

OFFICIAL
RULES

WARHAMMER
40,000

Sisters of Battle

The Sisters of Battle are warriors who forge their unshakeable faith in the Emperor into a potent weapon of war. In this issue, we present the first part of the official Codex, detailing the units and abilities of the Sisters of Battle.



Chapter Approved

This official Codex for the Sisters of Battle, written by Robin Cruddace and Mat Ward, will be presented in two parts, and stands as a replacement for the published Codex: Witch Hunters. You will only need these two issues of White Dwarf, the Warhammer 40,000 rulebook and a collection of Sisters of Battle models to field an army.



The Sisters of Battle, also known as the Adepta Sororitas, are an elite Sisterhood of warriors raised from infancy to adore the Emperor of Mankind. Their fanatical devotion and unwavering purity is a bulwark against corruption, heresy and alien attack, and once battle has been joined they will stop at nothing until their enemies are utterly crushed. Not even death can stay the wrath of the Adepta Sororitas, for the blood of martyrs only strengthens their resolve, spurring them to greater acts of heroism.

The Adeptus Ministorum – or Ecclesiarchy as it is generally known – is a monolithic organisation founded on the worship of the Emperor and the preaching of the Imperial Creed. The Sisters of Battle are the army of the Ecclesiarchy. Clad in ceramite power armour and trained to the peak of human ability, they stand amongst Mankind's most dedicated and disciplined warriors. Wherever there are foes of the Emperor, the Sisters of Battle will be found fighting with faith and steel.

When not actively prosecuting the Ecclesiarchy's wars, Battle Sisters divide their time between training and worship. Indeed, to the Adepta Sororitas, the disciplines are inseparable, for whilst combat drills and studies of tactics can hone the body and the mind, only prayer can bolster the spirit, and all three are required to defeat the Imperium's foes. The combination of combat doctrine and prayer is most evident on the battlefield where Battle Sisters loudly proclaim their faith in hymn and verse as they march to war, calling upon the Emperor to aid them in the fight against their enemies. The fervid, unquestioning nature of this faith is a potent weapon, manifesting as divine inspiration that drives the Adepta Sororitas to unprecedented feats of prowess. Sisters of Battle gripped with holy fervour banish fears from their minds, shrug off wounds and summon great strength to smite their foes. Those who witness such miracles are left in no doubt that the Emperor indeed walks with these pious warriors.

Origins

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Origins of the Adepta Sororitas

The Adepta Sororitas were founded during the turbulent times known as the Age of Apostasy. During the 36th Millennium, the power of the Ecclesiarchy was absolute. Its authority was virtually unchallenged, though the Administratum had fought for centuries against this dominance. Much of the Imperium was gripped by pre-apocalyptic gloom as internal revolt, alien invaders and Chaos renegades took advantage of the turmoil. As world after world succumbed, entire populations turned to flagellation cults and horrifying acts of self-sacrifice in desperate attempts to rekindle the Emperor's light. Onto this doom-laden stage stepped the insane 361st High Lord of the Administratum, Goge Vandire. He was a brutal tyrant who took control of the Ecclesiarchy in a military coup and assumed the dual roles of Ecclesiarch and High Lord of the Administratum, driving the Imperium into its bitterest period of civil war since the Horus Heresy – the Reign of Blood.

Early in his rule, Vandire discovered an all-female order, the Daughters of the Emperor, on the backwater world of San Leor. Vandire saw this community as a deadly army, if only he could bend it to his will. Through deception he convinced the Daughters that he was a pious man chosen by the Emperor to lead the Imperium. So it was that the Daughters of the Emperor became Vandire's personal bodyguards.

Countless millions burned in the fires of the Reign of Blood. It was during this time that a sect known as the Confederation of Light emerged and denounced Vandire. Led by the preacher Sebastian Thor, the Confederation of Light spread its message to a brutalised people only too ready to throw off the yoke of oppression. A supreme orator, Sebastian Thor swayed whole worlds to his cause and turned the tide. As Thor's crusade smashed aside the Ecclesiarch's armies, the Space Marines and the Adeptus Mechanicus, both of whom had remained on the defensive, were able to join forces with Thor and close on Terra.



Missionaries

Missionaries are part of the Missionarius Galaxia, accompanying crusades as they push back the frontiers. Battle Sisters accompany Missionaries, protecting them as they enforce their doctrine at the barrel of a gun.



Dominion with flamer

The Ecclesiarchal Palace came under attack, but for months Vandire's army withstood every assault. The madness only ended when the commander of the Adeptus Custodes – the praetorian guard of the Emperor himself – sought out Alicia Dominica, the leader of Vandire's bodyguard, and her trusted companions. The Custodes took them before the Golden Throne, and though no histories tell of what transpired, it was evident that some great truth was passed to Dominica and her fellow warriors. When they emerged

tens of thousands of Sisters. In time, the Orders Militant grew into larger and more powerful organisations and Sebastian Thor's successor, Ecclesiarch Alexis XXII, decreed that the two Convents each be divided into two Orders Militant. The Convent Prioris was split to become the Order of the Ebon Chalice, whose founder was Dominica, and the Order of the Argent Shroud, led by Silvana. The Convent Sanctorum was divided into the Order of the Fiery Heart, led by Katherine, and the Order of the Valorous Heart, led by Lucia. Though

“The strength of the Emperor is Humanity, and the strength of Humanity is the Emperor. If one turns from the other we shall become the lost and the damned.”

The Sermons of Sebastian Thor, Vol. XXVII, Ch. LXII

from the throne room they marched with barely controlled fury to Vandire's chamber. There, they found him in the midst of an insane tirade and, pausing only to condemn him for his crimes against the Emperor, Dominica cut the head from the traitor's shoulders. The Reign of Blood was over.

The Reformation of the Ecclesiarchy

In the wake of Vandire's downfall, Sebastian Thor was declared Ecclesiarch and the Imperium began to rebuild. One of the first acts of the new High Lords of Terra was to pass the Decree Passive, which forbade the Adeptus Ministorum from controlling any 'men under arms'. Never again would the Ecclesiarchy threaten the rule of the Administratum. Due to its all-female membership, the Daughters of the Emperor did not technically break this ban and were incorporated into the ranks of the Adeptus Ministorum. Renamed the Orders Militant of the Adepta Sororitas, they became true defenders of the faith and a reminder of the power of the Ecclesiarchy.

During the first years of the Sisterhood's existence, Alicia Dominica led wars against the alien invaders that had exploited the Imperium's weakness. Silvana, Mina, Lucia, Katherine and Arabella – those Sisters who had joined her before the Golden Throne – accompanied Dominica. Under their leadership, the Adepta Sororitas were filled with a righteousness of purpose that none had witnessed since the days of the Great Crusade. Countless enemies fell as the armies of the Adepta Sororitas brought the divine judgement of the Ecclesiarch to the darkest corners of the galaxy, and to this day the Sisters of Battle have stood as faithful and loyal defenders of the Ecclesiarchy, and the Imperium.

The Founding of the Orders Militant

The Adepta Sororitas were split between the Convent Prioris on Holy Terra and the Convent Sanctorum on Ophelia VII. Both Convents were massive fortresses housing

all could trace their origins back to the teachings of the Daughters of the Emperor, small variances began to manifest as the outlook and persona of the founders asserted itself. The Order of the Fiery Heart, for example, started to reflect the vengeful nature of Katherine, while the Sisters of the Argent Shroud became renowned for their heroic acts of self-sacrifice, echoing the selfless nature of Silvana.

By late M36, the Sisters of Battle had become synonymous with the power of the Ecclesiarchy, enforcing its dogma and prosecuting its wars across the galaxy. The Orders Militant spread, establishing subsidiary convents on key worlds across the Imperium. Dominica, Katherine, Silvana and Lucia, all of whom had been declared Living Saints in their own lifetimes, performed legendary acts and led their Orders in countless victories. But such legends seldom end well, and first Dominica, then Silvana and Lucia were martyred by Chaos worshippers and aliens. When Katherine was murdered by the Witch-cult of Mnestteus, her Order was renamed the Order of Our Martyred Lady, so deeply did her sisters mourn her loss.

In mid M38, Ecclesiarch Deacis VI created two more Orders Militant based at the Convents Sanctorum and Prioris. Both were formed from groups of Sisters who venerated the remaining two companions of Dominica – Mina and Arabella – and although these long-dead martyrs never led their Orders in battle, each was founded in one of their names; the Order of the Bloody Rose in honour of Mina, and the Order of the Sacred Rose after Arabella.

During this time numerous other Orders Militant – the Orders Minoris – were founded across the Imperium with their own traditions, doctrines, livery and titles. The Orders Minoris vary in size, and though some only number as few as a hundred or so Battle Sisters, each is an elite military force dedicated to destroying the Ecclesiarchy's enemies.

Ophelia VII
Oldest of the Cardinal Worlds, Ophelia VII is second in sanctity only to Holy Terra itself. Site of the Synod Ministra, its surface is covered in mile-high cathedrals and gothic bell towers linked by avenues lined with statues of the Imperium's thousands of saints. Deep beneath the gilded architecture, the dungeons of Ophelia VII plunge deep into the bowels of the world. Here, heretics are made to repent their sins in a variety of soul-cleansing ways such as Arco-flagellation, Death-masking, Soul-scouring and internment into the machineries of a Penitent Engine.



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Wars of Faith

The following list of events give a few brief details of the campaigns, wars and actions of the Adepta Sororitas during the latter part of the 41st Millennium. This is only a small fraction of the countless battles fought during this bloody era.

799.M41

The San Leor Massacre

A Red Corsairs strike force invades San Leor, the original home world of the Daughters of the Emperor. The Chaos Space Marines are unprepared for the fury of the Adepta Sororitas reprisal, as they come under assault from nine separate Orders Militant and are utterly annihilated by the combined counter-attack.

835.M41

The War for Piety

The Shrine World of Piety rematerialises after being swallowed by a Warp storm two centuries earlier. The planet is, however, almost unrecognisable, having transformed into a hideous Daemon World. Canoness Sariah of the Order of the Sacred Rose immediately leads a force of Battle Sisters to the planet to retrieve artefacts from the Reliquary of Hope, one of the few sites to have withstood the corruption. As the rest of her forces establish a perimeter around the reliquary, Sariah leads several squads into the labyrinthine corridors beneath. For three days Canoness Sariah and her Sisters battle through monster-infested passageways; bolters cut down scores of blood-hungry Daemon-hounds and flammers burn swathes of bloated plague-beasts. Only Sariah and two Celestians survive to rejoin the Battle Sisters on the surface, having recovered the left thighbone of Saint Dolan and three pages from the Lexicon of Falsehoods from a stasis vault. The surviving Battle Sisters withdraw to orbit with their prizes just as a fleet of Grey Knight vessels arrive and lay waste to the planet with cyclonic torpedoes.

858.M41

The Defence of Dimmamar

Dimmamar, birth world of Sebastian Thor, comes under attack from the Eldar of Ulthwé Craftworld without any warning or reason. Seraphim Superior Amelda of the Order of the Bloody Rose retaliates, leading her squad of Seraphim in a daring attack to slay the enemy commander – Farseer Kauerith. The Seraphim's pistols blast a bloody path through a score of black-clad Eldar before the Sisters are engulfed in a hurricane of psychic lightning. Though many of her companions fall, Amelda refuses to yield and defiantly advances through the eldritch storm, slaying the Eldar Farseer with a single bolt round to the head.

“Heretics crave the cleansing fire of absolution. They need not fear, for we shall deliver it to them.”

*Canoness Josmane,
Order of the
Sacred Rose*



897.M41

The Slaughter at Sanctuary 101

The fortress-sanctuary 101, and all Sisters of Battle within, is destroyed by the Necrons.

980.M41

The Promethean War

The Order of the Ebon Chalice reinforces Space Marines of the Salamanders Chapter who are engaged in a brutal urban war against the dread Black Legion on the world of Heletine. The enemy is put to the torch as dozens of Immolators and Land Raider Redeemers burn a path through the war-torn cities. Despite the strength of their forces, the advance is halted when Lord Gralastyx – the Daemon Prince leading the Chaos forces – unleashes a legion of possessed Chaos Space Marines. As the frenzied Chaos horde rips through the Imperium's ranks, Battle Sisters and Space Marines fight back to back, their bolters and flammers blazing away as every warrior endeavours to sell their life dearly. However, the allied forces are saved when Saint Celestine appears, falling upon the Chaos horde like an avenging angel. The Living Saint carves a path through the horde towards Lord Gralastyx, before plunging her blade through his heart. With the death of Gralastyx, the Chaos horde is destroyed, but of Celestine there is no sign, for she vanished as mysteriously as she appeared.

991.M41

The Martyrdom of Praxedes.

Canoness Praxedes of the Order of Our Martyred Lady reinforces the Imperial Guard on the cardinal world of Okassis, soon after the start of the Second Tyranic War. As the Tyranids of Hive Fleet Kraken assault the Ecclesiarchal Cathedral, the combined fire of Retributor Squads and Exorcist tanks obliterates the first wave, but the second manages to breach the fortress-walls. As Tyranids pour through, Praxedes confronts a Hive Tyrant. During the fighting the Canoness is dealt a mortal wound, but even as her blood ebbs away, she summons the strength to land a final blow, caving in the beast's skull with a thunderous strike from her power mace. With the Tyrant's destruction, the swarm loses all direction. The Sisters waste no time in pressing the assault, determined to avenge the death of their beloved leader. The remaining aliens are swept aside, buying the time to evacuate the Ecclesiarchy's priests.

Army Special Rules

The Sisters of Battle can draw upon the wellspring of their faith to guide their actions. Absolute belief in the Imperial Creed allows the Sisters of Battle to perform the seemingly impossible. Yet miracles are not to be relied upon. At the heart of the Imperial Creed is the belief that the divine Emperor relies on his followers to create their own salvation, but also that if the situation is sufficiently bleak, he will intervene to deliver his true servants.

Faith Points

At the start of each of your Movement phases you generate D6 Faith Points. This is how many Faith Points you have available for the turn; the more available, the more Acts of Faith you will be able to attempt. Any Faith Points that are unused at the end of your turn are lost.

Acts of Faith

An Act of Faith can be attempted immediately before a Sisters of Battle unit acts during a phase; e.g. immediately before the unit moves in the Movement phase, shoots (or runs) in the Shooting phase, or strikes blows in the Assault phase.

To attempt an Act of Faith, select the unit and reduce your Faith Point total by 1, then roll a D6 and add the following:

- +1 if the unit is led by at least one of the following: Sister Superior, Retributor Superior, Dominion Superior, Seraphim Superior, Celestian Superior or Mistress of Repentance.
- +1 if the unit has been joined by at least one of the following independent characters: Canoness, Ecclesiarchal Confessor, Saint Celestine, Uriah Jacobus or Arch-Confessor Kyrinov.
- +1 if the unit has taken at least 1 casualty.

Note that all modifiers are cumulative.

If the total is less than 5, then the Act of Faith fails. The Faith Point is lost and nothing happens.

If the total is equal to or greater than 5, the Act of Faith is successful. The unit immediately gains a bonus and/or special rules until the end of the phase. The nature of the bonus depends upon the unit that is using the Act of Faith, as detailed later.

For example, if a unit of Celestians makes a successful Act of Faith during the Assault phase, their Hand of the Emperor Act of Faith grants them +1 Strength and Fearless until the end of the Assault phase.

Independent Characters and Acts of Faith

Independent characters that have the Acts of Faith rule benefit from any bonuses received by the unit they are with when an Act of Faith is used. Similarly, units that have the Acts of Faith rule benefit from any bonuses received by an independent character that has joined the unit when an Act of Faith is used.

If both a unit and an independent character have an Act of Faith that takes effect in the same phase, you must attempt each Act of Faith separately. For example, if a Canoness joins a unit of Celestians then you would require two Faith Points (and two Acts of Faith) to use both the Passion and the Hand of the Emperor Acts of Faith in the Assault phase.

Shield of Faith

The Sisters of Battle are taught that faith is a shield stronger than any armour. Such is the power of their belief that the Emperor will protect them from mortal injury that the Adepta Sororitas can shrug off the most severe of wounds.

Models with the Shield of Faith special rule have a 6+ invulnerable save.



Retributor with heavy bolter

“No army is big enough to conquer the galaxy, but faith alone can overturn the universe.”

Ecclesiarch Deacis IX



Canoness

Canoness

A Canoness is one of the most powerful examples of the faith in purpose. For hundreds of position the leadership, sheer over. When the arms, a Canoness into the fray backwards. Unbreath. The Sisters of Battle have Imperium.

Though the Prioress superior knowledge holds sway. A Canoness spiritual warrior her command guardian of Canoness' leading the

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Canoness

	WS	BS	S	T	W	I	A	Ld	Sv
Canoness	5	5	3	3	3	4	3	10	3+

A Canoness is the overall commander of one of the Orders Militant, a shining example of purity and dedication of purpose. Each is a veteran warrior of many hundreds of battles who has risen to her position through a combination of strong leadership, shrewd tactical genius and sheer overarching faith in the Emperor. When the Ecclesiarchy sounds the call to arms, a Canoness boldly leads her warriors into the fray, refusing to take one step backwards whilst her enemies still draw breath. Under their command, the Sisters of Battle have crushed the foes of the Imperium across the galaxy.

Though she is ostensibly answerable to the Prioress of her Convent, a Canoness' superior knowledge of battle inevitably holds sway concerning military matters. A Canoness is also responsible for the spiritual well-being of the warriors under her command and she is the principle guardian of her Battle Sisters' souls. A Canoness' non-military duties include leading the Order in its prayer services,

performing rites of initiation and overseeing the running of the Order. As a result, a Canoness inspires intense devotion in her Battle Sisters, leading them from the fore whilst reciting the great hymns of the Adeptus Ministorum.

UNIT TYPE: Infantry (character)

SPECIAL RULES: Acts of Faith, Independent Character, Stubborn, Shield of Faith.

The Passion: A Canoness leads her Sisters through the chaos of melee, striking at their foes with a speed and hatred born out of holy fervour.

This Act of Faith is used in the Assault phase. If successful, the Canoness and her unit receive +1 Initiative and the Preferred Enemy special rule until the end of the Assault phase.

WARGEAR: Power armour, boltgun, bolt pistol, frag grenades, krak grenades.



Canoness



Celestian with Simulacrum Imperialis

Sororitas Command Squads

	WS	BS	S	T	W	I	A	Ld	Sv
Celestian	4	4	3	3	1	3	2	9	3+
Sister Dialogus	3	4	3	3	1	3	1	9	3+
Sister Hospitaller	3	4	3	3	1	3	1	9	3+

A Sororitas Command Squad is formed from the ranks of the elite Celestians, for only the most dedicated and distinguished Sisters of Battle are granted the privilege of forming their leader's bodyguard. Having earned their scars and proved their merit on scores of battlefields, the Celestians of a Sororitas Command Squad are often given the honour of carrying the sacred standard of the Order into battle, or of safeguarding a revered relic – perhaps the bones of a long-dead saint or an icon believed to have been touched by the Emperor himself – during the course of a campaign.

A Sororitas Command Squad may also be accompanied by Sisters from other, non-militant Orders, who act as advisors and specialists to the Canoness. These Sisters are commonly from the Orders Dialogous – skilled orators whose amplified voices can embolden the spirits of nearby troops – and the Orders Hospitaller. With her surgeon's tools, the medical ministrations from a Sister Hospitaller can staunch the

bleeding from wounds and purge many lethal poisons from a warrior's bloodstream, allowing a Battle Sister to return to the fray despite grievous injuries.

UNIT TYPE: Infantry

SPECIAL RULES: Acts of Faith, Shield of Faith.

Endless Crusade: Limbs do not tire when the spirit of the Emperor moves them, but find fresh strength in their righteous work.

This Act of Faith is used in the Movement phase. If successful the unit gains the Relentless and Move Through Cover special rules until the end of the turn.

WARGEAR: Power armour, boltgun (Celestians only), bolt pistol, frag grenades, krak grenades, surgeon's tools (Sister Hospitaller only), laud hailer (Sister Dialogus only).



Sister Dialogus



Sister Hospitaller



Ecclesiarchy Preacher



Arco-flagellant



Crusader



Death Cult Assassin

Ecclesiarchy Priests

	WS	BS	S	T	W	I	A	Ld	Sv
Ecclesiarchy Confessor	5	5	3	3	3	4	3	10	5+
Ecclesiarchy Preacher	3	3	3	3	1	4	2	7	5+

Ecclesiarchy priests often accompany the Orders Militant into battle and it has even been known for them to lead Wars of Faith. There are many different titles within the Ecclesiarchy, but their role on the battlefield is the same: to harness the faith of the troops to smite the Emperor's foes.

Confessors are extremely powerful and influential leaders within the Ecclesiarchy, and wherever they tread, a bodyguard is rarely far away. Some prefer fiery speeches and rabble-rousing to incite a population into religious fanaticism, while others are more subtle, manipulating civic leaders to form coalitions against the foe.

Confessors are also charged with the training of more junior Ecclesiarchy priests, of which Preachers are the most common rank. Under a Confessors' tutelage, Preachers learn the skill of steeling the faith of warriors in the heart of battle, and their litanies can be heard clearly over the roar of guns and chainblades.

Battle Sisters provide Ecclesiarchy priests with military support, and in doing so they present a very obvious reminder of the Ministorum's true power. Their duties include escorting priests through hostile war zones, assassinating rebel leaders, enforcing tithe requirements within their diocese or launching surgical strikes to recover long-lost relics and artefacts.

UNIT TYPE: Infantry (character)

SPECIAL RULES: Acts of Faith, Independent Character, Shield of Faith.

Righteous Rage: On a player turn in which a model with this special rule assaults, he and all members of the unit he has joined re-roll failed rolls to hit.

WARGEAR: Flak armour, laspistol, chainsword, frag grenades, krak grenades, rosarius.

Ecclesiarchy Battle Conclaves

	WS	BS	S	T	W	I	A	Ld	Sv
Arco-flagellant	5	3	4	3	1	3	4	8	-
Crusader	4	3	3	3	1	3	1	8	5+
Death Cult Assassin	5	3	4	3	1	6	2	8	5+

Ecclesiarchy priests often gather a band of bodyguards to assist them in the execution of their duties (and heretics). Known as Battle Conclaves, these groups are necessarily small; anything larger would breach the prohibition of 'men under arms' as laid down in the Decree Passive. Even so, the Inquisition covertly monitors Battle Conclaves to safeguard the spirit of the Decree Passive, if not its letter.

Crusaders are recruited from the honour guard of the Cardinals Crimson, an ancient and mysterious order famed for its unflagging devotion to the Emperor. Crusaders dedicate their lives to martial perfection, making them ideal bodyguards.

Arco-flagellation is a punishment carried out on those found guilty of crimes against the Ecclesiarch. Augmented with extensive physical surgery and mental reconditioning, their bodies are implanted with weaponry. Pacifier helms project soothing hymnals until a trigger word is spoken. Once activated, an Arco-flagellant turns into a berserk killing machine.

Death Cult Assassins are amongst a Battle Conclave's most outlandish agents. Though many Death Cults are Chaos-spawned, others are fanatically dedicated to the Imperial Creed and offer up those they slay to the Emperor. Death Cult Assassins have perfected the art of blades, which when combined with their deep-rooted devotion to the Emperor, makes them lethal and loyal followers.

UNIT TYPE: Infantry

SPECIAL RULES: Feel No Pain (Arco-flagellants only).

Uncanny Reflexes (Death Cult Assassins only): A Death Cult Assassin has a 5+ invulnerable save.

WARGEAR: A Crusader has flak armour, a power weapon and a storm shield. An Arco-Flagellant has arco-flails (close combat weapon). A Death Cult Assassin has flak armour and two power weapons.

Sisters

Sister Repentant
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Sisters Repentia

	WS	BS	S	T	W	I	A	Ld	Sv
Sister Repentia	4	4	3	3	1	3	2	8	-
Mistress of Repentance	4	4	3	3	1	3	2	9	3+

Confession and prayer are as much a part of a Battle Sister's existence as bolter drills and military discipline. Those who fall short of the Sisterhood's rigorous codes are subject to many punishments, but in the more serious of cases they may be exiled from their Order. These warriors, known as Sisters Repentia, band together into groups that seek redemption in the fires of battle. They are led to war by a Mistress of Repentance, who judges each exiled Sister's deeds and occasionally, at battle's end, may declare her sins atoned for. Those rare few who return to the fold are held in awe.

Those who seek forgiveness occupy a state of grace that many aspire to, yet few attain. Indeed, some Sisters willingly exile themselves, finding fault in the smallest transgression in order to join the Repentia. The fervour of the Repentia inevitably means that they martyr themselves fighting against hopeless odds, finding in death the absolution denied to them in life.

UNIT TYPE: Infantry

SPECIAL RULES: Act of Faith, Fearless, Feel No Pain, Fleet, Rage, Shield of Faith.

Spirit of the Martyr: *The Sisters Repentia summon the strength to land one final blow.*

This Act of Faith is used in the Assault phase. If successful, do not remove any models in the unit if they are killed before they have attacked. Instead, place them on their side. After all other models involved in the assault have made their attacks, any mortally injured model placed on its side gets to make a single attack. After these attacks have been made, any models on their side are removed as casualties.

WARGEAR: A Sister Repentia has an eviscerator; a Mistress of Penitence has power armour, two neural whips, frag grenades, krak grenades.



Sister Repentia



Mistress of Repentance

Penitent Engines

	WS	BS	S	I	A	Front	Armour Side	Rear
Penitent Engine	4	2	5(10)	3	D6+1	11	11	10

Penitent Engines rampage through the enemy's battlelines, leaving death and carnage in their wake. The machines' arm-mounted flamers blaze a trail of fiery destruction as they thunder forwards.

To be a pilot of a Penitent Engine is to have committed a terrible crime, one so heinous that other punishments are deemed too lenient. Many of the unfortunates sentenced to pilot a Penitent Engine were once members of the Ecclesiarchy; Priests fallen from grace or Battle Sisters who have, through failure of duty or faith, caused the deaths of their fellows. A multitude of wires and chemical injectors are implanted into the pilots' spines, and when they are not ripping through the ranks of their enemies, lances of pain and images of guilt shoot directly into their brains, reminding them of their sins. Driven by their pilot's frantic need for forgiveness, Penitent Engines charge towards the foe heedless of danger, knowing that only in death, theirs or the enemy's, can forgiveness finally be earned.

Penitent Engines often charge into battle beside the ranks of the Orders Militant. The Sisters of Battle consider it their sacred

duty to witness these great machines in the fires of combat, observing the actions of their fallen brothers and sisters as they atone for past sins.

UNIT TYPE: Vehicle (Walker, Open-topped)

SPECIAL RULES: Rage, Shield of Faith.

Unstoppable Rampage: Penitent Engines ignore any crew shaken and crew stunned results on the Vehicle Damage tables.

Battle Frenzy: For every unsaved Wound a Penitent Engine inflicts in close combat, the Penitent Engine immediately makes an additional attack. These extra attacks do not generate further additional attacks in the same way.

WARGEAR: Two Dreadnought close combat weapons (with built in heavy flamers). Note that the bonus for being equipped with two close combat weapons is already included in the Penitent Engine's profile.



Penitent Engine

Battle Sisters



Sister Superior with chainsword



Battle Sister

	WS	BS	S	T	W	I	A	Ld	Sv
Battle Sisters	3	4	3	3	1	3	1	8	3+
Sister Superior	3	4	3	3	1	3	2	9	3+

The vast majority of the Orders Militant is made up of Battle Sisters. Every Battle Sister is an orphan raised from birth by the Schola Progenium to believe in the righteousness of their cause. They are the most physically adept and martial members of the Adepta Sororitas, and they form the mainstay of the Ecclesiarchy's fighting forces. Battle Sisters are well disciplined and highly devoted to the Emperor. They are trained in the use of arms and armour from an early age, and when combined with their unquenchable faith, they are a force to be reckoned with.

Each squad of Battle Sisters is led by a Sister Superior. These warriors are ranked beneath the Canoness of the Orders Militant and each is directly responsible for the conduct and training of her squad. When an Adepta Sororitas joins one of the Orders Militant, she will be adopted by a Sister Superior, and as she learns the ways of battle it will be this mentor who looks after her physical and spiritual training. The most experienced Sister Superiors assist the Canoness in the running of the Order.

UNIT TYPE: Infantry

SPECIAL RULES: Act of Faith, Shield of Faith.

WARGEAR: Power armour, boltgun, bolt pistol, frag grenades, krak grenades.

Light of the Emperor: Armed with their faith in the Emperor, Battle Sisters are driven to great feats of prowess.

This Act of Faith can be used in the Movement phase, the Shooting phase or the Assault phase. If used in the Movement phase when the Battle Sisters squad are falling back, the unit immediately regroups, despite any normal restrictions. If used in the Shooting or Assault phase, the unit re-rolls any failed To Hit rolls of a 1 until the end of that phase. Note that the same squad can use Light of the Emperor in two or more phases if you choose, but a separate Faith Point and Act of Faith test are required in each phase.

Celestian Squads



Celestian



Celestian Superior with plasma pistol

	WS	BS	S	T	W	I	A	Ld	Sv
Celestian	4	4	3	3	1	3	2	9	3+
Celestian Superior	4	4	3	3	1	3	2	9	3+

Celestians are the finest and noblest warriors of their Order, inspirational figures whose refusal to yield, even in the direst of situations, is legendary. Their presence does much to bolster the fighting spirit of nearby troops, and as such the Orders allow these distinguished veterans to bear devotional markings. The Sigil Sororitas is a commonly depicted symbol, worn either as a tattoo or as a badge adorning the front of helmets; an honour reserved for those Sisters who have performed with exceptional courage.

Only Battle Sisters who prove themselves to be exceptionally proficient in the arts of war may be deemed worthy of induction into the ranks of the Celestians. These elite warriors are deployed together where their superior experience can turn the tide of battle. Amongst their number are those who once served as Dominions and Retributors, meaning that Celestian Squads are supported with the weapons and wargear necessary to face a wide variety of threats. However, Celestians believe that such weapons are as nothing compared

to the power of their faith. Celestians are fervent adherents to the Imperial Creed, shining examples of righteousness that many Battle Sisters aspire to emulate. Celestians harness this ardour in battle, and it lends them the strength to split the skulls of alien savages in a single blow and smite hideous Daemons back into the Warp.

UNIT TYPE: Infantry

SPECIAL RULES: Acts of Faith, Shield of Faith.

Hand of the Emperor: Celestians call upon the Emperor to grant them the courage and the strength to strike down their foes.

This Act of Faith is used in the Assault phase. If successful, the unit gains +1 Strength and the Fearless special rule until the end of the phase.

WARGEAR: Power armour, boltgun, bolt pistol, frag grenades, krak grenades.

Dom

Dominion
Dominion

Battle Sisters are among the most formidable warriors of the Imperium, and the Emperor's most trusted. They are tempered in the fires of battle, and still yearn for the day when they can return to the Orders Militant, where they can be warriors. The Battle Sisters are tasked with the assault, but they are also destroying counter-attacks. In missions involving the ride to battle, they are protected by the Battle Sisters. These tanks are from their own arms. The Battle Sisters are objective, and they are deadly. The Battle Sisters are beams and

Sera

Seraphim
Seraphim

Amongst the Battle Sisters, those Battle Sisters who are brightly gifted are themselves gifted warriors. They are excluded from the Orders Militant, as well as the Orders Militant. The Seraphim are descending from the fire, their fire. In melee, their foes are killing blows. The Seraphim are point-blank. The Seraphim are warriors. The Seraphim are advice is given. The Seraphim are councils of the standing. The Seraphim are their Orders. The Seraphim are golden-bladed. The Seraphim are with litani. The Seraphim are wielded by the Seraphim. The Seraphim are artefacts and

Dominion Squads

	WS	BS	S	T	W	I	A	Ld	Sv
Dominion	3	4	3	3	1	3	1	8	3+
Dominion Superior	3	4	3	3	1	3	2	9	3+

Battle Sisters who utilise specialised weaponry are known as Dominions. They are amongst their Order's most aggressive warriors, driven by the need to destroy the Emperor's foes. Though their training has tempered their impetuosity, Dominions still yearn to fight at the fore. As such the Orders Militant maintain several units who are almost solely comprised of such warriors. Dominion Squads are the Sisters of Battle's shock troops and they are tasked with leading the vanguard of the assault, breaking through enemy frontlines, destroying fortifications and blunting any counter-attacks. The importance of such missions is commensurate with the dangers involved, and so Dominions typically ride to battle inside Rhino or Immolators, protected from the worst of incoming fire. These tanks rumble to a halt mere yards from their target and within seconds a fully armed Dominion Squad is storming their objective, annihilating the enemy with a deadly combination of bolter rounds, melta beams and searing flames.

Dominions do not hold objectives; their task is simply to clear them as quickly as possible and to lay down covering fire whilst other squads move into position. The moment these locations have been secured by their fellow Battle Sisters the Dominions embark within their transports once more, eager to engage their next target.

UNIT TYPE: Infantry

SPECIAL RULES: Acts of Faith, Scouts, Shield of Faith.

Holy Fusillade: *Praying to the Emperor to focus his wrath through their weapons, the Dominions unleash a storm of firepower.*

This Act of Faith is used in the Shooting phase. If successful, the unit's weapons count as being twin-linked until the end of the phase.

WARGEAR: Power armour, bolter, bolt pistol, frag grenades, Krak grenades.



Dominion with storm bolter



Dominion with melta gun

Seraphim Squads

	WS	BS	S	T	W	I	A	Ld	Sv
Seraphim	4	4	3	3	1	3	1	8	3+
Seraphim Superior	4	4	3	3	1	3	2	9	3+

Amongst the Orders Militant there are those Battle Sisters whose faith burns so brightly that it appears as if the Emperor himself guides their actions. These angelic warriors are known as Seraphim, and they are exclusively trained to use jump packs as well as the coordination, dexterity and control needed to fire two pistols at once. The Seraphim strike like avenging angels, descending into battle upon wings of fire, their twin bolt pistols spitting death. In melee, Seraphim deflect the strikes of their foes with fluid grace before landing a killing blow of their own, typically with a point-blank headshot from a bolt pistol.

Seraphim Superiors are highly respected warriors amongst the Order and their advice is heeded by the Canoness in councils of war. As befits veterans of such standing, Seraphim Superiors wield some of their Order's most vaunted weapons, from golden-bladed power swords inscribed with litanies of faith to sacred pistols once wielded by Living Saints, irreplaceable artefacts and revered heirlooms all.

UNIT TYPE: Jump Infantry

SPECIAL RULES: Acts of Faith, Hit and Run, Shield of Faith.

The Emperor's Deliverance: *As the Seraphim recite rites of destruction, every shot becomes a mortal blow.*

This Act of Faith is used in the Shooting phase. If successful, the unit's Shooting attacks re-roll any failed To Wound rolls until the end of the phase.

Seraphim Pistols: Any model in a Seraphim squad that is armed with two pistols can fire both in the Shooting phase. If they do so, they can fire no other weapon that turn.

Angelic Visage: Seraphim re-roll failed Acts of Faith rolls and failed invulnerable saves granted by the Shield of Faith special rule.

WARGEAR: Power armour, two bolt pistols, frag grenades, Krak grenades, jump pack.



Seraphim Superior with power sword



Seraphim with two hand flamers

Retributor Squads

	WS	BS	S	T	W	I	A	Ld	Sv
Retributor	3	4	3	3	1	3	1	8	3+
Retributor Superior	3	4	3	3	1	3	2	9	3+



Retributor with Heavy flamer



Retributor with Heavy bolter

Retributors are armed with the Order's heaviest weaponry. Believing that the Emperor himself guides their aim, these Sisters annihilate the Ecclesiarchy's foes with overwhelming firepower. Retributors are commonly armed with heavy bolters to provide long-ranged support, cutting down hordes of infantry with a staggering rate of fire. However, in the close confines of urban warfare, Retributors prefer to rely upon heavy flamers, unleashing infernos to burn their foes from cover and reduce them to charred corpses. Finally, completing the holy trinity of bolter, flamer, and meltas, Retributors are also adept at wielding deadly multi-meltas, which can reduce the mightiest of tanks into molten slag.

Retributors are the most logical and level-headed of all Sororitas, a trait that serves them well on the battlefield as they prioritise and despatch their targets with calm efficiency. Although it is usual to attach individual Retributors to Battle

Sisters squads, many Sororitas Commanders maintain a core of dedicated heavy weapon squads. By concentrating the Order's biggest guns in this manner, the Retributor Superior is more readily able to direct their combined firepower to where it will cause the most damage to the enemy.

UNIT TYPE: Infantry

SPECIAL RULES: Acts of Faith, Shield of Faith.

Divine Guidance: *Guided by the will of the Emperor, the Retributors' shots shatter their enemies' armour with contemptuous ease.*

This Act of Faith is used in the Shooting phase. If successful, the unit's weapons gain Rending until the end of the phase.

WARGEAR: Power Armour, boltgun, bolt pistol, frag grenades, krak grenades.

Exorcists

	BS	Front	Armour Side	Rear
Exorcist	4	13	11	10

An Exorcist is part of the Sororitas' unique weapons of war, a vehicle that unleashes volleys of explosive, armour-piercing judgement upon the foes of the Imperium. They are, however, unpredictable

machines that are only vaguely understood by the Tech Priests who must continuously service them. Many Exorcists have been in service

since the Age of Apostasy, further adding to their erratic nature. The Exorcist missiles fired by these revered vehicles are capable of splitting open enemy battle tanks or destroying entire squads of heavy infantry in one punishing salvo, provided, of course, the Exorcist's temperamental machine-spirit does not malfunction.

Most vehicles in the Sisters of Battle's armoury serve multiple purposes, for in addition to being weapons of war, they are mobile shrines adorned with devotional icons and carvings. The Exorcist is perhaps the most ornate example of this. Each is an individual work of art whose battlefield role of providing devastating long-range fire support is secondary to its significance as a potent, divine symbol of the power and glory of the Ecclesiarchy.

UNIT TYPE: Vehicle (Tank)

SPECIAL RULES: Shield of Faith.

WARGEAR: Exorcist missile launcher, smoke launchers.



Rhinos

	BS	Front	Armour Side	Rear
Rhino	4	11	11	10

The Rhino is the most common transport vehicle at the Sisters of Battle's disposal, a famously robust vehicle that is widely used by the Imperium. All of an Order's vehicles are bedecked with holy symbols and relics as well as insignia denoting squad and Order markings. Door hatches are often emblazoned with the Sigil Sororitas, the icon of the Sisters of Battle.

UNIT TYPE: Vehicle (Tank)

TRANSPORT: A Rhino has a transport capacity of ten models. It cannot transport models in Terminator armour.

Fire Points: Two models may fire out of the Rhino's top hatch.

Access Points: Rhinos have one access point on each side and one at the rear.

SPECIAL RULES: Shield of Faith

Repair: If a Rhino is immobilised for any reason, then in subsequent turns the crew can attempt to repair the vehicle instead of the shooting the vehicle's weaponry. Roll a D6 in the Shooting phase – on a 6 the vehicle is no longer immobilised.

WARGEAR: Storm bolter, smoke launchers.



Immolators

	BS	Front	Armour Side	Rear
Immolator	4	11	11	10

The Immolator is a design exclusive to the Adeptus Ministorum, based upon the ubiquitous Rhino chassis. Immolators carry deadly, short-ranged heavy flamers to cleanse the battlefield. The sight of such a tank rumbling into sight has disrupted more than one enemy battleline as warriors try in vain to evade an Immolator's inferno.

Sisters of Battle favour bolters, flamers and meltas to eradicate their enemies – the so-called 'holy-trinity' of weapons. As a result, some Immolators are armed with a pair of multi-meltas instead of heavy flamers, whilst others mount heavy bolters loaded with deadly incendiary rounds.

Immolators are tactically versatile vehicles and the tank of choice for many commanders, for in addition to their prodigious armaments, they can carry squads of Battle Sisters, supporting their passengers with heavy weapons fire.

UNIT TYPE: Vehicle (Tank)

TRANSPORT: An Immolator has a transport capacity of six models. It cannot transport models in Terminator armour.

Fire Points: None.

Access Points: Immolators have one access point on each side and one at the rear.

SPECIAL RULES: Shield of Faith.

WARGEAR: Twin-linked heavy flamer, smoke launchers.





Arch-Confeſſor Kyrinov

“A ſingle man with faith can triumph over a legion of the faithleſſ. Untold billions of the faithful can never be opposed.”

The Sermons of Sebastian Thor, Vol. XI, Ch. IV

Arch-Confeſſor Kyrinov

	WS	BS	S	T	W	I	A	Ld	Sv
Arch-Confeſſor Kyrinov	5	5	3	3	3	4	3	10	5+

Arch-Confeſſor Kyrinov has been the ſcourge of blaſphemers and heretics across a hundred worlds. Kyrinov is known for unflinching adherence to Eccleſiarchal doctrine and his fiery ſpeeches can whip entire populaces into manic fervour. However, Kyrinov's patience and ſhrewd mind often ſerve him better than any amount of ſermoning. It is claimed that the Arch-Confeſſor could wait until the ſtars grew cold if it meant that an enemy of the Eccleſiarchy would fall from grace. Kyrinov's wild geſtures and melodramatic acts of faith hide a very cold and logical approach to defeating his foes. The Arch-Confeſſor is a prime manipulator of people, a dangerous foe who is almoſt impoſſible to out-think or placate.

For all his rabble-rouſing, Kyrinov knows that actions ſpeak louder than words, and he can be ſeen fearleſſly fighting across the battlefields of the Imperium. Every ſtep of the way the forces of the Sisters of Battle follow, and the Arch-Confeſſor's booming ſermons are accompanied with the harſh bark of bolter

fire. Such is the power of Kyrinov's zealous oratory that in his preſence the Orders Militant redouble their efforts, calling upon a righteous anger to deſtroy their enemies.

UNIT TYPE: Infantry (character).

SPECIAL RULES: Acts of Faith, Fearleſſ, Independent Character, Righteous Rage (ſee page 96), Shield of Faith.

Heightened Fervour: Arch-Confeſſor Kyrinov counts as having both a laud hailer and a ſimulacrum imperialis.

WARGEAR: Flak armour, bolt piſtol, frag grenades, krak grenades, roſarius.

Mace of Valaan: The Mace of Valaan is a power weapon. In addition, any model that ſuffers an unſaved Wound from the Mace of Valaan is reduced to Initiative 1 until the end of the following player turn.

Icon of Chiros: All friendly units within 6" of Kyrinov have the Fearleſſ ſpecial rule.

Uriah Jacobus, Protector of the Faith

	WS	BS	S	T	W	I	A	Ld	Sv
Uriah Jacobus	5	5	3	3	3	4	3	10	5+

There are many types of Miſſionary, from the young, fervent hopefuls ſtepping out to ſpread the word of the Imperium for the firſt time, to the ancient, toughened members of the Miſſionarus Galaxia. Uriah Jacobus is of the latter breed, a ſurvivor of countless battles. Jacobus is famed for his hardy endurance, no-nonsense practicality and quiet but ſolid, faith. As ſtubborn as a mule (and ſome ſay as mad), his talent for bringing loſt worlds back into the fold of Imperium rule is unſurpaſſed. Some believe that the Emperor himſelf guides Jacobus, whiſt others, moſt notably the Sisters of Battle who ſupport him war zones, ſimply think he has a knack for finding trouble.

When the bullets ſtart flying, Uriah Jacobus can be found at the forefront of battle, muttering to himſelf as he blows another curſed enemy to oblivion with the Redeemer, his truſty ſhotgun. Jacobus carries with him the banner of ſanctity, a holy ſymbol ſaid to have been bleſſed by Sebastian Thor, and all who ſee the old man fighting in the thick of battle are inſpired to great feats of courage and bravery.

UNIT TYPE: Infantry (character).

SPECIAL RULES: Acts of Faith, Righteous Rage (ſee page 96), Stubborn, Independent Characters, Shield of Faith.

Protector of the Faith: Whiſt Uriah Jacobus is alive, you can re-roll the dice to determine the number of Faith Points you have each turn.

WARGEAR: Flak armour, bolt piſtol, chainsword, frag grenades, krak grenades, roſarius.

The Redeemer: Uriah Jacobus carries the Redeemer, a maſſive ſhotgun that has the following profile:

Range	Strength	AP	Type
24"	4	4	Assault 2

The Banner of Sanctity: This banner is one of the holieſt relics poſſeſſed by the Eccleſiarchy. Models in Jacobus' unit have +1 Attack and have the Feel No Pain rule.



Uriah Jacobus, Protector of the Faith

Saint Celestine

“The blood of martyrs is the seed of the Imperium.”

	WS	BS	S	T	W	I	A	Ld	Sv
Saint Celestine	7	7	3	3	3	7	5	10	2+

Very little is known of Celestine's life before she was declared a Living Saint, but following her apotheosis during the Palatine Crusade she became a warrior imbued with divine power who appears in times of great need. Saint Celestine has fought at the vanguard of numerous Wars of Faith, and hundreds of thousands of heretics have met a bloody end at the hands of her armies. It is said that she has fallen in combat several times, having been dealt a mortal blow by one of the Imperium's many enemies. However, each time she has miraculously returned to life for Celestine will die only when the Emperor himself claims her, and not a moment before.

UNIT TYPE: Jump Infantry (character).

SPECIAL RULE: Acts of Faith, Independent Character, Fearless, Shield of Faith.

Miraculous Intervention: Every time Celestine is removed as a casualty, place a counter to mark the spot where she 'died'. Roll a D6 at the start of each of

your subsequent turns. If the result is a 4+, place her within 1" of the counter with D3 wounds restored. If Celestine would be placed within 1" of another model, move her by the minimum possible distance so that she is no longer within 1". Celestine can act normally in a turn in which she 'resurrects'. Celestine does not award kill points to the enemy if she is alive on the battlefield at the end of the game.

WARGEAR: Frag grenades, krak grenades, jump pack.

Armour of Saint Katherine: The Armour of Saint Katherine confers the wearer a 2+ armour save and a 4+ invulnerable save.

The Ardent Blade: This is a power weapon that always wounds enemies on a 4+ (unless a lower roll would be required). In addition, it can fire in the Shooting phase with the following profile:

Range	Strength	AP	Type
Template	5	4	Assault 1



Saint Celestine

Coming Next Month: Sisters of Battle Army List

Next month we present part 2 of the Codex, including everything needed to field the army. We also pitch the Adepta Sororitas against Hive Fleet Leviathan in a battle report.

