Making Laws for a Christian Society
The *Hibernensis* and the Beginnings of Church Law in Ireland and Britain

Roy Flechner
# Contents

*Preface*  
*Abbreviations*  
*Manuscripts and sigla*  

**Introduction**  
1 The *Hibernensis* in context 10  
2 Early canonical collections and the *Hibernensis* 24  
3 Identifying an insular tradition of ecclesiastical law 47  
4 Irish vernacular law and church law 68  
5 Deploying sources 89  
6 The Bible, exegesis, and the interpretation of law 111  
7 Reception and practice: Brittany as a case study 131  

**Conclusion** 152  

**Appendix I:** A synopsis of the *Hibernensis* and Cop, fols. 69v–80v 157  

**Appendix II:** Texts attributed to *annales* with and without additional qualifiers 163  

**Appendix III:** Texts attributed to Origen (*Origenes*) 166  

**Bibliography** 170  
**Manuscript Index** 187  
**General Index** 189