

OFFENCES CANON 1962-1981 (-1998)

Canon 4, 1962
Canon 7, 1981
Canon 12, 1992
Canon 20, 1998

A canon to specify offences under sections 54, 55 & 56 of the Constitution

The General Synod prescribes as follows:

- 1.¹ A diocesan tribunal and a provincial tribunal in its original jurisdiction in addition to their respective powers under section 54(2) and section 55(3) of the Constitution may hear and determine charges made in respect of the following offences alleged to have been committed by a person who, at the time the charge is preferred, is licensed by the bishop of the diocese or is in holy orders resident in the diocese:
1. Unchastity.
 2. Drunkenness.
 3. Habitual and wilful neglect of ministerial duty after written admonition in respect thereof by the bishop of the diocese.
 4. Wilful failure to pay just debts.
 5. Conduct, whenever occurring,
 - (a) which would be disgraceful if committed by a member of the clergy, and
 - (b) which at the time the charge is preferred is productive, or if known publicly would be productive, of scandal or evil report.
 6. Any other offence prescribed by an ordinance of the synod of the diocese.
- 2.² (1) The Special Tribunal in addition to its powers under section 56(2) of the Constitution may hear and determine charges against any member of the House of Bishops made in respect of the following offences:
1. Unchastity.
 2. Drunkenness.
 3. Wilful failure to pay just debts.

1 Amended by Canon 7, 1981; amended by Canon 20, 1998.

2 Amended by Canon 7, 1981; sub-section (2) repealed by Canon 12, 1992, amended by Canon 20, 1998.

4. Conduct, whenever occurring,
 - (a) which would be disgraceful if committed by a member of the clergy, and
 - (b) which at the time the charge is preferred is productive, or if known publicly would be productive, of scandal or evil report.
 5. Wilful violation of the Constitution or of the canons made thereunder or of the ordinances of provincial synod or of his diocesan synod.
 6. Any conduct involving wilful and habitual disregard of his consecration vows.
3. This canon may be cited as the "Offences Canon 1962".
