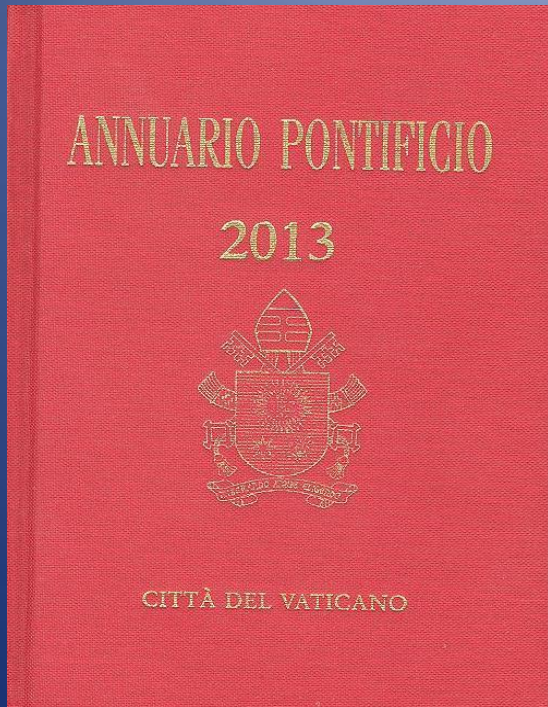


Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith

Location



Annuario Pontificio



Members

Employees

Consultors

Experts

Ecclesia Dei

Pontifical Biblical Commission

International Theological Commission

Instrument in hands of Holy Father in serving Church

Safeguarding and promoting the faith
for the good of souls

Pope Paul VI –
“The faith is better defended by promoting doctrine”

Last two decades



Wave of abuse

Toll on Church

Thorough examination

All aspects

Accuracy, respect and truth

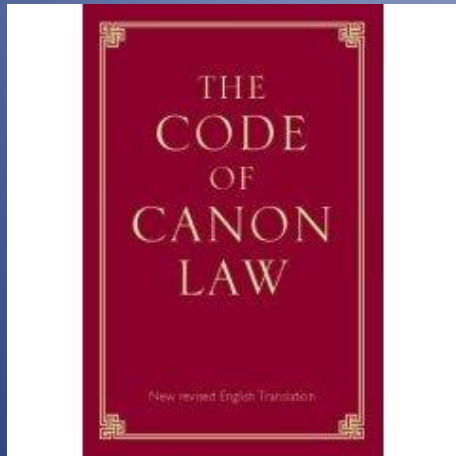
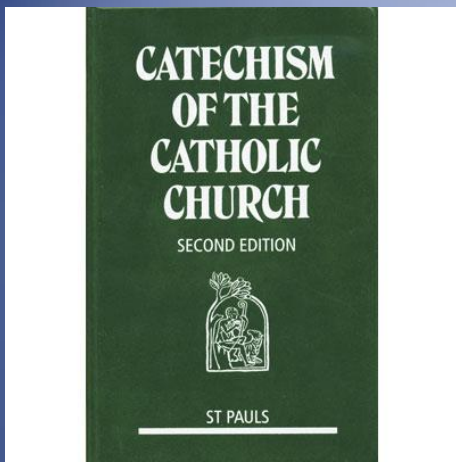
Forensic and complete



Ensuring the right of defense

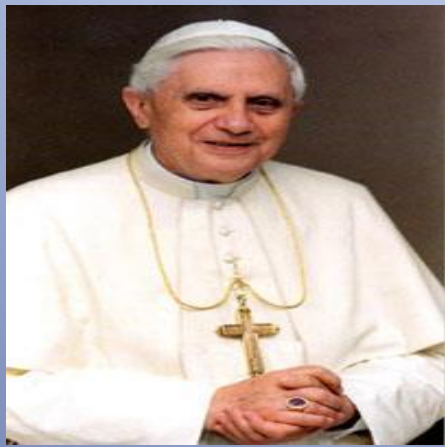
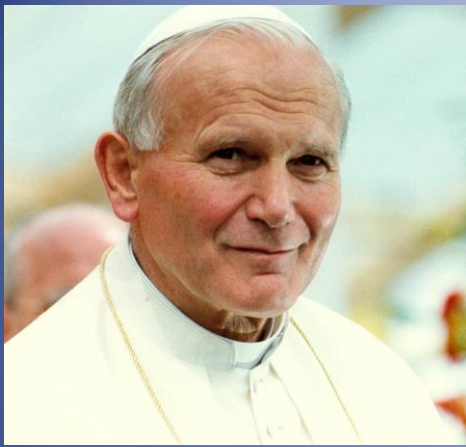
CDF Prefect one of first to be confirmed

Consults with Holy Father frequently



3 Sections

Doctrinal
Disciplinary
Matrimonial



Competence

Competence on matters of faith and morals
Apostolic Constitution, *Pastor Bonus*, June 28, 1988

Motu proprio - Sacramentorum Sanctatis Tutela
Safeguarding of the Sanctity of the Sacraments
Pope John Paul II (2001) & Benedict XVI (2010)

Cardinal Ratzinger



Faculties

2003 obtained the concession of some special faculties in order to provide greater flexibility in conducting penal processes for these more grave delicts

Administrative penal process

A request for dismissal from the clerical state *ex officio*

Now part of 2010 SST



Prescription 20 years

CDF can derogate from prescription

The canonical delict of acquisition, possession or distribution of pedopornography is also specified in this revised *motu proprio*.

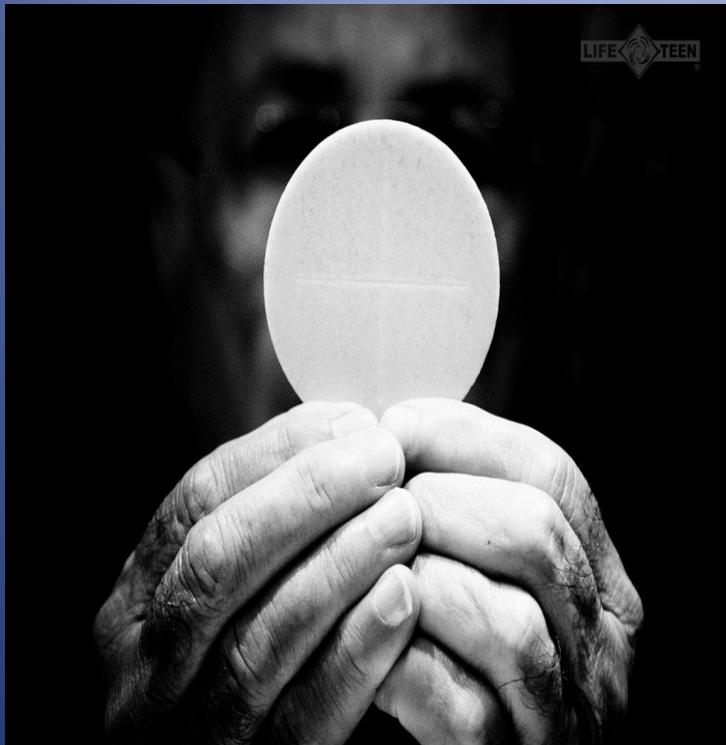
3 categories of *delicta graviora*

1. Eucharist

2. Penance

3. Sexual abuse of minors

1. Eucharist



Delicts against the sanctity
of the Most Holy Sacrifice
and Sacrament of the Eucharist



Eucharist

The taking or retaining for
a sacrilegious purpose,
or the throwing away
of the consecrated species



Eucharist



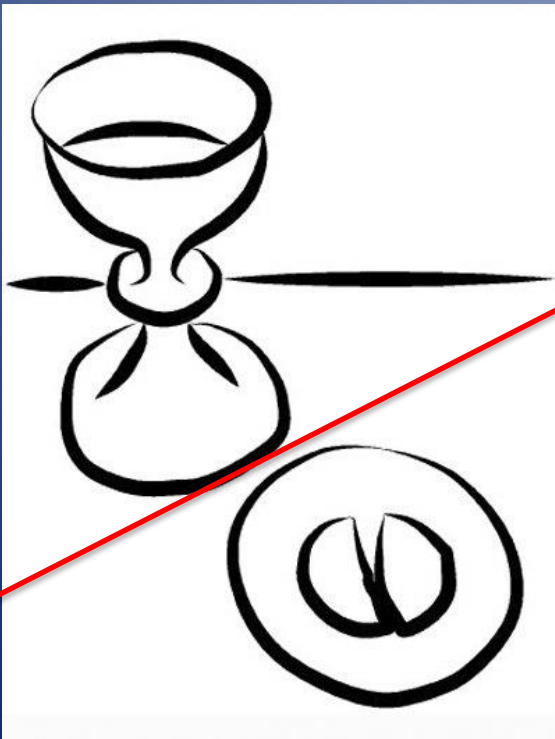
The attempting of the
liturgical offering of
the Eucharistic Sacrifice
or the simulation of the same.

Eucharist

The concelebration with ministers of ecclesial communities, which do not have apostolic succession and do not acknowledge the sacramental dignity of priestly ordination.



Eucharist



Consecration for a sacrilegious
purpose of one matter
without the other
in a Eucharistic celebration,
or even of both outside
of the Eucharistic celebration.



2. Penance

The delicts against the
sanctity of the
sacrament of Penance

Absolution of an accomplice

Sin against the sixth
commandment
of the Decalogue



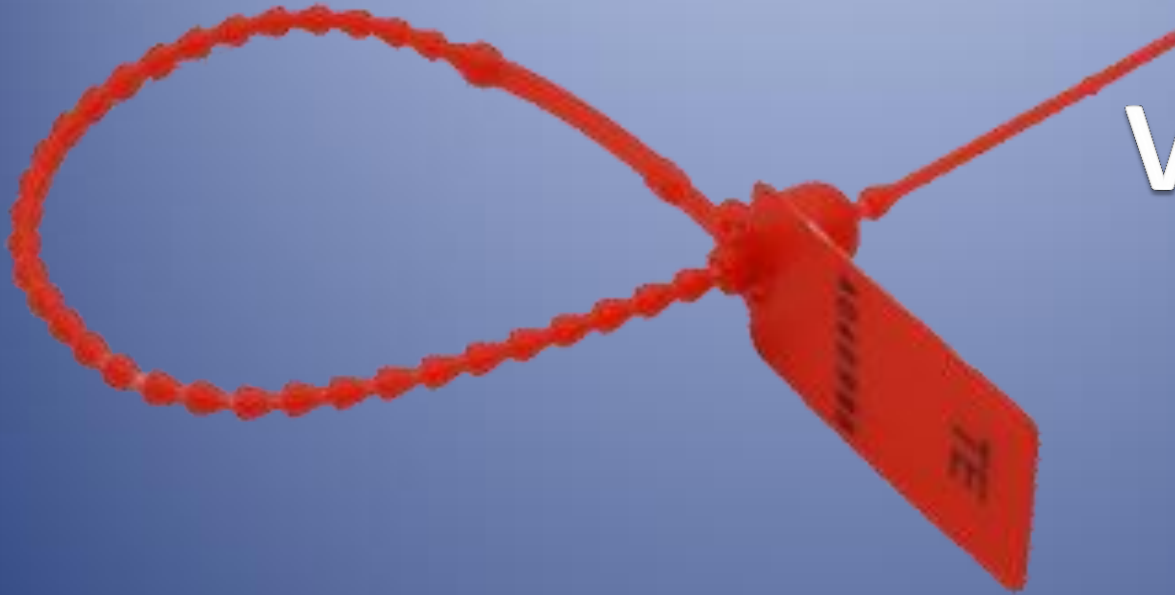


Solicitation



against the sixth commandment
in the act, on the occasion,
or under the pretext of
confession, if it is directed to
sinning with the confessor himself.

Violation



The direct **and indirect**
violation of the sacramental seal



Recording of confession

The recording by any technical instrument
and the broadcast/transmission by
means of instruments of social communication
of that which is said in sacramental confession
by the confessor or the penitent.

3. Crimes against minors



Delict against the sixth
Commandment
committed by
a cleric with a minor
below the age of
eighteen years.

or one who is developmentally disabled
(equated to a minor)

2010 SST

Also added as delicts are the acquisition, possession or distribution of pornographic images of minors under the age of 14, by a cleric in any way and by any means for purposes of sexual gratification



General detailed overview



Arrival in CDF

Local Bishop receives referral
Opens investigation by decree

Refers matter to CDF if the semblance of truth threshold
has been reached

Cleric writes letter, removed unjustly

Victim brings case to attention

Sometimes CDF hears of case

Forwarded by other Dicasteries



Arrival in CDF

Via Apostolic Nuncio

Post / By Hand

Date Stamp

Superiors

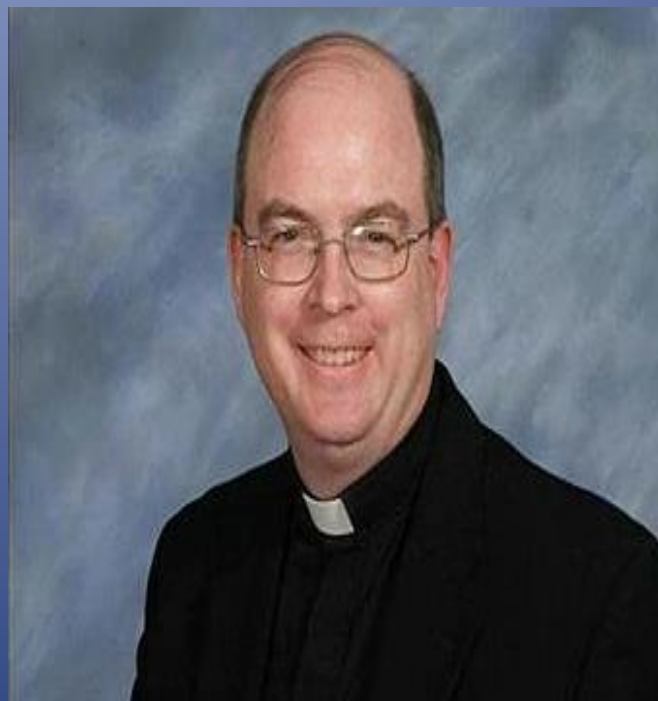


Cardinal Gerhard Müller
Archbishops Luis Ladaria, S.J
Augustine Di Noia, O.P.



Mons. Damiano Marzotto

Fr. Robert Oliver





Protocol

Identify case
Official / Protocol Number

Registration in database
Forward to Bureau Chief

Active cases



Identify case / cleric accused

Register as incoming post

Verify path of previous letters

New Cases



Bureau Chief looks at case
Identifies situation

Assigned to Official
Language / Geographical region



Next Step

Returns case to Protocol
Registered / Folder prepared and printed
Index system updated
Case registered on paper register
Case Folder prepared on shared network



Acknowledgement

Acknowledgement letter sent to Diocese / Superior



Case studied by Official

Examination of Cases



Read case thoroughly

Check to see due process followed

Understand issues

Superiors make decision

Internal Commission

Congresso Particolare

Formal courtroom setting
Weekly

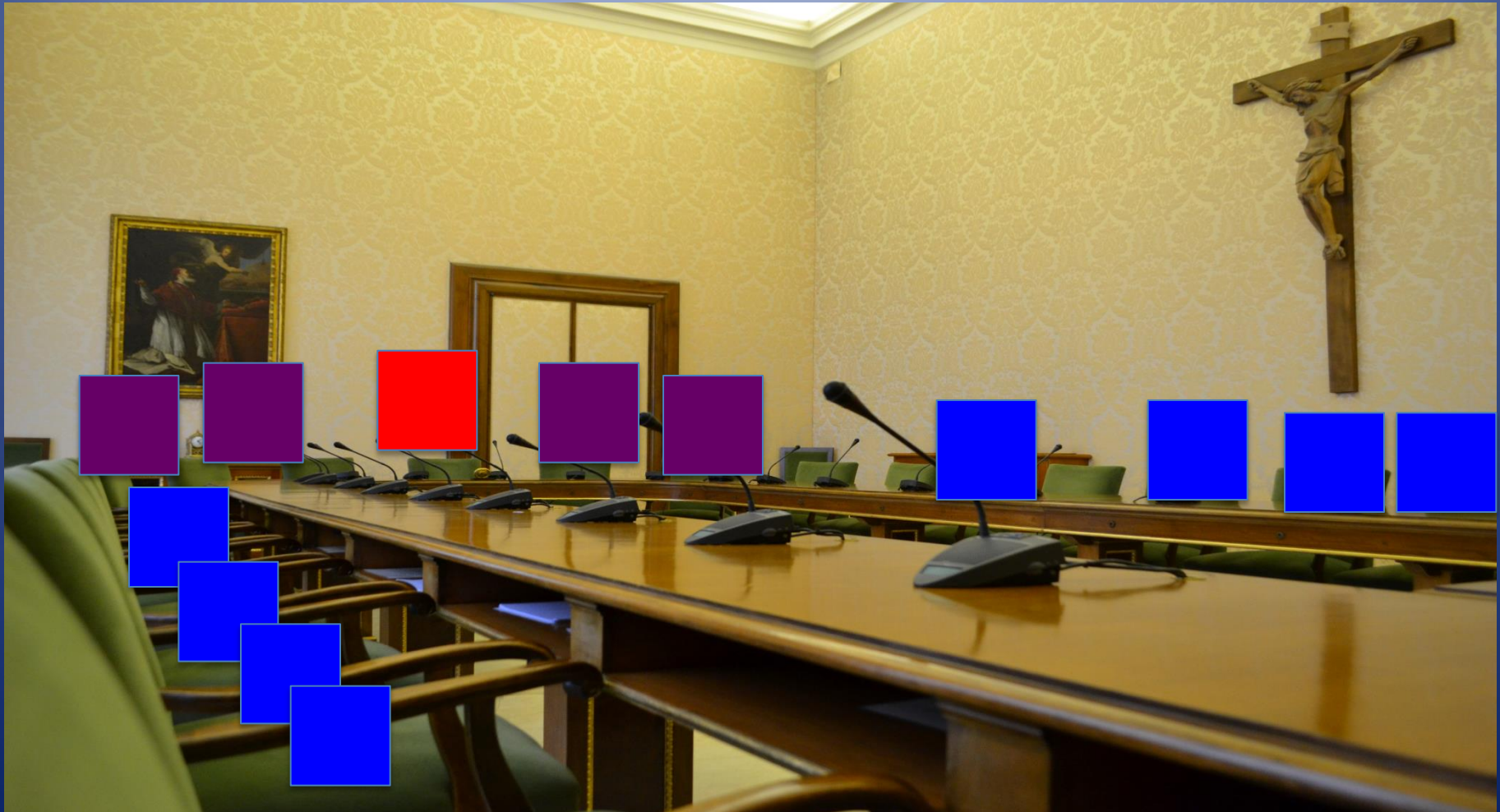


Sala Congresso Particolare





Presentation and discussion



Congresso Particolare

Request for Dismissal

Confirmation of decision made at Diocesan level

If CDF calls case to itself

More difficult cases

Internal Commission

Procedural matters – Interlocutory decisions

Request for Dispensation

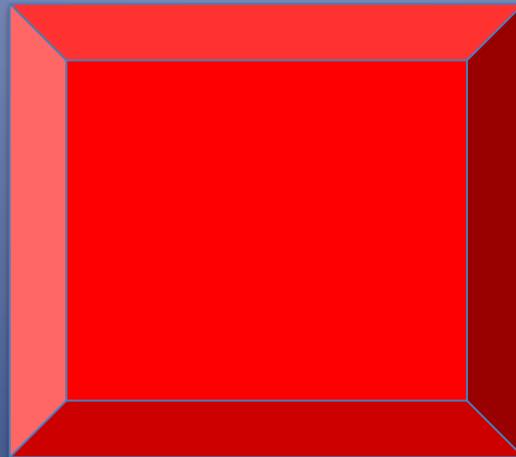
Authorization of Penal Process

Authorization of Administrative Process

Restrictions on ministry

Internal Commission

Bureau Chief



Official / Officials

Promoter of Justice



Feria IV

Request for revocation of administrative acts
of the CDF
and all other recourse

Sala Congresso Particolare

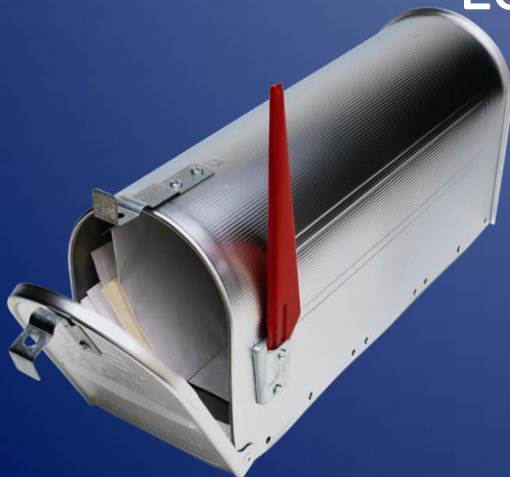




All decisions



Decree prepared by Notary
Reviewed and Approved by Superiors
Letter written to local Bishop / Superior



Sent via Apostolic Nuncio



Audience

Superior of CDF

Audience Folio

Post-Audience

Dismissal Decree
or Rescript of Dispensation prepared


Signed by Superiors
Accompanying letter to Bishop / Religious Superior

Decree / Rescript

Signed by priest

Baptismal register updated

Copy returned to CDF





Archive

Final registration in Protocol

Transferred to CDF Archive



Development

International Symposium

Gregorian University

All Episcopal Conferences are obliged
to submit Procedures for dealing
with Child Sexual Abuse to the CDF.

Circular Letter

Circular letter to assist Episcopal Conferences in developing Guidelines for dealing with cases of sexual abuse of minors perpetrated by clerics

3rd May 2011

Purpose of Circular Letter

Development of procedures suitable
for assisting the victims of such abuse

Educating the ecclesial community
concerning the protection of minors.

Letter to Ireland

19th March 2010

“I have decided to write this Pastoral Letter to express my closeness to you and to propose a path of healing, renewal and reparation.”

Pope Benedict XVI