

CHURCH REPORTER

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Newsletter for the English-speaking members and friends of the Church Law Society
Prague – Brno – Olomouc – Stříbro – České Budějovice.

15th August 2023 | Volume 8
English version





Local group in Brno

Church and State Conference 2023 in Brno

On Thursday, 7th September 2023, the 29th Church and State international conference will be held in the Faculty of Law of Masaryk University at 70, Veveří Street, Brno. This year's edition is devoted to two topics: canon criminal law and recent amendments to it and legal aspects of conscientious objection.

The conference is being organised by the Department of Constitutional Law and Political Science at the Faculty of Law, Masaryk University, and the Church Law Society.

Registration for anyone interested in presenting a paper is open until 31st August 2023 in the Masaryk University conference system: <http://cirkevastat.law.muni.cz/content/cs/zakladni-informace/>.



Local group in Prague

From the editorial mail

On 13th July 2023, we received the following letter:

Dear Rajmund and colleagues,

to my total surprise, almost disbelief at first, I see the generous and flattering items in the latest issue as I approach my 75th birthday. This sign of friendship honours me far beyond my merits, and I receive it with heartfelt gratitude and a renewed commitment to furthering the study and application of canon law.

For many years I have come to consider canon law as applied ecclesiology, and so I hope I have contributed something to expressing juridically the love I have for the Church and her God-given and Christ-centred mission.

With sincere gratitude and a continuing sense of total surprise, I keep you and your valuable work in my prayers.

Robert Ombres OP
Blackfriars Hall, Oxford



Martin David appointed Bishop of Ostrava-Opava

The Roman Catholic Diocese of Ostrava-Opava [Latin: Ostravien(sis)-Opavien(sis)] is a suffragan Latin diocese in the Ecclesiastical province of the Archdiocese of Olomouc in Moravia and Silesia, Czech Republic. It is the youngest and the eighth diocese in the territory of the Czech Bishops' Conference, one of two dioceses that were established by the Pope following the democratic revolution in Czechoslovakia in 1989. It was preceded by the Diocese of Pilsen, in the Ecclesiastical province of the Archdiocese of Prague (1993).

The diocese of Ostrava-Opava was established by the Bull of John Paul II *Ad Christifidelium spirituali* of 30th May 1996 and was separated from the existing Archdiocese of Olomouc to include the entire historical land of Silesia in the Czech lands with its capital Opava and a small part of north-eastern Moravia, which includes most of Ostrava, the second largest town in Moravia. The seats of the bishop in this new diocese are the Cathedral of the Divine Saviour in Moravská Ostrava and the Co-Cathedral of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary in Opava.

The first bishop was Mons. František Václav Lobkowicz OPraem (1996–2022). On 4th July 2023, Mons. Martin David (pictured below) became the second bishop.



He was born on 15th August 1970 in Čeladná in the Diocese of Ostrava-Opava. After completing his military service, he studied at the Sts Cyril and Methodius Faculty of Theology at Palacký University in Olomouc. He was ordained a priest on 24th June 2000 and was incardinated into the Diocese of Ostrava-Opava.

Firstly, he was vicar in the Co-Cathedral of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary in Opava (2000–2002) and in the following years was parish administrator and parish priest in two places. From 2008, he was appointed general vicar and in 2017 titular bishop of Thucca in Numidia and auxiliary bishop of the Diocese of Ostrava-Opava. On 1st June 2020, he was appointed Apostolic Administrator *sede plena* of the Diocese of Ostrava-Opava and on 21st February 2022 Apostolic Administrator *sede vacante* of the same diocese. He is chairman of the Liturgical Commission of the Czech Bishops' Conference.

We wish Bishop Martin David God's protection, good health and lots of success in his pastoral care, so that in the eyes of the Most High he may be a shepherd according to His Heart.

Jiří Rajmund Tretera

Consociatio Internationalis Studio Iuris Canonici Promovendo celebrates 50 years

On Friday, 1st December 2023, in the Marconi Hall of the National Research Council in Rome¹ there will be a celebration to mark the 50th anniversary of the organisation *Consociatio Internationalis Studio Iuris Canonici Promovendo*, which is a leading scholarly institution, whose mission is to broaden and deepen knowledge of church and religion law throughout the world.

The programme for this day of celebration, entitled *Cinquant'anni di promozione del diritto canonico nel panorama mondiale della scienza giuridica* (Fifty years of promoting canon law in the world panorama of legal science) will be divided into two parts. The morning section will be called *The cultural adventures of Consociatio Internationalis Studio Iuris Canonici Promovendo*. The afternoon part will be devoted to the topic of *Canon law in the formation of a contemporary lawyer*.

The detailed programme is available on the following link: <https://consociatio2.files.wordpress.com/2023/07/invito-50c2b0-consociatio.pdf>.

If you are interested in taking part, write to the following address: 50mo@consociatio.org.

German/Austrian Canon Law Conference 2024 is being prepared

Dear experts and friends of canon law,

I am pleased to inform you about the **German/Austrian Canon Law Conference 2024**.

Topic: *Challenges for leadership responsibility in the Church. The current need for action and potential for development.*

Date: **19th – 21st February 2024**

Venue: **Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich**

We hope the conference will be of interest to you and kindly ask you to save the date. More detailed information and registration modalities will be given in due course.

Yours sincerely,

Burkhard Berkmann

¹ Address: Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche – Sala Marconi, Piazzale Aldo Moro, 7 – Roma, Italia.

Associazione Canonistica Italiana (ASCAI) invites you to its 53rd national congress

The theme of the four-day conference organised by ASCAI, which will be held on 4th – 7th September 2023 in Ascoli Piceno, will be *Procedural dynamics in the preparatory phase of canonical proceedings (Le dinamiche processuali nella fase istruttoria del giudizio canonico)*.

The detailed programme of lectures can be found here: <https://consociatio2.files.wordpress.com/2023/06/locandina-congresso.pdf>.

You can register on the ASCAI website: <https://www.ascait.org/53mo-congresso-nazionale-ascai/>.

From New Publications

LOZANO, Rafael Palomino, LARA, Belén Rodrigo (eds.), *Cultura, identidad, religión y derecho: una perspectiva interdisciplinar*, LIRCE – Instituto para el Análisis de la Libertad y la Identidad Religiosa, Cultural y Ética, Madrid, 2023, ISBN 978-84-340-2930-9.

VELASCO, Silvia Meseguer, GUTIÉRREZ, María Domingo, *Dignidad humana, derecho y diversidad religiosa*, LIRCE – Instituto para el Análisis de la Libertad y la Identidad Religiosa, Cultural y Ética, Madrid, 2023, ISBN 978-84-340-2938-5.

Journals, periodicals

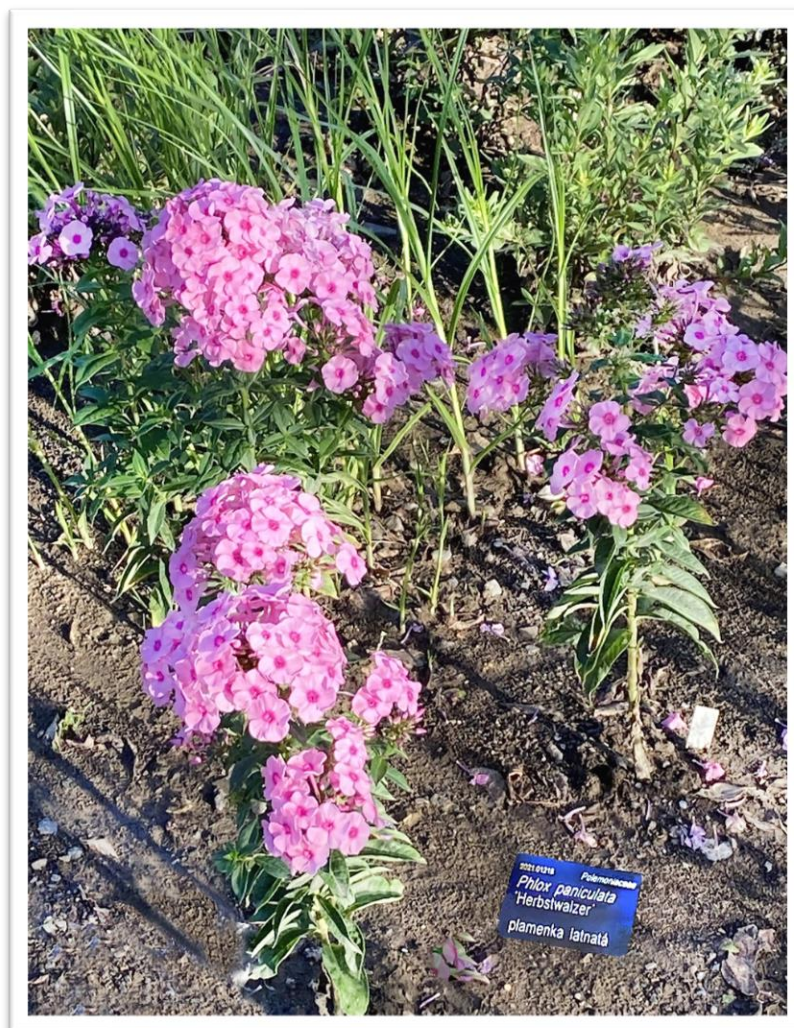
Folia Theologica et Canonica, Szent István Társulat, Budapest, ISSN 2063-9635, No. XI (33/25), 2022,

including:

ERDŐ, Péter, *L'Esperienza canonica per l'amministrazione di una diocesi*, pp. 111–126,

JOVICIC, Goran, *Mandatory reporting legislation and the seal of confession in light of the prevention of child abuse and religious freedom – Part II*, pp. 127–147,

SZUROMI, Anzelm Szabolcs, *Justice and mercy from the perspective of canon law*, pp. 149–160.



3rd August 2023: Prague Botanical Gardens, Prague-Troja.

Photo Záboj Horák

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Photo on the front page: 26th July 2023, the suburban camp for children in the former vicarage in the village of Tuklaty near Prague, which is run by the Ignisio society: Jiří Rajmund Tretera, Zuzana Dorážková and Tomáš Grundza and the children who wanted to have their picture taken.

Photo Záboj Horák

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