

Glossary of Terms

Administrative

Leave: The status a priest has when he does not have a formal assignment.

Archbishop: The title given automatically to Bishops who govern archdioceses.

Archdiocesan

Review Board: See Review Board.

Archdiocese: A geographical area under the authority of an archbishop. Archdioceses differ only from dioceses in being larger.

Assistant

Pastor: Under Cardinal Krol, a priest assigned to a parish to assist the pastor in the administration of the Church and the provision of other services to parishioners.

Bishop: The chief priest of a diocese who exercises total control over all the operations, services, institutions and parishes of the diocese as well as over all clergy and other diocesan employees. A bishop is only answerable to the Pope.

Canon Law: The codified body of general internal laws governing the Church. Canon Law is distinct from Pennsylvania law, which governs the conduct of all Church members and non-Church members.

Cardinal: Appointed by the Pope, a Cardinal is a priest who has the same powers and responsibilities as an archbishop or bishop but additionally serves, with his peers, as the Pope's chief counselors.

Chancellor: Under Cardinal Krol, the priest responsible for priest personnel issues, as well as issues involving the application and interpretation of Canon law.

Chancery

Office: Under Cardinal Krol, the Chancery Office consisted of priests who assisted the Chancellor.

CCD: Confraternity of Catholic Doctrine. Weekly religious education program for children and youth.

CYO: Catholic Youth Organization. Parish youth groups are part of the CYO.

Deacon: A clerical ranking just below a priest. A deacon can be married.

Diocesan

Priest: A priest ordained by an archbishop, to whom he takes vows of obedience and celibacy. A diocesan priest can be assigned to a parish, a secondary school, a human services role, or an

administrative/management position within an archdiocese. An archbishop approves all assignments given to diocesan priests.

Ephhebophilia: The presence of enduring preferential feelings of sexual attraction to boys or girls who have entered puberty.

Essential Norms: Church laws, recommended by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops and approved by the Vatican in 2002, that govern the handling by all U.S. dioceses of child abuse allegations.

Excardination: The release of a priest from the jurisdiction of one bishop for acceptance into the diocese of another bishop. Both the releasing and accepting bishops must agree to the transfer.

Faculties: The grant of authority by the Church to a priest to perform priestly functions such as celebrating Mass, hearing confession, performing baptisms and marriages, and anointing of the sick.

Host: The wafer that has been transformed during the Mass under the doctrine of transubstantiation into the body of Christ.

Incardination: The acceptance of a priest who has been freed and transferred from the jurisdiction of one bishop into the diocese of another bishop. Both the releasing and accepting bishops must agree to the transfer.

Laicize: To defrock; to remove from the priesthood. Only the Pope has the power to remove a priest.

Metropolitan Tribunal: The Church Court that adjudicates a variety of internal Church affairs (e.g. annulments).

Order Priest: A priest who has taken an oath of obedience, celibacy and poverty to a provincial (the head of an Order), rather than to an archbishop. Order priests can be assigned to an archdiocese where they often teach in secondary schools. Although Order priests are answerable to their provincial, they serve in an archdiocese at the discretion of an archbishop. Examples of Orders include: Franciscans, Jesuits, Oblates, Augustinians and Vincentians.

Ordain: To pronounce a man to be a priest. Only a bishop has the authority to ordain priests.

Parish: A community of the Catholic faithful, which has its own Church building, under the authority of a pastor who is responsible for providing them with ministerial and often educational services.

Parochial

Vicar: Under Cardinal Bevilacqua, a priest assigned to a parish to assist the pastor in the administration of the Church and the provision of other services to parishioners.

Pastor: A priest in charge of a parish or congregation.

Pedophilia: The presence of enduring preferential feelings of sexual attraction to children (boys or girls) who have not reached puberty.

Rectory: The residence of a priest.

Review

Board: A confidential consultative body to the Archbishop established in October 2002 in accord with the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People and the Essential Norms. The Board advises in the assessment of allegations of abuse, suitability for ministry and review of archdiocesan policies and procedures for dealing with allegations of sexual abuse of minors.

Sacristy: An area in a church where vestments (ceremonial robes) are kept, where priests and altar priests put on and take off their vestments before and after Mass, and where vessels and important objects are stored when not in use during services.

Secret

Archives: Files mandated to be kept by Canon Law to document any type of misconduct reported to have been committed by a priest.

**Secretary for
Clergy:**

Under Cardinal Bevilacqua, the priest assigned to deal with all priest personnel issues, including: advising the Cardinal on the assignment of priests, interviewing people who reported sexual abuse by a priest and interviewing accused priests.

Seminary: An educational institution for men preparing for the priesthood. The Archdiocese's seminary is St. Charles Borromeo.

**St. Charles
Borromeo:**

The Philadelphia Archdiocesan Seminary. The college where virtually all Archdiocesan priests are educated.

**St. John
Vianney:**

A treatment and education center, owned and operated by the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, offering spiritually based, holistic, professional care for religious and clergy.

**United States
Catholic Con-**

**ference of
Bishops
("USCCB"):**

The official governing body of the Roman Catholic Church in the United States. Formerly the National Conference of Bishops, it is comprised of bishops, archbishops and cardinals.

**Vicar for
Admini-
stration:**

Under Cardinal Bevilacqua, the priest responsible for the overall supervision and management of all the Administrative Offices of the Archdiocese. Answerable directly to the Cardinal.

**Vicar
General:**

Under Cardinal Krol, the priest responsible for the overall supervision and management of all the Administrative Offices of the Archdiocese. Answerable directly to the Cardinal.