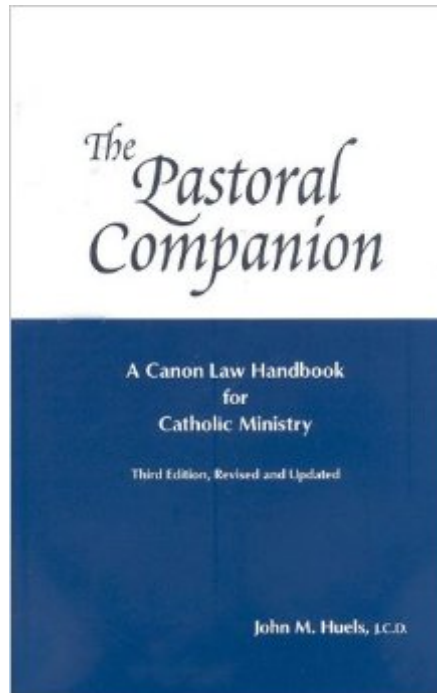


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The Pastoral Companion: A Canon Law Handbook For Catholic Ministry



Synopsis

Book by Huels, John M.

Book Information

Hardcover: 437 pages

Publisher: Franciscan Press; 3 Rev Upd edition (December 1997)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0819909688

ISBN-13: 978-0819909688

Product Dimensions: 9.1 x 6 x 1.4 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.4 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (7 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #522,316 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #48 in [Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Churches & Church Leadership > Canon Law](#) #86 in [Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Catholicism > Theology](#) #264 in [Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Catholicism > Roman Catholicism](#)

Customer Reviews

Intellectually, Fr. Huels is among the leading and most gifted canon lawyers currently living in North America. In this book, Fr Huels applies his canonical genius to the pastoral application of canon law. This book is not so much for the canonist, but for the non-canonist engaged in pastoral ministry. It teaches the basics of canon law, provides a handy glossary of canonical terms, and tells you when you are facing a canonical situation over your head and need to phone a canonist. In particular, the non-Canonist will find Fr. Huels' treatment of marriage law handy. It outlines in what situations a dispensation is necessary, as well as in what circumstances a proposed marriage is invalid. It also provides a handy canonical reference to other common questions that arise around the celebration of the sacraments -- such as who can be a sponsor for baptism and confirmation. I highly recommend this book to non-canonists engaged in pastoral ministry who are seeking a handy reference concerning how canon law applies in common pastoral situations.

This is actually the third edition of this excellent book. It is now available directly from the publisher.

The Pastoral Companion Plain but useful, like a pair of sensible shoes There's nothing sexy or exciting about "The Pastoral Companion." It's everything that most Roman Catholic parish workers

-- from pastors to pastoral assistants -- might need to answers typical questions involving Canon Law. As might be expected, law involving the sacraments is treated most heavily. But other parish concerns -- the ecumenism, sacramentals, the liturgy of the hours and the role of parish administrators -- are given their share of space. The book is written in sturdy, accessible prose that refers to the canons by number, but without necessarily quoting them. The book also quotes from other helpful Church documents -- the General Instruction of the Roman Missal (GIRM), documents of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith (CDF), the Book of Blessings and many others. A handy guide for those who aren't canonists and whose ministry is on the parish level, "The Pastoral Companion" was assigned as a main reference in a Canon Law class for lay people that I took at a mainstream Catholic seminary in the Northeast.

This indeed is a tool for the pastors and all incharge in leadership in our churches. Rev. Huels breaks down the doctrine and liturgy, sacraments and explains them obviously from the Canon Law perspective. We live in a times when people are not shy or afraid to ask questions. As priests and spiritual leaders we are obligated to know the answers and explain them well. To have this book on the top of your desk is very handy and helpfull.

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