

# Canon Law Society of America

September 2013

A quarterly eNewsletter from the Society

## PRESIDENTIAL REFLECTIONS

*Rev. John Vaughan*



Greetings to all my brothers and sisters of the Canon Law Society of America! This is my final newsletter report to you as the president of our esteemed society. Once again I thank you for the confidence placed in me and I express profound gratitude to the Board of Governors with which I have been privileged to work the past two years.

I would like to especially acknowledge those members of the Board who will complete their terms during our up-coming convention. As past-president, Rita Joyce has been a source of solid encouragement and support, and I have relied heavily upon her wise counsel. Father Greg Bittner completes his term as our treasurer. I am sorry that Greg will be unable to attend the convention in Sacramento, but as you will hear at the convention business meeting, we remain on solid financial ground, due in part to Greg's supervision. Father Tom Cronkleton and Dr. Margaret Poll Chalmers are completing their term as consultors. Each of them has brought a unique perspective and experience to the Board and they will be missed by those who remain on the BOG. Thanks to each of you for your friendship and competent service to me and to the Society.

As I thank the outgoing members of the BOG I also want to express my gratitude to those of you who accepted the invitation to serve on one of the various committees of our Society. Please continue to pursue the mandate of your committee and take initiative, so that the work of the Society may flourish. Special thanks to those of you who are completing a term on a committee. I am confident that you will find other ways to engage and participate in our society in the months ahead.

I hope that we will be able to introduce our new Executive Coordinator when we gather in Sacramento, but I would now like to take time to acknowledge the competence, leadership, and dedication of Sr. Sharon Euart, R.S.M. who will complete her time as our Executive Coordinator at the end of the year. I am sure that the presidents who have preceded me in the past five years would agree that we have been able to fulfill our responsibilities only because of Sr. Sharon and the staff who work with her in our Washington office. Sr. Sharon has managed our finances, kept an eye on our pub-

lications, and communicated with committees, the Board of Governors, individual members of the Society, and other organizations in the Church – to name but a few of her many responsibilities. She has accomplished all this with grace and competence and with a smile on her face. On behalf of the Board of Governors and the entire Canon Law Society of America, I thank you, Sharon. Be assured of our prayers as you embark on new ministry in the Church.



*Sr. Sharon Euart, RSM, and Rev. John Vaughan pose at the 74th Annual Convention Banquet in Rosemont, Illinois.*

Finally, I also want to express my thanks to Colleen Crawford and Mary DeBroeck who work with Sr. Sharon in Washington, as well as to Katie Richards, the former administrative assistant to Sr. Sharon.

I look forward to seeing many of you in Sacramento as we celebrate our 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary with our theme "Honoring the Past, Building the Future." I think we have a good program planned and I am confident that those who participate in the convention will be truly blessed. I have been honored to serve as the president of the Society during this Jubilee Year and I look forward to working with Fr. Phillip Brown and the other members of the Board in the year ahead. ♦

### *In this Issue:*

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# CONVENTION UPDATE

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

October 14-17 • Hyatt Regency Sacramento

**REGISTER NOW FOR THE  
2013 CONVENTION**

## HEADING WEST

Sacramento here we come!!! Soon our 75<sup>th</sup> annual convention will be upon us. We have much to look forward to in sunny Sacramento, California. I had the opportunity to visit the site this past July and there really is a lot to get excited about: the hotel is wonderfully equipped and will accommodate us beautifully, the location has a lot of nice areas to stroll around, and the restaurants are plentiful. Couple that with the wonderful slate of presenters that we have again this year and it allows for the possibility of both continued education and continuing fellowship. One big benefit that I found (since I enjoy a good meal out) is that literally right outside the hotel doors are many restaurants and shops. The Convention Center is only a stone's throw away, as is the magnificent Cathedral where we will have our Convention liturgy. I was so impressed with the Cathedral! It is a true work of art. Across the pedestrian walkway from the hotel is an IMAX theatre. It's all here in Sacramento! But the real heart of our convention are the talks and this year we are again thankful to those who have agreed to present. They will, I am sure, allow us to grow in our canonical knowledge so that we can better serve those who approach our Chanceries and Tribunals. I look forward to seeing everyone once again in Sacramento....and if you have not yet registered visit the CLSA website and do so today...you don't want to miss this great opportunity.

*Monsignor Victor F. Finelli, J.C.L.  
National Chairperson*

**2013 CONVENTION PROGRAM**

**MAKE A HOTEL RESERVATION**



*Clockwise, from top left: Meeting space in the Hyatt Regency Sacramento; guest room at the hotel; the state capitol.*

*Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament, Sacramento, CA.*



# RESOLUTION PROPOSALS

*for the 75th Annual Convention of the Canon Law Society of America*

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

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IN SUPPORT OF CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT:

ARTICLE X, 7

PROPOSED BY: Board of Governors

## STATEMENT OF RATIONALE:

**WHEREAS**, the functions of the Resource and Asset Management Committee listed in Article X, 7 of the Constitution of the CLSA are the following:

The functions of the Committee on Resource and Asset Management shall be:

- a. to develop a comprehensive budget for all the activities of the Society and report on the funding available for projects;
- b. to submit the proposed budget for the coming fiscal year to the Board of Governors for approval at its spring meeting;
- c. to conserve, invest and disburse the monies of the Scholarship Fund in accord with the criteria established by the Society;
- d. to select recipients for the CLSA scholarships based on criteria approved by the Board of Governors;
- e. to advise the Treasurer on all matters pertaining to the Society's investments.

**WHEREAS**, the proposed amendment to the Constitution reflects the current practice of the Board of Governors in the selection of scholarship recipients;

**WHEREAS**, the proposed amendment offers broader Board representation in the selection of a scholarship recipient;

## BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Charge of the Committee on Resource and Asset Management as specified in Article X, 7 of the CLSA Constitution be amended as follows: Letter "d" of the charge of the Committee, "To select recipients for the CLSA scholarships based on criteria approved by the Board of Governors" be deleted, the remaining items of the charge be re-lettered in order to be consecutively ordered, and the selection of the recipient or recipients of the CLSA scholarship be assigned as a general duty of the Board of Governors.

## IMPLEMENTATION BY MEANS OF:

Change in the Constitution on the website and it Society materials

## COST:

\$0.00

IN SUPPORT OF A DOCTORAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

PROPOSED BY: Board of Governors

## STATEMENT OF RATIONALE:

**WHEREAS**, there is a need for canonists not just with a licentiate in canon law but also a doctorate in canon law as expressed in the law itself and in order to teach canon law;

**WHEREAS**, the current Scholarship Fund was established to provide scholarships to needy and qualified candidates studying to receive a licentiate in canon law;

## BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Society establish a separate Doctoral Scholarship Fund in addition to the Licentiate Scholarship Fund, in order to provide a one-year scholarship to qualified candidates studying to receive a doctorate in canon law;

## BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Board of Governors will develop scholarship-awarding criteria similar to those in place for the Licentiate Scholarship for the Doctoral Scholarship;

## BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Doctoral Scholarship Fund needs to reach a corpus of \$50,000.00 before it begins disbursing funds and that the amount of the funds available for the scholarships and administration of the program will be up to 5% of the total market value of the Doctoral Scholarship Fund, computed on the basis of a three (3) year rolling quarterly average, as of the December 31<sup>st</sup> immediately preceding the January Board of Governors' meeting;

## BE IT RESOLVED:

That \$50,000.00 be transferred from the Society's general operations investment fund to the Doctoral Scholarship Fund to initiate the Fund;

## BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED :

That undesignated donations given to the Canon Law Society of America Scholarship Programs after December 31, 2013 be divided three-quarters to the Licentiate Scholarship Fund and one-quarter to the Doctoral Scholarship Fund, and that all fund raising allow for donor designation to one or both funds.

## IMPLEMENTATION BY MEANS OF:

Notification on the 2014 Scholarship Fund Appeal letter; information sent to Schools of Canon Law.

# UPDATE FROM THE EXECUTIVE COORDINATOR

Sr. Sharon Euart, RSM



With the 2013 convention “Celebrating 75 Years” only a few weeks away, the Office of the Executive Coordinator is busy finalizing preparations for the meeting. During the summer months Colleen Crawford, Executive Assistant and Mary DeBroeck, Administrative Assistant, and I each enjoyed a week’s vacation in between all the convention details. We look forward to an excellent program and wonderful site for the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary convention.

Registration for the 2013 convention is going well and the pre-convention workshops on “Delicts Against the Faith and Sacraments Reserved to the CDF” and “Choosing an Appropriate Ground of Marriage Nullity” are filling up as well.

Our website continues to serve CLSA members and non-members as a valuable resource. We have noticed a measurable increase in the use of the website for payment of membership dues, convention registrations, purchases from the online bookstore, and new member applications. At the same time, we receive fewer call or questions for technical assistance for use of the website. This is a very positive development as the website becomes an important means for communication with our members. The number of “contact forms” continues to increase with inquiries from individuals requesting information, seeking advocates, resources or answers to canon law questions or general church questions. This section requires monitoring on a daily basis and responses are provided by the website administrators.

Dues collection for 2012-2013 was outstanding! We collected 110% of the budgeted income for renewals and 103% of the budgeted income for new member dues. Thank you! The number of CLSA members continues to increase, both active and associate, especially among civil attorneys. Over the past year we accepted 82 new members representing both U.S. and international active, associate, and student members; since July of this year we have accepted 32 new members, many of whom are JCL students. I am especially pleased with the increase in student membership, an initiative we have worked to increase over the past five years. Currently we have 99 student members: 50 from the Catholic University of America; 19 from St. Paul’s; 20 from the Rome universities; and the remainder from other pontifical universities. Mentoring newer canonists and reaching out to potential CLSA members among canon law students are important and essential means for ensuring the future of the Society. Website activity continues to be a major draw for new members as is the availability of English-language resources.

Speaking of resources, through the generosity of Rev. Gus Mendonça and with the permission of the Dean of the Roman Rota, an English translation of twenty Rotal sentences and decrees, prepared by Fr. Mendonça, are now available for download in the Members Only section of the website. This is a free service to members and one that we believe will be very attractive for potential new members.



Sr. Sharon addresses first year students at Catholic University’s School of Canon Law.

In addition to the website the CLSA Facebook page continues to attract visitors. Thanks to Colleen and Mary, the CLSA has become an active part of social media with increased use of Facebook. With Facebook we are able to bring the latest CLSA news, pictures, and updates to members and non-members alike. For example, during our recent Rome visit, Mary posted frequent updates on our activities with news and pictures which were viewed by more than 300 people. We urge you to go to the CLSA Facebook page, read the messages, view the pictures and “Like us.”

Operationally, we are pleased to report that we had a good year financially due, for example to several factors: increase in dues income; reduction and savings in office expenditures; significantly lower expenses for committees – though several committees took advantage of web-conferencing and conference calls, others committees had less activity this past year; and lower expenses for the auditor/accountant.

The 74<sup>th</sup> convention in Rosemont was very well received by the attendees and the evaluations were overwhelmingly positive especially with regard to the hotel, program, speakers, and the buffet lunches. The very good attendance was attributed to the high level of interest in the theme, topics, speakers and mid-country location.

We are grateful to all who contributed to the Scholarship appeal this year. We collected almost 109% of the budgeted amount for donations. The CLSA scholarship continues to make it possible for students to receive their JCL degrees and be of service to the Church as canon lawyers. Thank you for your generous support! Please see page 5 for a complete list of individuals for whom *in memoriam* donations were made.

I am very grateful for your continued support of the Office of the Executive Coordinator. We are happy to serve you. I look forward to seeing many of you in Sacramento! ♦

## NEW MEMBERS

Please join us in welcoming the following new members who have joined the Society since June 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](http://www.clsa.org)).

Msgr. Jonas Achacoso Sunnyside, NY	Rev. John Molina Charlottetown, PEI, Canada
Mr. Edward C. Andercheck Chesapeake Beach, MD	Rev. Robert Molina Chicago, IL
Mr. Craig Anderson Sioux Falls, SD	Rev. Bosco K. Myint Venezia, Italy
Dcn. John A. Bacon St. John, IN	Rev. Luis G. Navarro Stockton, CA
Rev. Joseph Bellerive Orlando, FL	Rev. Francis T. Nguyen Oklahoma City, OK
Rev. James Bradley London, England	Rev. Jose Opalda, JR Cockeysville, MD
Rev. Barry W. Cuba College Station, TX	Rev. Rafael Pisso-Rivera Silver Spring, MD
Ms. Megan E. Donley Rome, Italy	Rev. Grzegorz Podwysocki Romeoville, IL
Rev. Pedro Espinoza Salinas, CA	Dr. Jaimes Ponce Colorado Springs, CO
Rev. Daniel Good Mobile, AL	Dr. Andrea Ponzzone Boston, MA
Rev. Thomas Kalapurackal Lancaster, England	Mr. Daniel Quinlan Manassas, VA
Rev. Robert J. Kitsmiller Columbus, OH	Dcn. Marco J. Rajkovich, Jr. Lexington, KY
Mr. Mark Kulos Norwich, CT	Dr. H. John Rogers New Martinsville, WV
Rev. Vinh D. Luu New Orleans, LA	Rev. Ronald P. Stake Chicago, IL
Deacon John W. Lyttle Oradell, NJ	Ms. Geri Woodward New Orleans, LA
Mrs. Michele M. McAloon Mobile, AL	
Rev. Abel Mena Cotati, CA	



"Like" us on Facebook to receive CLSA  
announcements and other special offers!

[www.facebook.com/CLSAmerica](http://www.facebook.com/CLSAmerica)

## CCLS SPONSORS WEBINAR SERIES

The Canadian Canon Law Society (CCLS) in cooperation with the Faculty of Canon Law of Saint Paul University is now offering a series of webinars for canonists.

The next webinar will be presented on **October 3, 2013, from 2:00 to 3:00pm EST** by Dr. Chad Glendinning, professor of Canon Law at Saint Paul University. His presentation should interest canonists, liturgists, diocesan administrators, parish priests, and any persons interested in the *forma extraordinaria*. [Click here to learn more.](#)

**Please note that there is a \$15 registration rebate for members of the CCLS, CLSA, CLSGBI and the CLANZ.** The discount code is: CCLS.

Questions or comments regarding the webinars may be directed to the Secretary/Treasurer of the CCLS, Prof. Dr. Michael Nobel at [mnobel@ustpaul.ca](mailto:mnobel@ustpaul.ca). ♦

Trying to log in to the website,  
but forgot your password?  
Click here to reset it!

### IN MEMORIAM

#### *Scholarship Donations*

*Rev. Dennis Burns*  
*Mr. John P. (Jack) Beal, II*  
*Dcn. Roger Birkeland*  
*Mary & Joseph Charnoki*  
*Mr. & Mrs. R. J. Ferguson*  
*Msgr. Sidney J. Marceaux*  
*Rev. Joseph Morrell*  
*Rev. Kevin O'Rourke, OP*  
*Rev. James Provost*  
*Rev. Nathaniel Reeves, OSB*  
*Rev. Fred Sackett, OMI*  
*Ms. Linda Weigel*

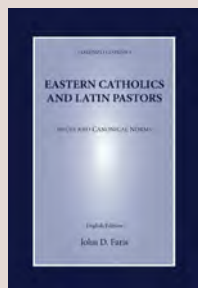
MAY THEY REST IN GOD'S PEACE

## PUBLICATION UPDATES

### 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**

### THREE DAYS ONLY

October 14-October 16

Special Promotional Code  
Available to  
Convention Attendees

An exclusive publication discount will be advertised  
and honored at the 2013 Convention in Sacramento.  
Visit the CLSA Exhibit table for more details.

## COMING SOON...

### Roman Replies and CLSA Advisory Opinions 2013

Sharon A. Ewart, RSM  
John A. Alejandro  
Thomas J. Green  
Editors

*Roman Replies and CLSA  
Advisory Opinions 2013* will  
be available for purchase  
from the online bookstore  
in early October.

Member Price: \$15.30  
Non-Member Price: \$17.00

## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

For the latest updates about job openings in the field of canon law, please visit the [CLSA Employment Page](#). Tribunals and other interested parties may contact [ccrawford@clsa.org](mailto:ccrawford@clsa.org) for details regarding advertisement and posting of available positions.

### REGIONAL MEETINGS 2013-2014

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

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

May 5-7: **Midwest Canon Law Conference**  
Cleveland, OH

May 5-8: **Northwest Regional Meeting**  
Seattle, WA

May 6-8: **Eastern Regional Conference**  
Baltimore, MD

## CALL TO MEMBERS

### FY 2013-2014 DUES REMINDER

Dues statements for fiscal year 2013-2014 were mailed from the CLSA administrative office in late June. Individuals who have not yet renewed their memberships may do so by [logging on to the CLSA website](#) and remitting payment via credit card, or by mailing a check to the Office of the Executive Coordinator. Credit card payments can also be processed by phone, (202) 832-2350.

Members: Please remember to keep your mailing addresses current and up-to-date, as they are used for dues renewal, the scholarship appeal, and mailing of annual *Proceedings*. To remain in good standing and assure receipt of the quarterly eNewsletter, as well as access to the “Members Only” section of the website, please submit dues by **October 1, 2013**.

If you have not received a dues statement in hard copy, or if you have any questions regarding remittance, please contact [ccrawford@clsa.org](mailto:ccrawford@clsa.org). Thank you!