* (St. Michael's 1st Floor Reference Area - AI 3 .C3).

**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.

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

Almost all articles in English. 2 issues per year.

[Regis Library]

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

[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. Entitled Periodica de re canonica et morali from 1911 to 1927 and Periodica de re morali, canonica, liturgica from 1927 to 1990. 4 issues per year.


Addresses and seminar papers in English.


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


Articles in English and French. 2 issues per year.

This research guide is maintained by Noel S. McFerran (noel.mcferran@utoronto.ca). It was last updated August 2018. The most recent version can be found online: http://guides.library.utoronto.ca/kellycanonlaw