



# NEWSLETTER

## CHURCH LAW SOCIETY

### *PRAGUE – BRNO – OLOMOUC*

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### **International Canon Law Symposium in Slovakia**

Slovak Canon Law Society organizes the 18<sup>th</sup> symposium at the seminary in Spišské Podhradie (Eastern Slovakia), the seat of the Diocese of Spiš, from 22<sup>nd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> August 2016. The tradition to arrange a symposium primarily focused on matrimonial and procedural canon law was established in 1991. Symposia took place annually during the first decade of their existence, nowadays, they are organized biennially. As usual, foreign participants, especially from the Czech Republic, as well as many representatives of eight Slovakian Latin Rite Catholic dioceses, three Byzantine Rite Catholic dioceses and numerous Slovakian universities are expected to attend.



*Saint Martin's Cathedral  
in Spišské Podhradie.*

*Photo Diocese of Spiš*

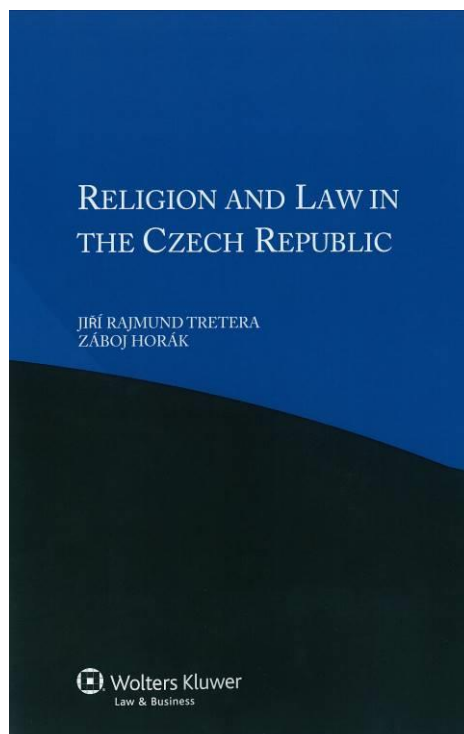
The first two days of the symposium will be dedicated to revision of a matrimonial nullity process as a consequence of publication of the motu proprio *Mitis Iudex Dominus Iesus*. Judges of the Roman Rota Miroslav Konštanc Adam OP and Mons. Grzegorz Erlebach as well as Mons. Giuliano Brugnotto and Mons. Benedict Ndubueze Ejeh, representatives of the School of Canon Law in Venice, will deliver lectures on the above mentioned topic.

Then the symposium will focus on regulation prescribed by the Holy See concerning protection of minors in the Church. A lecture will be delivered by Mons. Robert Oliver, secretary of the Pontifical Commission for the Protection of Minors. On the same day, Mons. Andriy Tanasiyuk (Ukraine) will discourse on synodality in the Major Archdiocese of Kiev–Galicia and Mons. Karel Orlita, judicial vicar in Brno (Czech Republic), will deliver a lecture on the status of defender of the bond in contemporary matrimonial process.

Judicial vicars will present their speeches on the last day of the symposium.

### **Extended *Religion and Law in the Czech Republic* Issue Prepared**

Publication *Religion and Law in the Czech Republic*, issued in 2014 by Wolters Kluwer publishing house in Alphen aan den Rijn as a part of the International Encyclopaedia of Laws, Religion series, corresponded with situation on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2013. Both authors Professor Jiří Rajmund Tretera and Associate Professor Záboj Horák updated the text in order to include changes of legal regulation until 30<sup>th</sup> June 2016 according to the publisher's request. The updated book will be published online soon.



## Bishop Mons. Tomáš Holub Elevated to Colonel

Mons. Tomáš Holub, recently ordained diocesan bishop of Plzeň (Pilsen), lieutenant colonel (reservist) of the Army of the Czech Republic, was elevated to colonel on 8<sup>th</sup> May 2016. He was elevated by General of the Army Josef Bečvář, Chief of the General Staff. Ceremonial act took place at the seat of the General Staff of the Army of the Czech Republic in Prague on 7<sup>th</sup> June 2016. Colonel Jaroslav Knichal, contemporary Chief Chaplain of the Army, as well as other representatives were present.

In 1996, Mons. Holub became the first chaplain of the Czech Army in modern history under the IFOR/SFOR assistance forces in the former Yugoslavia. He was the first Chief Chaplain of the Chaplaincy of the Armed Forces of the Czech Republic from 1998 to 2006, which was re-established after more than 50 years. Mons. Holub became exceptionally popular among soldiers and significantly contributed to the fact that army officials changed their opinion on chaplaincy. Then, Mons. Holub was vicar general in the Diocese of Hradec Králové (Eastern Bohemia) and general secretary of the Czech Bishops' Conference.



*From the right: General of the Army Josef Bečvář and Mons. Tomáš Holub, bishop of Plzeň. On the picture in the background is the French general Maurice César Joseph Pellé, Chief of the General Staff of Czechoslovakia (1919–1921).*

*Photo major Vlastimila Cyprisová, Communication Department, General Staff of the Army of the Czech Republic*

## **Church Law Review Takes Fifth Place in Best Legal Journal Competition**

The Society of Czech, German, Slovak and Austrian Lawyers *Karlovarské právnické dny* (Karlsbader Juristentage) organized annual competition for the best scientific legal journal published in the Czech Republic and Slovakia at the occasion of its XXIV<sup>th</sup> congress in June. The results of the competition were announced during the festive banquet at Imperial Hotel in Karlovy Vary on 17<sup>th</sup> June 2016. The Church Law Review took the fifth place among 32 competing journals from the Czech Republic and Slovakia. We would like to express our thanks to anyone who voted for the Review.

## **Second Issue of the Church Law Review Distributed**

The Church Law Review No. 64–2/2016 was distributed among members of the Society and subscribers on 21<sup>st</sup> June 2016. It reached record extent of 160 pages. Nine hundred copies were printed.

## **Mons. Tomáš Halík Received An Honorary Doctorate from Oxford University**

On 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2016, Czech philosopher and theologian Tomáš Halík from Prague, laureate of the Templeton Prize, received the honorary degree of the Doctor of Divinity from the Oxford University. Mons. Tomáš Halík is the president of the Czech Christian Academy, professor of the School of Arts of the Charles University in Prague, and priest of the parish established to serve university students and staff in the Archdiocese of Prague. He is also an honorary member of the Church Law Society.

## **Fifteenth International Congress of Medieval Canon Law**

The 15<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Medieval Canon Law takes place from 17<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>th</sup> July 2016 at the University Panthéon–Assas (Paris II). The schedule of the congress is available on the website [www.icmcl2016.org/lib/exe/fetch.php?media=fr:programme\\_29\\_juin\\_2016.pdf](http://www.icmcl2016.org/lib/exe/fetch.php?media=fr:programme_29_juin_2016.pdf).

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