



**Eternal Law:** Refers to the immutable will of God, the source and foundation of all other laws.

**Natural Law:** A law inherent in nature and binding on everyone at all times universally. Its source is God and its dictates are made known to us first and foremost through conscience. It is in harmony with Divine Law and guides and forms the establishment of Human Law.

**Positive Law:** Law that is positively willed or decreed by a legislator (Divine or human), as opposed to Natural Law, which is understood instinctively.

**Divine Law:** The *revealed* will of God; a subcategory of the eternal law.

**Old Law:** The first part of the Divine Law, revealed in the Old Testament to the people of Israel prior to the coming of Christ.

**New Law:** The fulfillment of the Old Law, instituted by the God-Man Jesus Christ.

**Human Law:** Laws enacted by legitimate human authorities in conformity with the Natural Law.

**Profane/Civil Law:** Human laws whose ends pertain to the governing of the state and the regulation of temporal, secular matters.

**Sacred or Religious Law:** Man-made laws enacted by the Church for her guidance and governance which are, nevertheless, based on principles derived from Divine Law.