

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE SOCIETY

ARTICLE I

NAME AND PURPOSES

THIS association shall be known as "The Catholic Theological Society of America." Its primary object shall be to promote an exchange of views among Catholic theologians and to further studies and research in Sacred Theology. Its secondary object shall be to relate theological science to current problems.

ARTICLE II

MEMBERS

Section 1. Members shall be: (a) active, i. e., those who are or have been actively engaged in the promotion of studies and research in Sacred Theology; (b) associate, i. e., those who wish to identify themselves with the aims and purposes of the Society. Election to each class of membership in the Society shall be by vote of the Committee on Admissions.

Section 2. The annual dues for active members shall be five (\$5.00) dollars payable annually in advance on January 1 of each year. The annual dues for associate members shall be three (\$3.00) dollars payable annually in advance on January 1 of each year. The fiscal year of the Society shall end on the 31st day of December of each year.

Section 3. The dues of the new members shall begin with the year of enrollment.

Section 4. Any member who shall fail to pay his dues for the period of two years shall, after notification of non-payment by the Treasurer, be liable to forfeiture of membership. Forfeiture of membership may also occur in accordance with the provisions of the sacred canons.

ARTICLE III

MEETINGS OF MEMBERS

Section 1. The regular annual meetings of the Society shall be held during the latter part of June in each year, at time and place to be designated by the Board of Directors.

Section 2. Special meetings of the Society shall be called by the Board of Directors, or, upon the petition of twenty (20) active members in writing, by the Secretary.

Section 3. Informal group or panel meetings of members of the Society for the discussion of theological questions may be called by the Committee on Current Problems at such times and places as it may designate.

Section 4. Notice of all meetings shall be given in writing, signed by the Secretary, and shall contain a statement of the purpose or purposes of the meetings, together with a designation of the day, hour, and place thereof and the agenda. A copy of such notice shall be mailed to each member at his last mail address according to the books of the Society, as follows:

(a) Notice of the annual meeting shall be mailed at least one (1) month in advance thereof;

(b) Notice of special meetings shall be mailed at least fifteen (15) days in advance thereof;

(c) Notice of informal meetings shall be mailed at least ten (10) days in advance thereof.

Section 5. One-fourth of the total active membership shall constitute a quorum.

Section 6. Elections and voting in general shall be governed by the provisions of the sacred canons. Active members alone shall be eligible to vote in elections and hold office. At the first annual meeting of the Society the officers and six (6) Directors shall be elected. The officers as elected shall hold office until the next annual meeting. The six (6) Directors elected at the first meeting shall be divided into two classes of three (3) Directors each; the first class to hold office until the next annual meeting, and the second class to hold office until the third annual meeting. At each annual meet-

ing of the Society thereafter, there shall be elected the above officers, to hold office for the term of one year, and three (3) Directors to hold office for the term of two (2) years thereafter.

ARTICLE IV

OFFICERS

Section 1. The officers shall consist of a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer. This shall be the order of succession of officers in the case of absence or disability.

Section 2. The President shall preside at meetings of the Society and of the Board of Directors. He shall have power, when authorized by the Board of Directors, to enter into contracts on behalf of the Society. He shall make a report of the activities of the Society at the annual meeting.

Section 3. The Vice-President, at the request of the President, or in the event of the absence or disability of the same, shall perform the duties of the office of President.

Section 4. The Secretary shall:

(a) keep the minutes of the meetings of the Society, and cause the same to be recorded in books provided for the purpose, which shall at all reasonable times be open to the inspection of the members of the Society;

(b) keep the minutes of the meetings of the Board of Directors;

(c) keep a roll of members, a copy of which he shall certify to the Inspectors of elections at the annual meeting;

(d) see that all notices are given as required by the constitution of the Society or by the sacred Canons;

(e) be the custodian of the records of the Society as well as of the official seal thereof;

(f) conduct the correspondence of the Society.

He shall in general perform all duties incident to the office of Secretary and such other duties as from time to time may be assigned to him by the Board of Directors.

He shall be *ex-officio* a member of the Committee on Admissions,

shall act as its Secretary, and shall notify members of their election.

Section 5. The Treasurer shall:

- (a) collect and disburse the funds of the Society;
- (b) cause all moneys and other valuable effects to be deposited in the name and to the credit of the Society, in such banks or trust companies as shall be selected by the Board of Directors;
- (c) upon the order of the President or Board of Directors cause the funds of the Society to be disbursed by checks or drafts upon the authorized depositaries of the Society;
- (d) cause to be taken and preserved proper vouchers for all moneys disbursed, these vouchers to be forwarded to the Secretary;
- (e) keep the accounts in books belonging to the Society, which shall at all times be open to the inspection of the Board of Directors, to whom he shall whenever requested, make reports in writing of the money received and paid out of the funds on hand;
- (f) at the annual meeting of the Society make a full report of the receipts and disbursements of the year.

He shall have the right and is hereby empowered, from time to time to require from the officers or agents of the Society reports or statements giving such information as he may desire with respect to any and all financial transactions of the Society.

He shall send out notices to the members one month in advance to notify them that their dues are due and payable, and shall give them receipts for dues as paid.

ARTICLE V

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1. The Board of Directors shall consist of the officers of the Society, namely, the President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer, and of six (6) other Directors, elected as provided in Art. III, Sec. 6.

Section 2. The Board of Directors shall meet for the transaction of business semi-annually at such place as they may choose, and at such other stated times and places as shall be prescribed by the rules

of the Board. Special meetings may be called at any time by the President or any three (3) Directors, provided the call gives fifteen (15) days' notice and specifies the nature of the business to be brought up at such special meeting together with the day, hour, and place thereof.

Section 3. A quorum of the Board of Directors shall consist of five (5) members of the Board, provided that at least three (3) of the five (5) shall be Directors who are not at the same time officers of the Society. In the absence of a quorum the officer or senior Director present shall have power to adjourn the meeting until such time as a quorum can be convened.

Section 4. Voting in meetings of the Board of Directors shall be governed by the provisions of the Sacred Canons.

Section 5. If any vacancy shall occur among the Directors by reason of death, resignation accepted by the Board, removal by majority vote of the active members called to a special meeting for that purpose, or otherwise, such vacancy may be filled by a majority vote of the remaining Directors, though less than a quorum. Any such vacancy may also be filled by members entitled to vote at any formal meeting held during the existence of such vacancy provided that the notice of such meeting shall have mentioned such vacancy.

ARTICLE VI

COMMITTEES

Section 1. The President shall annually appoint three Standing Committees, to be known as the Committee on Current Problems, the Committee on Research and Publication, and the Committee on Admissions, and such other committees as the general welfare of the Society demands. These committees, with the exception of the Nominating Committee, shall be at all times subject to the direction and control of the Board of Directors.

Section 2. The Committee on Current Problems shall have charge of investigation and discussion of current problems by the Society. The informal meetings of the Society shall be conducted

under the direction of this committee, but this committee shall have no power to commit the Society to any policy or opinion with respect to current problems or questions.

Section 3. The Committee on Research and Publications shall be empowered to facilitate theological research among the members and shall have charge of such publications as shall be authorized by the Board of Directors.

Section 4. The President at the first meeting of the Board of Directors after the regular annual meeting shall appoint a Committee on Admissions, to consist of nine (9) members of the Society who are not members of the Board of Directors, except the Secretary of the Society, who shall be an *ex-officio* member of this committee. The members of this committee shall hold office for one year or until their successors are appointed. All proposals for membership in the Society shall be submitted to this committee and acted upon by them under such regulations as the Board of Directors may from time to time prescribe; and on the election of each new member the committee shall forthwith give notice of the same through the Secretary.

ARTICLE VII

SEAL

The seal of the Society shall bear the words "The Catholic Theological Society of America."

ARTICLE VIII

AMENDMENTS

This constitution may be amended at any regular annual meeting of the Society by a two-thirds affirmative vote of the active members present. Notice of such proposed amendment, with copy thereof, shall be mailed to the entire active membership of the Society at the last known mail addresses according to the books of the Society, not less than one month in advance of such meeting.

BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I

ORDER OF BUSINESS

SECTION 1. The following shall be the regular order of business at all meetings of this Society:

1. Opening prayer.
2. Calling of the roll.
3. Reading of the minutes.
4. Presentation of new members.
5. Reports of committees.
6. Unfinished business.
7. Old business.
8. New business.
9. Election of officers.
10. Reading of papers.
11. Closing prayer.

Section 2. The regular order of business may be changed by a three-fourths vote of the members present at any meeting.

ARTICLE II

MISCELLANEOUS

Section 1. Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the deliberations of this Society in all cases where it does not conflict with a standing rule of this Society or with the Sacred Canons.

Section 2. Any rule of order may be suspended temporarily by a simple majority of the Society.

Section 3. Voting by proxy shall not be allowed.

ARTICLE III

AMENDMENTS

These by-laws may be amended on the same conditions as are provided for amendments to the constitution.

Respectfully submitted,

Rt. Rev. Msgr. Edward Murray (Boston),

Rev. William O'Connor (New York),

Rev. Robert Regan, O.S.A. (Washington),

Rev. J. Joseph Bluett, S.J. (Woodstock),

Rev. Thomas Martin (Washington).