

# CANON LAW ON CONSECRATED LIFE

FORMS / RELIGIOUS INSTITUTES (CANONS 607-709)  
 SECULAR INSTITUTES (CANONS 710-730)

WHAT IS  
 CONSECRATED  
 LIFE?  
 (CAN. 573 #1)

1. CONSECRATED BY PROFESSION OF THE EVANGELICAL COUNSELS
2. STABLE FORM OF LIFE
3. UNDER THE ACTION OF THE H. SPIRIT
4. MORE CLOSELY FOLLOWING CHRIST
5. TOTAL DEDICATION TO GOD
6. FOR HONOR OF GOD - UPBUILDING CHURCH - SALVATION OF THE WORLD
7. SPECIAL, NEW, DISTINCTIVE TITLE
8. FOR PERFECTION OF CHARITY → SIGN IN THE CHURCH OF HEAVLY GLORY

WHAT ARE  
 RELIGIOUS INSTITUTES?  
 (CANON 573 #2)

1. ESTABLISHED BY CHURCH AUTHORITY
2. VOWS OF CHASTITY, POVERTY, OBEDIENCE
3. FREELY ASSUMED
4. COUNSELS LEAD TO CHARITY
5. CHURCH AS SACRAMENT OF SANCTIFICATION

CONSECRATED  
 LIFE

WHAT ARE  
 THE ORIGINS?  
 (CANON 575)

LIFE AND TEACHING OF CHRIST  
 THEREFORE REL. LIFE IS REVEALED

WHAT IS THE ROLE OF FOUNDER?

- ① ORIGINATOR
- ② CONTINUED SUSTAINER

RE. NATURE  
 PURPOSE  
 SPIRIT  
 CHARACTERISTIC

(CANON 578)

WHAT IS THE FUNCTION OF SOUND  
 TRADITIONS?

— ALONG WITH THE FOUNDER  
 THEY ARE THE PATRIMONY OF THE INSTITUTE AND SHOULD BE  
 FAITHFULLY PRESERVED BY ALL THE MEMBERS (CANON 578)

## SIGNIFICANT NORMS

- 1) AUTONOMY TO BE RECOGNIZED (CAN. 586)
- 2) FUND. CODE OR CONSTITUTIONS
  - 1) BASIC NORMS (CAN. 587)
  - 2) CHANGE ONLY BY ECCL. AUTH.
  - 3) HARMONIZE JURIDICAL + SPIRITUAL
  - 4) AVOID MULTIPLYING NORMS
  - 5) OTHER SETS OF CHANGEABLE RULES
- 3) SUBJECTION TO ROMAN PONTIFF (CANON 590)

- ④ COUNSEL OF CHASTITY (CAN. 599)
  - ASSUMED FOR KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
  - SIGN OF WORLD TO COME
  - SOURCE OF GREATER FERTILITY
- ⑤ COUNSEL OF POVERTY (CAN. 600)
  - SPIRIT AND REALITY
  - IMITATION OF CHRIST
  - LABORIOUS ... DEPENDENCE AND LIMITATION
  - DUTY OF PERFECT CELIBACY
- ⑥ COUNSEL OF OBEDIENCE (CANON 601)
  - FAITH IN AND LOVE OF CHRIST
  - SUBMISSION OF WILL
- ⑦ COMMUNITY LIFE ... IN CHARITY (CAN. 602)
- ⑧ EREMITICAL LIFE (CANON 603)
- ⑨ CONSECRATED VIRGINS (CAN. 604)