

St. Colman's Society for Catholic Liturgy

Articles of Association

Article 1

The name of the Society is St. Colman's Society for Catholic Liturgy –hereinafter “the Society”.

Article 2

The purpose of the Society is to encourage and promote among its members full active and conscious participation in Catholic Liturgy in accordance with the authentic tradition of the Church especially as expressed in Sacrosanctum Concilium and subsequent liturgical legislation.

Article 3

§ 1. Membership of the Society takes three forms:

- a. Ordinary members;
- b. Annual members;
- c. Associate members;

§ 2. Valid membership requires attainment of the age of majority in the civil law of Ireland.

Article 4

§ 1. Ordinary members of the Society are those members who wish to benefit from and contribute to the objectives of the Society and who have passive and active vote in determining the government and policies of the Society.

§ 2. Excepting Article 5 § 1 and Article 9 § 7 ordinary membership is conferred by simple majority vote of the Council of the Society from candidates proposed from among annual members.

§ 3. A candidate for Ordinary membership may be proposed to the Council of the Society by two or more Ordinary members or by two or more Annual members.

§ 4. The Patron of the Society may request the Council to confer Ordinary membership on an Annual member.

§ 5. Associate members are not eligible for proposal as Ordinary members.

§ 6. An Ordinary member may resign at any time by forwarding a letter of resignation to the Council.

Article 5

§ 1. For the purposes of association and of forming the first Council of the Society seven persons are deemed to be Ordinary members by these articles of association.

§ 2. The names descriptions and addresses of those persons at § 1 of this Article shall be attached as Schedule I to these articles of association.

Article 6

§ 1. Annual members of the Society are those persons who wish to benefit from and contribute to the objectives of the Society.

§ 2. Annual membership is obtained by any person fully sharing the objectives of the Society by joining the Society for period of one year canonically reckoned and by paying a moderate fee.

§ 3. For the duration of their membership, annual members may propose to the Council in writing proposals which they regard as beneficial for the government or policies of the Society.

§ 4. At the discretion of the Council and by simple majority any matter concerning the government and policies of the Society may be referred to any or all of the Annual members of Society by way of consultation.

§ 5. Annual membership may be renewed by rejoining and payment of a fee.

§ 6. An annual member may resign at any time by indicating such in writing to the Council.

Article 7

§ 1. Associate membership is available to members of other Societies both Irish and international who share the same general objectives as St. Colman's Society for Catholic Liturgy.

§ 2. Associate membership is conferred by the Council on a simple majority vote.

§ 3. Associate members do not have an active or passive vote in the government or policies of the Society.

Article 8

§ 1. The Society may affiliate with other Irish or International Societies sharing its general objectives.

§ 2. Affiliation with other Societies is invalid should it infringe these articles of association.

§ 3. Affiliation with other Societies requires invitation from the body to which the Society seeks to affiliate and by a two thirds majority of the Council.

§ 4. The Society may not accept a passive or active vote in the government or policies of any body to which it affiliates.

§ 5. The Society may exercise a consultative role if asked so to do by a body with which it has affiliated.

Article 9

§ 1. The Patron is designated by the Council once he has accepted to act as Patron.

§ 2. The Patron shall promote the objectives of the Society and is free at all time to proffer advice to the Council on any matter concerning the government and policies of the Society.

§ 3. The Council may refer any matter concerning the government and policies of the Society to the Patron on a simple majority.

§ 4. When asked by the Council on referral to adjudicate any matter concerning the government and policies of the Society the Patron's decision is final and binding on all.

§ 5. The Patron holds office ad vitam unless other provision is made in a letter of designation.

§ 6. The Patron may resign by indicating such in writing to the Council.

§ 7. On designation the Patron is deemed to be an Ordinary member but may not exercise the passive and active voting rights of an ordinary member as at Article 4 § 1 above.

§ 8. The Patron may be chosen from members or non members of the Society providing that he shares the objectives of the Society.

Article 10

§ 1. The Society is governed by a Council consisting of the President, the Secretary, the Treasurer, the Public Relations Officer and by three other members.

§ 2. The Ordinary members of the Society elect the Council from among their number except in the case of Article 5 above.

§ 3. The Council's term of office is five years.

§ 4. Members may be re-elected and may seek re-election.

§ 5. The Council on simple majority may co-opt another Ordinary member to fill a vacancy on the council occasioned by death, resignation, termination or expulsion.

§ 6. Co-opted members serve for the residual period of the deceased , resigned, terminated or expelled Council member's mandate.

§ 7. In accordance with Article 9 § 7 the Patron is not eligible for valid election to the Council.

§ 8. The Council shall meet at least three times per annum.

§ 9. General meetings of the Ordinary members are held at the discretion of the Council by simple majority.

Article 11

The Council determines those means best employed to achieve the objectives of the Society.

Article 12

§ 1. The President chairs the meetings of the Society, determines the agenda, recognises all votes required by the articles of association, represents the Society, indicts elections according to the articles of association, maintains a register of Ordinary, Annual and Associate members, ensures the pursuit of the Society's objectives and the observance of the terms of the articles of association.

§ 2. The President signs the minutes of the Society's meetings.

§ 3. The President is responsible for all matters of administration not assigned to another officer of the Council.

§ 4. The President may delegate his duties to any other member of the Council provided that such may not occasion a conflict of interest.

Article 13

§ 1. The Secretary is responsible for the ordinary administration of the Society between meetings of the Society.

§ 2. The Secretary has the discretion prudentially to conduct ordinary administration.

§ 3. The Secretary prepares the minutes for the approval of the Council and the signature of the President.

§ 4. The Secretary prepares all outgoing correspondence from the Society and retains copies of it.

§ 5. The Secretary is responsible for the archive of the Society.

§ 6. The Secretary is a co-signatory of the Society's bank account unless other provision is made.

§ 7. The Secretary will report to the successive meeting of the Council whatever correspondence he regards as relevant since the Council's previous meeting.

§ 8. The legal seat of the Society is the residence of the Secretary pro tempore.

Article 14

§ 1. The Treasurer is responsible for all matters pertaining to the goods moveable and immoveable of the Society.

§ 2. The Treasurer is responsible for the Bank Account of the Society.

§ 3. The Treasurer disburses funds with the joint signature of the Secretary unless other provision has been made.

§ 4. The Treasurer presents an annual account for the approval of the Council and the signature of the President.

§ 5. The Treasurer may not act as Secretary and vice versa.

Article 15

§ 1. The Public Relations Officer is responsible for all press matters relating to the Society.

§ 2. The Public Relations Officer shall cultivate appropriate contacts with the media.

§ 3. The Public Relations Officer prudentially conducts the business of his office and reports on his activities to the Council.

§ 4. The Public Relations Officer shall normally release statements to the press and media after they have been duly approved by the Council.

Article 16

§ 1. The ordinary business of the Council is conducted by simple majority vote.

§ 2. The extraordinary business of the Council is conducted by a two thirds majority vote.

§ 3. The President enjoys a casting vote in addition to his own vote in the event of a tied vote.

§ 4. The Patron when asked by the Council on simple majority vote may determine what is and what is not extraordinary business.

§ 5. No business may be conducted by the Council in the absence of a quorum which is deemed to be four

§ 6. The members of the Council are bound to observe confidential silence with regard to the business of the Society.

Article 17

§ 1. Membership of the Society is lost through death, resignation, termination, or expulsion.

§ 2. A member is deemed to have fully resigned when notified in writing by the President that his letter of resignation has been accepted.

§ 3. Publication of penalties applying to the delicts mentioned in canon 1364 of the Code of Canon Law automatically terminates membership of the Society without further notification and ipso facto destitutes any office held by a member.

§ 4. For a grave reason and having consulted the Patron the Council on two thirds majority vote may expel a member from the Society.

§ 5. An expelled member may not rejoin the Society.

Article 18

The Society is prohibited from accumulating goods beyond what is reasonably required for the proper administration of the Society and the pursuit of its objectives.

Article 19

The Society may employ persons to advance its interests provided they are so employed in accordance with the civil laws of Ireland.

Article 20

§ 1. The members of the Council of the Society are not entitled to remuneration for any services, work or otherwise afforded to the Society.

§ 2. The members of the Council of the Society are entitled to be reimbursed moderate expenses which they incur in conducting the business of the Society.

Article 21

All members accept the courts of Ireland as the sole and exclusive jurisdiction for the resolution of civil cases to the exclusion of all other civil jurisdictions.

Article 22

The Society is dissolved by the unanimous vote of its ordinary members and the consent of the Patron.

Article 23

Upon dissolution the goods of the Society are to be liquidated and the proceeds donated to a Catholic charity.

Article 24

No member may benefit personally from the material goods of the Society

Article 25

§ 1. The President of the Society shall cause to have celebrated at the expense of the Society three Masses per annum for the intentions of the Holy Father.

§ 2. The President of the Society shall cause to have celebrated at the expense of the Society three Masses for the deceased members of the Society during the month of November each year.

§ 3. The President of the Society will cause to have celebrated at the expense of the Society three Masses for the spiritual and temporal wellbeing of all the Society's members during Eastertide.

Article 26

Upon dissolution the archive of the Society is to be deposited with an appropriate archival institution.

Article 27

Changes to or amendments of these articles of association require a two thirds majority of the ordinary members of the Society and the consent of the Patron.

Article 28

§ 1. Information concerning the membership of the Society shall be conserved in accordance with the terms of the Data Protection Acts 1998 and 2003 as enacted in the civil jurisdiction of Ireland.

§ 2. Before releasing information concerning membership of the Society the President will ask and obtain the permission of the members concerned.

§ 3. Before releasing information concerning the membership of the Society the President will obtain in writing the purpose for which such information is requested of the Society.

§ 4. Before releasing information concerning the membership of the Society the President shall satisfy himself that any request for information is made for lawful purposes.

§ 5. Before releasing information concerning membership of the Society the President shall satisfy himself as to the bona fides of the request and obtain a written undertaking that any information supplied will not be applied to purposes other than those stated by those making the request.

§ 6. Should the President have reason to believe or suspect that a request for information concerning the membership of the Society is made for a criminal intent or purpose or for a purpose contrary to the laws of Ireland he shall be obliged to refer the matter immediately to the relevant civil authorities.

Article 29

§ 1. These articles of association come into effect and have full force when signed by an ordinary member mentioned in Article 5 § 1 and witnessed by two ordinary members mentioned in Article 5 § 1 above.

§ 2. These articles of association require no further administrative or executive instruments to come into force.

§ 3. The original exemplar of these articles of association is to be conserved carefully in the archive of the Society.

§ 5. Copies of the original exemplar of these articles of association may be released as required for lawful purposes by the President of the Society.

At Cobh, Co. Cork

15th day of August 2007

Witnessed

Signed:

Witnessed

Schedule I

[Articles of Association Article 5 § 2]

1. Mrs. Norma Crosbie, housewife, Rushbrooke, Cobh, Co. Cork
2. Mr. Peadar Crowley, retired, Midleton, Co. Cork
3. Mrs. Terry Pender, housewife, Rushbrooke, Cobh. Co. Cork
4. Mr. Adrian O'Donovan, FAS Director, 34 Inishmore Park, Cobh, Co. Cork
5. Mr. James O'Sullivan, retired, Bantry, Co. Cork
6. Mrs. Sylvia Willmott, housewife, Whitepoint, Cobh, Co. Cork.