

Canon Law Society of America

June 2017

A quarterly eNewsletter from the Society

ONLINE REGISTRATION FOR THE 2017 CLSA CONVENTION IS OPEN!

WORKSHOPS TACKLE MITIS IUDEX AND PSYCHOLOGICAL EXPERTS; ADVOCACY AND RIGHT OF DEFENSE

The Canon Law Society is pleased to announce two 2017 Pre-Convention Workshops, scheduled for Sunday, October 15, 2017 through Monday morning, October 16, 2017. Offering an intensive, day-and-a-half exploration of their content, the workshops' generous time allowance lends itself to detailed study and in-depth group discussion. Workshops are held concurrently, so please note that Pre-Convention participants may select only one.

This October, Dr. Gerald T. Jorgensen, CLSA member and Judge/Consulting Psychologist for the Metropolitan Tribunal of the Archdiocese of Dubuque, joins Dr. Lee Kneipp, a Clinical Psychologist, Assessor, and Expert Witness for the Tribunal of the Diocese of Alexandria, in leading a workshop on "Mitis Iudex, Dignitas Connubii, and the Use of Psychological Experts." The workshop will address canonical and psychological issues related to the use of experts, with an emphasis on practical issues. Presenters will explore Canon 1678, §§ 1 and 3, the use of psychological experts as set forth in *Dignitas Connubii* and in the briefer matrimonial process before the bishop, and the obligations of the expert before the judge. The workshop will also offer a brief overview of personality disorders and matrimonial consent, and attendees will consider recent rotal cases and important interview techniques.

Reverend Daniel Smilanic and Msgr. Frederick Easton will lead a second workshop, sponsored by the CLSA Committee on Clergy, on "Advocacy and the Right of Defense: In Service of Justice and Truth." They will be joined by Reverend Robert J. Geisinger, Promoter of Justice of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, and Keynote Speaker for the 2017 CLSA Convention. The workshop will examine the role of the advocate, including the preliminary investigation,

protecting the rights of the accused, and associated topics. The workshop will be held as a panel, wherein speakers will share their comments and experiences, and participants will be able to ask questions.

As in years past, the workshops immediately precede the General Convention, and registration fees include continental breakfast, coffee breaks, a reception, and other networking opportunities. Participants who register before September 8, 2017, are eligible for a \$50.00 discount off the registration rate of \$325.00. ♦

PRE-CONVENTION FAQs

When should I arrive?

The workshops begin at approximately 9:00 a.m. on Sunday, October 15, 2017. If you are traveling from a distance, plan to arrive on Saturday, October 14. Pre-Convention Registration opens on Saturday evening (in close proximity to the main Convention ballroom), and workshop materials are distributed at that time.

What is the Pre-Convention schedule?

Presentations vary year to year, and most speakers will provide a tailored schedule on-site. Plan to be in session between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, and 9:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. on Monday. Click [here](#) for an estimated schedule.

How do I register for the Pre-Convention only?

Click to register for [Workshop One](#) or [Workshop Two](#), and "add" your preferred workshop to the CLSA shopping cart. Individuals who plan to attend the General Convention may select a Pre-Convention workshop as an optional ticket during the standard [Convention registration](#) process.

What if a third party is remitting payment for me?

Please [download a hard copy of the registration form](#), and mail it with a check to the CLSA Administrative Office.

In this Issue:

- ♦ Explore the 2017 Convention ([page 2](#))
- ♦ Read Rev. Roger Keeler's Final Reflection ([page 5](#))

2017 CONVENTION UPDATE

Mercy, Justice, and the Law: In the Spirit of the Jubilee Year of Mercy

◆ *The Westin Indianapolis* ◆

October 16-19, 2017 ◆ *Indianapolis, IN*

WE'RE COMING, INDIANAPOLIS!

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

Before you know it, the summer will be over, and we'll be looking forward to the 79th Annual Convention, this year being held in the great city of Indianapolis, Indiana from October 16-19th. This past May, I, as well as Fr. Keeler and Colleen Crawford, visited Indianapolis to finalize many of the preparations for our visit. As it was my first visit to Indy, I was thoroughly impressed with the city and the people. I think we have much to look forward to in Indy. Here are some brief highlights:

- The Westin, our hotel for the week, couldn't have been any more accommodating to our needs and requests. The hotel and the meeting space are really nice and very well maintained. It should allow us to have a great venue for our meetings as well as our social gatherings...plus they have a Shula's Restaurant right in the hotel! Can't beat that.
- The Convention Liturgy will be in the Church just steps away from the Westin. It's a beautiful, gothic-style Church, which will more than adequately meet our needs and allow us to have an inspiring liturgy.
- I know that many like to go out and dine each evening (as do I!). Well, this is the town for that. There are quite a few great restaurants right around the hotel or within walking distance. Others are a short cab ride away. You won't be disappointed in the eateries, from fine dining to "pick-up and go." For those who like something informal and quick, there's a great food court in the mall right near the Westin.
- We're fortunate to be working with members of the Archdiocesan Tribunal who have been nothing but eager and willing to help make this year's Convention a great success. We are so appreciative of their assistance.

That gives you just a brief overview of good things to come. Combine that with top-notch presentations, networking with new and old friends, and you have what it takes to have a great week and a great convention. I look forward to seeing everyone in Indianapolis, and until then, I wish everyone a relaxful summer. ◆

Review Detailed Seminar Offerings

Download a Printable Registration Form

Register for the Convention Online

REGISTRATION FEES

	<i>Before 9/8</i>	<i>After 9/8</i>
Active/Assoc. Members:	\$400	\$450
Student Members:	\$325	\$375
Non-Members:	\$450	\$500

Book a Hotel Room

The 2017 Convention will be held at the Westin Indianapolis, 241 W. Washington St., Indianapolis, IN 46204. The room rates for attendees are as follows: **\$149.00/night** for single and double occupancy; **\$169.00/night** for triple occupancy; or **\$189.00/night** for quadruple occupancy. Pending room availability, **the rate is available until September 22, 2017**. Rates do not include applicable state and local taxes. Guests may check-in at 3:00pm, and check-out is at 12:00pm.

To make a reservation by phone, please call (800) 228-3000 and ask for the Canon Law Convention rate. [Book online here.](#)

***Please note:** Convention brochures will be mailed to Members as usual, and will contain finalized details about the conference, as well as information about the Active Members running for Office.

2017 CLSA Convention Schedule (Condensed)

Monday, October 16, 2017

- 1pm Registration Begins and Exhibits Open
- 4pm Opening Prayer and Welcome
Remarks: Most Reverend Charles Thompson, Archbishop-Designate of Indianapolis
- 4:30pm Keynote Address
Fifteen Years After the Dallas Charter and Essential Norms: State of the Question
Reverend Robert J. Geisinger, SJ, JCD
- 6pm Opening Reception

Tuesday, October 17, 2017

- 7:30am Liturgy for the Deceased Members of the CLSA
- 8am Continental Breakfast
- 9am Seminars**
- A1. Insufficient Faith Leading to Simulation and Error**
Most Rev. Msgr. Kenneth Boccafola, JCD
- A2. Raking the Embers, to Extinguish or Start a Fire: Some Thoughts on the Possibilities for the Future of Apostolic Religious Institutes**
Sr. Maria Casey, RSJ, JCD
- A3. The Theory and Practice of Adjudicating Delicts Against the Sacrament of Penance**
Rev. Msgr. Ronny E. Jenkins, JCD
- A4. Called to Be a Missionary Church**
Rev. Ricardo Martin, JCL
- 10:30am Coffee and Tea Break
- 11:00am Seminars**
- B1. Religious Sponsors, Ministry Leaders and Diocesan Bishops: Together in Communion**
Sr. Sharon Euart, RSM, JCD
- B2. Towards the Implementation of Article 14: Some Exegetical Considerations**
Rev. Msgr. John G. Johnson, JCD
- B3. Social Media and its Relationship to *Communio***
Mr. Matthew Palmer
- B4. Reception into Full Communion with the Catholic Church of Those in Irregular Marriages: Pastoral Realities and a Canonical Solution**
Rev. Msgr. Michael A. Souckar, JCD

12:30pm Buffet Lunch

1:30pm Candidate Forum

2:30pm Seminars

- C1. Silver and Gold We Have Not: Balancing Conflicting Values in Diocesan Bankruptcy**
Barbara Anne Cusack, JCD

- C2. Harmony and Solicitude: Recent Canonical Changes and the Catholic Eastern Churches**
Rev. Alexander M. Laschuk, JCD
- C3. Pastoral & Canonical Considerations in Causes of Canonization**
Jeannine Marino, JCL
- C4. Structural Reorganization of Metropolitan Tribunal and Approval Process**
Very Rev. Joseph L. Newton, JCL

4pm Break

4:30pm Budget Report & Open Hearing on Resolutions

6pm Alumni Receptions

Wednesday, October 18, 2017

- 8am Continental Breakfast
- 9am Major Address
Mercy, Justice, and Law in Francis's Interpretation of Vatican II
Massimo Faggioli, Ph.D.
- 10:30am Coffee and Tea Break
- 11am Seventy-Ninth Annual Business Meeting
- 12:30pm Lunch (*on your own*)
- 1:30pm Second Instance Judicial Vicars' Meeting
Chancellors' Meeting (*Locations TBD*)

2:30pm Seminars

- D1. When the Tribunal is Not an Option, Is There Another?**
Rev. John Beal, JCD
- D2. Current Priestly Formation: *Status quaestionis***
Rev. Robert Kaslyn, SJ, JCD
- D3. The Ordinariate of the Chair of Saint Peter: An Update of Canonical Issues**
Most Rev. Steven J. Lopes, STD
- D4. Diocesan Administration *Sede Vacante*: Practical Principles and Questions**
Rev. Aaron Nord, JCD

5pm Liturgy and Installation of Board of Governors

6:30pm Reception (cash bar)

7:30pm Banquet Dinner

Thursday, October 19, 2017

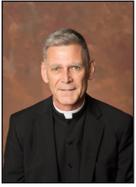
7:30am Liturgy

8am Continental Breakfast

9am Major Address (Panel: *Mitis Iudex*, Two Years On)

10:30am Closing Remarks

FROM THE DESK OF THE EXECUTIVE COORDINATOR



Rev. Roger H. Keeler

After several months of conversation with colleagues and friends, I informed the Board of Governors at its January meeting that I would not be renewing my contract with the Society when it expires on the 1st of August.

It was not an easy decision!

My three years in Washington have been very rich, indeed. I have grown to appreciate the nations' capital and all it has to offer, historically, culturally, and in the proximity to that which impacts both our work as a Society and the mission of the Church around the world.

I have become deeply attached to the community of seminarians and their formation team at Theological College, my home on Michigan Avenue. I am grateful to Father Phillip Brown, *p.s.s.*, our Past-President, for making that available to me.

It has been a joy to serve the People of God at Annunciation Parish on Embassy Row, where I have made many friends. I am indebted to former Board Consultor, Monsignor Charles Antonicelli, for welcoming me there.

It has been a tremendous privilege to work with the Board of Governors as they have sought to steer the activities of the Society with energy, conviction and vision. Past-Presidents Father Phillip Brown, *p.s.s.*, Monsignor Michael Soucar, Father Manuel Viera, OFM, and our current President, Father Bruce Miller, have all been encouraging, supportive and thoroughly dedicated in their leadership. I very much enjoyed collaborating with them.

I have been overwhelmed by the wealth of experience, depth of insight, and sheer magnanimity of our world-wide membership. Meeting so many of you is a lasting gift. The work being done by Society committees is not only fruitful, it has enormous potential going forward.

Mary DeBroeck, Renae Kuettel, Danielle Keith and Renee Nida have, each in their turn, made a solid contribution to the work of the office. My only sadness is that there has not been more time to serve with each of them.

Colleen Crawford is a stalwart and thoroughly professional presence in the Office of the Executive Coordinator. Rarely does one meet the combination of integrity, graciousness, and determination found in her: she will be superb in her new role!

Much has been accomplished these past three years, from moving into a newly renovated office space, to acquiring the technology needed to face future needs with confidence, to seeing how the Office of the Executive Coordinator might function in new ways. Yet there is a great deal yet to be done: the third printing of the Code; exploring the possibilities for a fully interactive electronic version of that text; evaluating our warehousing and distribution needs; making out-of-print editions widely available; addressing publications and new possibilities for ongoing education of canonists; increased collaboration with "Sister Societies" around the globe and with those whose mission it is to further the work of building the Reign of God.

My horizons have been expanded in ways I could never have imagined. Chief among them was the reception Father Bruce Miller, Monsignor John Foster, and I received during our biennial visit to the Holy See in late April and early May of this year. I was continually astonished during those meetings as we sat with cardinals, deans and those who minister with them. Over and over again we asked for our observations, opinions and ideas. On more than one occasion the Society was invited to offer input, suggestions and strategies. I came away with a sense of newfound confidence and assurance that the Canon Law Society of America is a valued, respected and dynamic player on the ecclesiastical stage. I couldn't help but remembering what Pope Francis said in our 2015 meeting with him: "Thank you to all of the Society for what you do. The Church needs you!"

I return to the classroom and relative calm of academic life in San Antonio with a profound sense of gratitude for the privilege of serving the Society these past three years. I echo here what I said at the 2014 Convention in St. Louis: these are indeed interesting, fascinating, oftentimes troubling, and certainly complex times for the Church. However, I believe the Canon Law Society of America is singularly well situated and prepared to study, explore, propose, and actively engage the hard work of assisting the Church in the years ahead.

With the promise of prayers ~

Fr. Roger Keeler ♦

REGIONAL MEETINGS 2017

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

Aug 1-2

Oklahoma City Province Meeting
Tulsa, OK

Planning a regional meeting? Email ccrawford@clsa.org to advertise your upcoming event.

CALL FOR RESOLUTIONS

*Submissions Requested by
August 15, 2017*

The Resolutions Committee encourages members to submit resolutions by August 15 for consideration at the 2017 Annual Business Meeting. Please visit www.clsa.org/2017resolutions for guidelines and a resolution 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 with member credentials to access the Resolutions page.*

All proposed resolutions are subject to review by the Resolutions Committee, chaired by Mr. Timothy Olson of the Diocese of Fargo, North Dakota. Clarifications, modifications, and amendments may also be made to the resolution by CLSA members, with the approval of the author(s), at the Resolutions Hearing (October 17, 2017) and the Annual Business Meeting (October 18, 2017). ♦

PUBLICATION UPDATE

Look for an electronic bulletin, announcing pertinent publication updates – including additions to the new Research Database, and new books for sale – in July!

NEW MEMBERS

Please join us in welcoming the following new members who have joined the Society since March 2017. 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).

Anna Ameno
Buffalo, NY

Rev. Clyde Muropa, SJ
Ottawa, ON, Canada

Michael Mazza
Brookfield, WI

Forgot your password for the
CLSA website? Click to reset it!

MEMBER INVOICING UPDATE

Dues invoices have been mailed for the 2017-2018 fiscal year. As a reminder, membership renewal is \$250.00 for active and associate members, and \$125.00 for student members.

Dues may be paid online via credit card: To navigate to the payment page, select "Membership" (in the "Manage Profile" section), and locate the open invoice. You may also phone the Office of the Executive Coordinator at (202) 832-2350.

Checks, made payable to the Canon Law Society of America, should be remitted to the **new administrative address**, 415 Michigan Avenue NE, Suite 101, Washington, DC 20017-4502.

As a reminder, if you are a recent graduate of a School of Canon Law, please contact the Office of the Executive Coordinator. Your membership status will be upgraded to "Active" and your graduation date and degree will be acknowledged on your member profile. This is particularly important if you wish to vote in the 2017 Annual Business Meeting.

Thank you!

BIENNIAL ROME VISIT 2017: RECAP

The first five reports from the 2017 biennial trip to Rome, conducted by Rev. Bruce Miller (President), Msgr. John J.M. Foster (Vice President/President-Elect), and Rev. Roger Keeler (Executive Coordinator), are now available as downloads in the "[Members Only](#)" section of the CLSA website.

Reports are currently available for visits and engagements at the following dicasteries and universities:

- Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith
- Pontifical Commission for the Protection of Minors
- Pontifical Gregorian University
- Pontifical University Antonianum
- Pontifical University of Saint Thomas Aquinas

Reports will be uploaded as they are approved by the respective dicasteries. To begin reading reports, [please click here](#), and if prompted, enter member credentials.