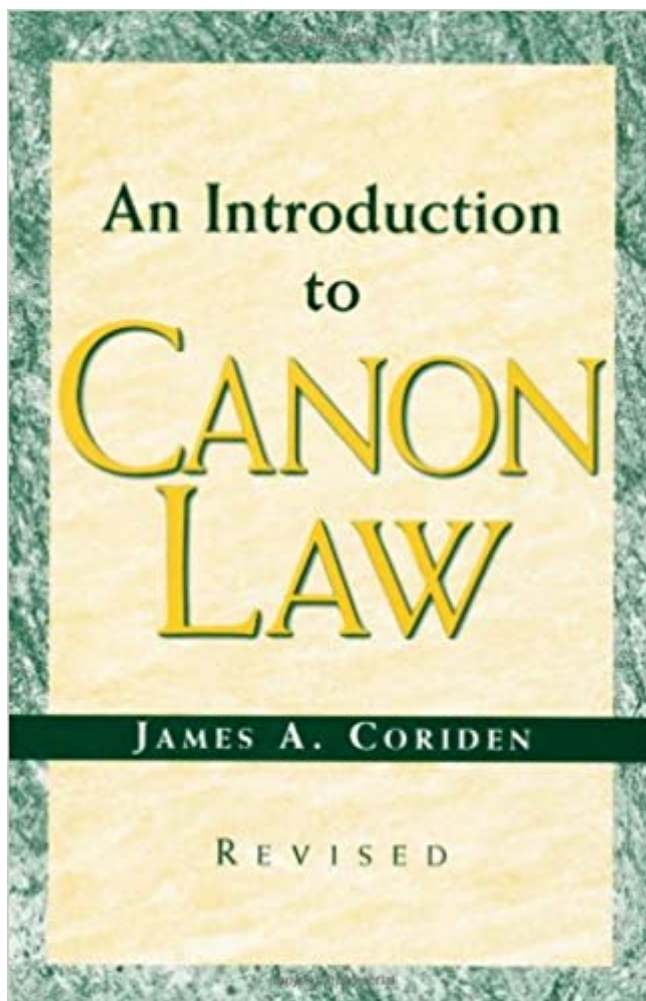


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# An Introduction To Canon Law (Revised)



## Synopsis

Canon law is the name given to the rules that govern church order and discipline of the Roman Catholic Church. This valuable book, which has been updated to reflect changes and adaptations in canon law and new resources in the field, offers an introductory orientation of all of canon law. A superb teaching and learning tool, it provides outlines and overviews of relatively complex areas of canon law, sketches the basic structure and design of the various offices and functions within the church and how they relate to each other, and gives an orientation to the more important areas of canon law, as well as a background and context within which more detailed rules can be understood. Two appendices offer guidance for doing canonical research and case studies for further discussion.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

James A. Coriden, who holds an S.T.L. and J.C.D. from the Gregorian University in Rome, and a J.D. from the Catholic University of America, is professor of canon law and dean emeritus of the Washington Theological Union in Washington, DC. A priest ordained for the Diocese of Gary, he is one of the three general editors of the New Commentary on the Code of Canon Law and the author of *An Introduction to Canon Law* and *The Parish in Catholic Tradition* (Paulist Press).

There are two audiences that I could imagine for this book, the lay member of the Church who is interested in Canon Law and the seminary crew. The book straddles both of those worlds well. Dr.

Coriden hits the basic, enduring principles and uses tractable arguments and logical examples to make the point, but he does not get into excessive detail. The seminary crowd will no doubt eventually want to dig deeper, but the Introduction will serve nicely as a foundation and framework for more detailed study. In service, Rich

Coriden is an excellent teacher. He writes directly and succinctly. When I first studied canon law in the mid-90's, I made use of an earlier edition, but this updated version reads very nicely. I had given consideration to using it in a canon law course that I am teaching. This textbook is not a canon by canon expository, although it does, at least cursorily, follow the schema of the 1983 Code of Canon Law. It is thematic in its approach, with more attention given to those elements of ecclesiastical law that are applicable to everyone, i.e., rights and duties, and elaborates nicely on the three munera of teaching, governing, and sanctifying, with a useful overview of temporal goods, general norms, sanctions/penal law, and procedural law. I would recommend this Introduction to anyone who wants to examine the Church's legal tradition as it applies to today's world.

This is a very concise and helpful introduction to Canon Law. It is not easy to find many introductory books in English. This is probably, as far as American publications go, the best one out there. It is an easy read and it would also be worth while to keep this book on one's shelf for reference.

Considering the depth of the Code of Canon Law, Father Coriden was always to the point and quite balanced. Here and there you can perceive some of the ecclesiastical laws or matters that he takes issue with as well as a little bit of extra emphasis on the sections of the Code that deal with a subject that he is quite interested in: the various rights of the faithful. He has another book on this subject and is intent on emphasizing and writing about what he terms a "bill of rights" for the baptized. He also does things such as go out of his way only to refer to priests as "presbyters". But again, for a handy introduction to Canon Law, this book has to be one of the best there is out there and I cannot imagine anyone who purchases it not being satisfied.

Reading and carrying textbooks on an iPad is so much lighter and convenient than carrying a number of books. The content of this text was excellent. However, there was one major drawback. There were no page numbers on the digital edition. When page numbers were assigned I was frantically trying to locate the assigned reading on my digital edition. I had to order the print edition just to alleviate my frustration. Otherwise, the text was excellent.

Just as described, Perfect! Thank you!!

I teach canon law to laity and men studying for the permanent diaconate. They really find this text interesting and easy to understand. It is wonderful to have the text in a format that can be read on a tablet.

Good book, comprehensive, will have my class use it as a text book.

Great introduction to canon law. Good explanations and easy to read. We're using this in our canon law class and it has been very helpful.

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