

Canon Law Society of America

June 2013

A quarterly eNewsletter from the Society

To read the Rome report in its entirety, [click here](#) or select a link in a particular section. The report is featured in the Members Only section of the CLSA website. You will be asked to login.

2013 ROME VISIT

May 19-24, 2013

The CLSA delegation, President Reverend John Vaughan, Vice-President Reverend Phillip Brown, S.S. and Executive Coordinator Sister Sharon Euart, R.S.M., arrived in Rome on the weekend of May 17-19, 2013 for its biennial meetings with the Dicasteries of the Holy See. The visit was originally scheduled to take place during the first week of March 2013. Following the announcement of the resignation of Pope Benedict XVI, the CLSA postponed its visit until a later date following the election of a new pope. We are most grateful to the Dicasteries for accommodating the change in schedule. In all our meetings we were welcomed and graciously received by the officials and had fruitful and informative discussions.

We met on Sunday, May 19, 2013 at the Pontifical North American College, shortly after arriving in Rome, with Rev. Robert Geisinger, S.J. who served as our contact person in Rome and our liaison with the offices we were to visit. This was the fourth CLSA trip for which Father Geisinger served as local contact and guide. We are most grateful to him for his gracious hospitality and assistance with planning and scheduling and indebted to him for his generous service to the Society. In preparation for the visit, the CLSA president consulted the Board of Governors for possible topics to address with the various Dicasteries. Letters were sent to the respective Prefect or President listing the topics for discussion. During our meetings the Dicastery officials referred to the letters and the topics submitted in advance. Below are highlights from our meetings.



President John Vaughan, Executive Coordinator Sharon Euart, and Vice President Phil Brown discuss the agenda for the biennial trip.

Supreme Tribunal of the Apostolic Signatura

Our first meeting on Monday, May 20, 2013 was with the **Supreme Tribunal of the Apostolic Signatura** where we were warmly greeted by Cardinal Raymond Burke, Prefect. Cardinal Burke expressed his regret that he could

not meet with us but graciously paused for a photo with the group. We met with Bishop Frans Daneels, O.Praem., Secretary, and Monsignor Joseph Punderson, Defender of the Bond. Among the topics we discussed was the relationship between First and Second Instance Tribunals and their respective roles and responsibilities.



Cardinal Burke (center) welcomes the Society delegates to Rome.

[For a detailed report on this meeting, click here.](#)

Congregation for Oriental Churches

Our second meeting on Monday, May 20, 2013 was at the offices of the **Congregation for Oriental Churches**. Archbishop Cyril Vasil, S.J., welcomed us and expressed appreciation for our visit. Prior to the meeting we had sent the Congregation complimentary copies of the recent CLSA publication of the *(continued, page 2)*



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English edition of *Latin Pastors and Eastern Catholics* translated by Chorbishop John Faris. During the 2010 visit of the CLSA President, Vice-President and Executive Coordinator to the Congregation, the Archbishop had requested that the CLSA publish an English edition of Lorenzo Lorusso's Italian publication. Archbishop Vasil was very pleased with the book and gave us a statement to include in our marketing of the publication: "Every Latin Chancery should have and study this book." We expressed our gratitude to the Archbishop for his assistance and for his support of the Society.

Pontifical Council of Legislative Texts

On Tuesday, May 21, 2013, we were warmly welcomed at the **Pontifical Council of Legislative Texts**, by Cardinal Francesco Coccopalmerio, President, and Reverend Cuong Pham, a priest of the Diocese of Brooklyn and member of the Council's staff. The Cardinal expressed his gratitude and appreciation for the work of the Canon Law Society of America and for the opportunity to meet with us. In response to our questions regarding the status of the revision of Book VI, Cardinal Coccopalmerio noted that there are many complex issues in the revision process and that it is moving forward, albeit slowly. It is critical, he noted, that the review process be conducted carefully. [For a detailed report on this meeting and a photo, click here.](#)

Congregation for the Clergy

Our next meeting on Tuesday, May 21, 2013 was at the offices of the **Congregation for the Clergy** where we were warmly welcomed by the Undersecretary, Monsignor Antonio Neri, and greeted by two members of the CLSA, Reverend Edward Lohse of the Diocese of Erie and Monsignor William Agle from Great Britain. The Prefect and Secretary were away from the office at the time. Monsignor Neri congratulated us and expressed gratitude to the Society for its many contributions.



The Congregation for the Clergy welcomes the CLSA.

Father Lohse and Monsignor Agle met with us for discussion of the topics submitted by the CLSA. Our first questions concerned the Special Faculties granted to the Congregation in January 2009 and a developing jurisprudence around the use of the specific faculties. Monsignor Agle noted that the requests from the United States were few when the Faculties were first granted and that the worldwide use of the Faculties is increasing.

The second topic we addressed was the modification of parishes and Churches. Father Lohse shared with us a copy of an April 30, 2013 letter sent by the Prefect of the Congregation to Diocesan Bishops concerning the modification of parishes and the relegation of Churches to profane use or the simple closure of Churches, and the "Procedural Guidelines for the Modification of Parishes, the Closure or Relegation of Churches to Profane but not Sordid Use, and the Alienation of the Same." Father Lohse gave us permission to publish

the Guidelines in the upcoming edition of *Roman Replies and CLSA Advisory Opinions*. [For a detailed report on this meeting, click here.](#)

On Tuesday afternoon, May 21, 2013, we met at the offices of the **Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith** with Reverend Robert Oliver, Promotor of Justice and a priest of the Archdiocese of Boston, who was joined by Reverend Steven Doktorczyk (Diocese of Orange) and Reverend John Paul Kimes (Diocese of Birmingham). The first topic we discussed was the feasibility of developing regional or stable Tribunals for trial and appellate levels in the United States.

Another topic addressed qualifications the Congregation might recommend for Advocates and Promotors of Justice in penal cases. Father Oliver commended the CLSA for providing helpful training resources through its studies and seminars. We discussed the possibility of utilizing webinars and distance-learning opportunities in the future for such training. [For a detailed report on this meeting, click here.](#)

On Thursday morning, May 23, 2013 we met with several members of the staff of the **Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life**. We were warmly welcomed by Reverend Henry Lemoncelli, OMI, who invited the staff to introduce themselves and indicate their respective areas of responsibility. Reverend Sabastiano Paciolla, O.Cist., Undersecretary of the Congregation, chaired the meeting. Shortly into the discussion, the new Secretary, Archbishop José Rodríguez Carballo, OFM, having just returned from his episcopal ordination in Spain, surprised the staff and joined us for the meeting. We were delighted to have the opportunity to meet him.

Among the topics we discussed were stable patrimony and transactions resulting in the sale of Catholic hospitals, independent public juridic persons, and the challenges associated with this model. The Secretary of the Congregation, Archbishop Carballo, affirmed the good intentions of the boards of the public juridic persons but identified the critical need for ongoing formation for the second generation in the charism of religious life and Catholic identity.



Archbishop Carballo (center) greets the CLSA officers.

On the topic of new groups that present themselves as religious, though not recognized officially, Archbishop Carballo noted that the process for approving new groups seeking recognition requires careful attention and discernment especially regarding their formation. [For a detailed report on this meeting, click here.](#)



The seal of the Roman Rota

Tribunal of the Roman Rota

On Friday, May 24, 2013 we had a lengthy meeting at the **Tribunal of the Roman Rota**. We were welcomed by the Dean, Most Rev. Msgr. Pio Vito Pinto, and introduced to several members of the staff who joined the Dean for our meeting. The Dean expressed gratitude for our request for a meeting and explained how he wants to develop positive relationships with the Canon Law Societies and Episcopal Conferences throughout the world. He also wants the *Rota* to be present to other countries in a helpful manner. In response to the list of topics we submitted for our discussion, the Dean sent us several additional items and invited us to join him and the staff of the *Rota* for a buffet lunch following our meeting.



The staff of the Roman Rota pose with the officers before lunch.

We discussed with the Dean his generous offer to give a seminar at the upcoming 2013 CLSA convention in Sacramento. He presented the title and brief description of the seminar and will repeat the seminar once in order to reach as many attendees as possible. He will be accompanied by a few of the *Rotal* judges. The title of the Dean's seminar is: "Recent Papal Norms and Recent Internal Measures to Ensure Timeliness at the Roman Rota." The seminar will address the competence of the Dean of the *Rota* regarding the solution of marriage *ratum et non consummatum*, recently transferred to the *Rota* from the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments in the *motu proprio Quærit semper*. It will also address the February 11, 2013 rescript from Pope Benedict XVI promulgating the "Extraordinary Faculties" in effect at the *Rota* to ensure that cases are processed and resolved in a timely fashion. We are very pleased that Most Rev. Msgr. Pinto will be with us at our 2013 convention. [For a detailed report on this meeting, click here.](#)



Rooftop conversation among canon law faculty overlooks a scenic view of Rome.

Canon Law Faculties

During our time in Rome we had the opportunity an pleasure to meet with members of the Faculties of Canon Law at the **Pontifical University of the Holy Cross (Santa Croce)**, the **Pontifical**

University of Saint Thomas (Angelicum) and the **Pontifical Gregorian University (Gregoriana)** [For more on meetings at the Schools, click here.](#)

General Audience of Pope Francis

On Wednesday, May 22, 2013 we were privileged to attend the **General Audience of Pope Francis**. The audience was held outside in St. Peter's Square on a beautiful Spring morning in Rome. [For more on the audience, click here.](#)



Overall, the 2013 trip of the CLSA delegation was overwhelmingly positive. We found the meetings to be excellent, informative and we hope mutually beneficial. Our accommodations at the Pontifical North American College were most comfortable and convenient. Msgr. James Checchio and the faculty, staff and students at the seminary were most gracious, welcoming and hospitable. We are grateful to the Society for this opportunity and for the privilege to represent the Society to the Holy See. ♦



Vaughan, Euart, and Brown (left to right) enjoy a small repast.

SANTA CROCE ANNOUNCES FIFTH RENEWAL COURSE

The Pontifical University of Santa Croce has announced its Fifth Renewal Course of Marriage Law and Canonical Procedure, to be held September 16-20, 2013 in Rome. This ongoing program of formation for Tribunal staff will be conducted in Italian, with simultaneous translation in English and Spanish.

“The aim of the fifth edition of the renewal Course is to present to ministers and professionals of the ecclesiastical fora throughout the world the normative principle, doctrinal, and jurisprudential developments which have come to light in recent years surrounding the process of the declaration of matrimonial nullity and other issues pertaining to sectors of tribunal activity. The methodology of this course is practical-theoretical, and is committed to joining the scientific exposition of canonical innovations and the grounds for nullity that often emerge as problematic in ecclesiastical tribunals with the identification, analysis, and discussion of case studies distributed to all participants beforehand.”

For details regarding registration, accommodations and fees, please [click here](#).

NEW MEMBERS

Please join us in welcoming the following new members who have joined the Society since March 2013. If you wish to join the Society, or know someone who would be interested in becoming a member, please visit the ‘Become a Member’ page on our website (www.clsa.org).

Ven. Olajide Adebayo
Lagos, Nigeria

Mr. Christopher Brust
Middletown, CT

Rev. Erik L. Esparza
Hesperia, CA

Rev. Matthew Furguele
Charlevoix, MI

Mr. Stephen Griffin, Jr.
Canton, OH

Mr. Tarsis Jorge, Sr.
Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Rev. Shane L. Kirby
Washington, DC

Mr. Matthew R. Kuettel
St. Paul, MN

Ms. Laura LeFave
Dallas, TX

Mr. Michael P. Lenaghan
Westerville, OH

Mr. William D. Marcum
Scott Depot, WV

Rev. Matthew Morelli
Blairsville, PA

Ms. Rosanne M. Nolan
Laguna Beach, CA

Rev. Aaron P. Nord
Shrewsbury, MO

Rev. Peter J. O’Kane
Derry, Ireland

Mr. Robert Tinney
Chester Heights, PA

Ms. Margaret Toole
Forest Grove, OR

Rev. Daniel Ulishney
Greensburg, PA

Rev. Jamie Workman
McLean, VA

Ms. Brenda H. Young
Pasadena, CA

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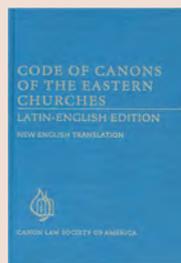
REGIONAL MEETINGS 2013

For more information regarding these Regional Meetings and any other event, please visit our online calendar at www.clsa.org/events.

July 9-10: **Oklahoma/Arkansas Regional Meeting**
Little Rock, AR

Dec. 3-5: **Conference of Chancery and Tribunal Officials (New Orleans, Mobile)**
Biloxi, MS

PUBLICATION OFFERS



Purchase *Eastern Catholics and Latin Pastors*, and receive *The Code of Canons of the Eastern Church* for only **\$10.00***

Purchase the second printing of *The Code of Canon Law, Latin-English Edition* (2012), and receive *The Code of Canons of the Eastern Church* for **FREE** with applicable shipping/handling charges.*

*Available by phone only. Please call (301) 362-8197.

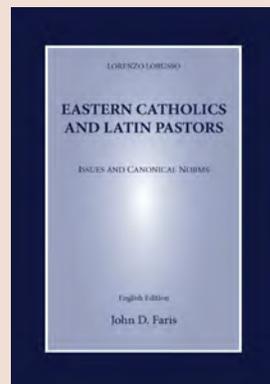
EASTERN CATHOLICS AND LATIN PASTORS

English edition of *Gli Orientali Cattolici e i Pastori Latini*

“Every Latin Chancery should
have and study
this book.”

- Archbishop Cyril J. Vasil
Secretary, Congregation
for Oriental Churches

BUY NOW



CONVENTION UPDATE

*Celebrating 75 Years: Honoring the Past,
Building the Future*

Hyatt Regency Sacramento

October 14-17, Sacramento, CA

**CLICK HERE
FOR THE
2013 CONVENTION PROGRAM**



**REGISTER ONLINE FOR THE
2013 CONVENTION**



MAKE A HOTEL RESERVATION

CALL TO ALL MEMBERS

*Now Accepting Submissions
for Roman Replies and CLSA
Advisory Opinions 2013*

This annual publication continues to be a great service to the Society's membership because of the practical insights and direction it provides. Consider being a part of this year's edition.

If you are a CLSA member who has been researching an interesting canonical question that could also benefit other canonists in interpreting and applying canon law, please consider composing an *Advisory Opinion* for this year's edition. Or, if you have come across a canonical question to which you would like another canonist to respond, submit the question and we will find a member to formulate an *Opinion*.

Have you received a reply from Rome that could be of interest to other canonists, or do you have correspondence from the Roman Curia which could benefit other canonists? Submit these replies for publication in the *Roman Replies* section of this year's edition.

Submissions are sanitized, edited, and formatted to conform to the CLSA style-guide.

Opinions (or questions) and *Replies* should be sent to the Office of the Executive Coordinator at seuart@clsa.org; please submit by July 15, 2013.

CALL FOR RESOLUTIONS

*Submissions Requested by
August 16, 2013*

The Resolutions Committee encourages members to submit resolutions by August 16 for consideration at the 2013 Annual Business Meeting.

Visit www.clsa.org/2013resolution for guidelines and a resolutions form. You may either download, print, and mail a resolution form, or submit your resolution online through our website. **Please note: You must be logged in.**

SPOTLIGHT ON CLSA SCHOLARSHIPS



The Society is pleased to announce the 2013 recipients of the annual Scholarship award: Deacon Daniel J. Laurita, and Mr. M. Ralph Schmidt.

Deacon Laurita hails from Birmingham, Alabama, and is pursuing his licentiate degree at the Catholic University of Leuven in Belgium. Upon completion of his degree, he plans to continue to serve the Diocese of Birmingham in Tribunal ministry.

Mr. Schmidt is from Laurinburg, North Carolina, and is currently enrolled in The School of Canon Law at the Catholic University of America in Washington, DC. He plans to publish in the field of canon law and offer legal counsel upon completion of his degree.

The Society congratulates Deacon Laurita and Mr. Schmidt on their fine work and wishes them well as they continue their education.

As of May 31, 2013, the Society has generated \$6,830.00 through the annual Lenten appeal. We thank you for your generosity!

UPDATES FROM THE OEC

- Dues invoices for fiscal year 2013-2014 will be mailed the last week of June. Dues may be paid online via credit card or by phoning the Office of the Executive Coordinator at (202) 832-2350. Checks, made payable to the Canon Law Society of America, may be remitted to 3025 4th Street NE, Hecker Center Suite 111, Washington, DC 20017.
- Through the generosity of Rev. Augustine Mendonça and with the permission of the Dean of the Roman Rota, we have uploaded twenty Rotal sentences and decrees recently translated into English by Fr. Mendonça. The Rotal sentences are available as free downloads for CLSA members. We are very grateful to Fr. Mendonça for his generosity in providing this valuable resource for our members.

Dear Canon Law Society of America:

I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude for gifting me with the Canon Law Society of America Scholarship for the duration of my studies for Licentiate at Saint Paul University in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada. The Lord has used this scholarship to allow me to attend canon law school. I cannot thank Him and you enough for this opportunity. I have grown in my appreciation for and fascination with the law of the Church over the past two years, as my family and friends can attest.

The past two years at Saint Paul University have been full of great challenges and learning opportunities, possible only through your generosity in awarding me this scholarship. During the past two years, I have been able to take advantage of many learning opportunities in my classes as well as some in addition to my coursework. In Ottawa, my classmates and I visited the Apostolic Nunciature. We also traveled on a Study Trip to Rome in April 2012. My classmates and I spent 10 days in Rome visiting dicasteries of the Roman Curia, truly an unforgettable experience that helped me understand and grow in trust for the many men and women working in Rome assisting our Holy Father in Church governance. In addition to studies, I have attempted to offer my time and gifts to my school through Pastoral Services, Saint Paul Students for Life, and the Saint Paul University Student Association. Finally, my liturgical life has broadened and deepened through Byzantine Catholic liturgies at the Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky Institute for Eastern Christian Studies, another gift from the Lord.

I look forward to serving the Church in whatever way Christ calls upon graduation, so the work of evangelization may continue.

Please keep me in your prayers during my final semester of studies, and you will be in mine.

Sincerely,

Annette Wellman



Annette Wellman (left) is one of four scholarship recipients in Fiscal Year 2012-2013.

Dear Members:

My name is Sarah Lauhead and I am from St. Paul, Minnesota. I have studied at the University of Navarre in Pamplona, Spain the past two school years. My first year I finished the background theology classes required in order to enter the Licentiate in Canon Law program in the 2012-13 academic year. The year of theology classes also helped me hone my Spanish skills, as all classes in the Canon Law department are given in Spanish. I am part of the largest cohort our department has ever had in its 54-year history. We were seventeen students at the beginning of the year, from all corners of the globe – Mexico, Poland, El Salvador, India, Uganda, The Philippines, Brazil, China, and the United States. We started the year with fifteen priests, one layman and one laywoman (myself) and ended the year with thirteen priests, a deacon, and myself.



Lauhead, a third-year canon law student, poses outside of the University of Navarre.

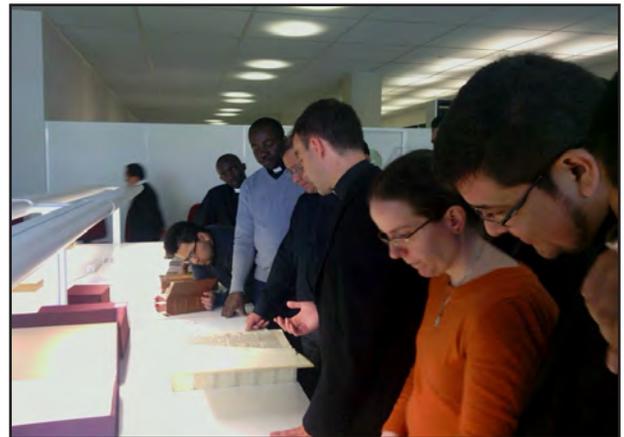
In November, I had the amazing opportunity to attend my department's 10th annual international symposium. This year's topic was "La formación de la voluntad matrimonial: anomalías, patologías, y normalidad" (The Formation of Matrimonial Will: Anomalies, Pathologies, and Normality). Then in February, I had a once in a lifetime experience when now Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI resigned the papal office. As a canonist-in-training, this event was especially unique because it occurred literally the week after our class on Ecclesial Organization covered the topic of papal resignation. I knew from our History of the Sources & Institutions of Canon Law class that a pope hadn't resigned the papacy since Gregory XII in the 15th century. We were all following the election process closely – and living that while studying it made the reality and importance of canon law tangible. In April, our history class went to the library to view old canon law collections and compilations printed in the early 16th century. Some of the collections included: Gratian's Concordia Discordantium Canonum; and the very early collections of Corpus Iuris Canonici: Absolutiss and Academicum; Clementis Quinti Constitutiones; and the Decretales Gregorii IX. Getting a chance to see these collections in person made all the names and dates of the old collections of canon law we had spent the entire year studying more concrete.

Our canon law department teaches canon law in branches, this year was the basics and foundations with Constitutional Canon Law, General Part and Law of the Person (both infelicitous transla-

tions to English), General Administrative Law, Ecclesial Organization, History, Institutions of Roman Law, Philosophy of Natural Law, and, of course, Latin. I learned a lot and earned good grades. I can't wait to start my second year of licentiate work in September. My studies have obviously demanded much dedication, but I have been able to travel a bit during my time in Spain. I was able to slip away to Barcelona in April 2012 to visit the Basilica of the Sagrada Familia. It was breathtaking, an experience that words fail to adequately describe. Over Christmas break this year, I went to Madrid's Puerta del Sol on New Year's Eve to celebrate the arrival of 2013. The tradition is to eat twelve grapes – one for each stroke of the clock – at midnight. I have welcomed the Three Kings "Cabalgata" on Epiphany, watched the processions during Holy Week, and even seen the Running of the Bulls during Sanfermines. I have attended the deaconate ordinations of my classmates on three separate occasions. Experiencing these cultural and religious events has been an important part of my education.

The CLSA scholarship funds were invaluable, appreciated, and an important partnership in my studies. It assisted me to excel in my studies by relieving some of the financial strain. While my classmates have funding because they are all clergy, I depend on the generosity of the CLSA Scholarship to help fund my studies as a layperson.

In the future I would like to work in a Tribunal, especially with the Spanish-speaking faithful, perhaps in my home archdiocese. I would also like to work with the University of Navarre to translate the textbooks that we have the privilege of using which are written in Spanish into English. This would provide a much needed service to both my English-speaking colleagues as well as future English-speaking students attending the University of Navarre. All that's left to say is, "Thank you" to the Canon Law Society of America scholarship donors for your generosity. ♦



Lauhead and classmates visit the University library.



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