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.. which means that words related to liturgy were extremely well known, respected .. and used for daily benign swearing, such as the following favorites:



In a comparative study, one can show that swear words in other languages, such as [English](#) or [German](#), can be very graphical or explicit.

Not so in [Québec](#). Well, there might very few handy words, taken from [French](#), but they are the exceptions.

In general here, though, even children can use our favorite [Québec](#) swear words without fear of retribution, just a mild “tut-tut!” of disapproval.

how they are pronounced:

what they represent:

the original meanings:

some variations thereof:

CÁLICE!



A calice (chalice) is a sacred vessel used for the consecration of wine during the Eucharist. During the ceremony, according to the Catholic church, the wine becomes the blood of Christ. More polite variations: Caline, Syncope (Saint-Cup), Caltor.

CIBOIRE!



A ciboire is a sacred vessel used to hold the Host, or communion wafers, that have been consecrated by the priest. It is used to distribute the Host to worshippers. Variations: Scie-Ronde, Cibole, Citron.

OSTIE!



From hostie, the Host consumed during Eucharist. From the Latin, hostia, meaning victim. The consecrated bread represents the body of Christ. Variations: Osto, Ostination, Ostifié, Ostie toastée.

TABARNAK!



From tabernacle, a decorated wooden box in the form of an armoire that holds consecrated Host. Variations: Tabarouette, tabarnouche, tableau.

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câlisse de criss! = also meaningless but sooo.. soothing

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ton char est vite en câlisse = your car is very fast

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.. the order, length, will change according to person and emphasis

The point is, rarely anybody says “CALICE” properly in Québec.

My recommendation is: **use with caution**, since ..

French Canadians may have a hard time not smiling or laughing.

I've had years of practice by now to say it correctly but still often fail.

Home assignment: pick another “**sacre**”, e.g.:

Enjoy your stay !

TABARNAK

Juron québécois manifestant le mécontentement ou la colère comme quand un osti de cave te coupe avec son char dans rue et calice son camp comme un gros calvaire d'épais.