

## From the Church Law Society

### **The 71<sup>st</sup> Evening Event of the Church Law Society in Prague: Celebratory Presentation of New Publications**

The 71<sup>st</sup> Evening Event, organized by the Church Law Society in the series *Law in the Society and the Church*, took place on Monday, 23 March 2015, in the baroque refectory of the Dominican St. Gill Monastery in the Prague Old Town. The Evening Events are open to the public and have been organized in Prague several times a year since the fall of 1994.

Among the more than 45 attendees were representatives of all generations of the faculty of the Law School of Charles University in Prague, a number of students from the Law School, and members of the Church Law Society from Prague and from other locations in Bohemia, Moravia, and Silesia. Among the guests were a representative of the Metropolitan Capitula in Prague, an attorney who is the director of the Summer School of American law in Washington, D.C., and other supporters of the Church Law Society.

The evening began at 5 pm with an opening introduction by P. Professor JUDr. Jiří Rajmund Tretera OP, the moderator of the Event and the Chairman of the Church Law Society. He welcomed the guests and introduced the music portion of the program – a classical guitar performance by Štěpán Korenec, a student at the Law School of Charles University in Prague and a participant in the research seminar on church law and the law on churches and religious societies.

The first invited speaker was Professor JUDr. PhDr. mult. Michal Tomášek, DrSc., an Associate Dean of the Law School of Charles University in Prague responsible for Science, Research, and Publication Activities. He introduced the monograph *Czech Law between Europeanization and Globalization, New Phenomena in Law at the Beginning of the 21st Century*, published by Karolinum in Prague in 2010, of which he was the editor. The monumental work comprises contributions from 57 authors who are professors of the Law School, and it was published as the fifth and final volume of the five-volume series *New Phenomena in Law at the Beginning of the 21st Century*. While the first four volumes were published in Czech, this final volume was published in English in order to present the results of Czech

legal science to the foreign scientific community. The Czech Cabinet's Council for Research, Development and Innovation recently listed the publication among the top 20 academic achievements in the Czech Republic in 2014.

Professor Tomášek discussed in detail the inception and impact of the publication. He focused on the meaning of the term "iuris utriusque" in the traditional law degree JUDr., in which one of the "both laws" is canon law, meaning church law. He emphasized the importance of the teaching of church law at law schools in the past and in the present, and also mentioned works by current Law School professors of both church law and the law on churches and religious societies.

The second presentation was by Associate Professor ICLic. JUDr. Záboj Horák, Ph.D., from the Legal History Department of the Law School of Charles University in Prague, and the guarantor of courses on church law and the law on churches and religious societies. He introduced the new publication *Religion and Law in the Czech Republic* that he co-authored with Professor JUDr. Jiří Rajmund Tretera. The book was published at the end of 2014 by the publishing house Wolters Kluwer in Alphen aan den Rijn, the Netherlands, as a part of the project *International Encyclopaedia of Laws*, which began a few years ago and covers the state of 40 areas of law in all countries of the world. The overview of the law on churches and religious societies was published in the section *Religion* which is edited by its director, Professor Rik Torfs from Leuven. Each country is covered in one publication, and currently monographs are available for approximately twelve countries.

In the third presentation, P. Professor JUDr. Antonín Ignác Hrdina, DrSc., OPraem, from the Catholic Theological School of Charles University in Prague and the Law School of the West Bohemian University in Pilsen, introduced the recently published monograph *The Historic Library of the Hospital Kuks and Its Romantistic-Canonistic Collections*. Professor Hrdina co-authored the book with the custodian of the collections, Bc. Jindřich Kolda. The collections consist of about 1,000 volumes that concern Roman law, canon law, and the law on churches and religious societies. The monograph created an opportunity to discuss the three areas of law.

Professor Hrdina spoke about his lifelong admiration of the Kuks Chateau and its collections; this admiration led to Professor Hrdina's earlier research on the life and work of Count František Antonín Špork. It was this admiration that attracted him back to Kuks to study in its library collections.

In the next portion of the program, Štěpán Korenec performed again on classical guitar.

A lively discussion followed the performance; among the contributors were Associate Professor JUDr. Stanislav Přibyl, Ph.D., IC.D, from the South Bohemian University in České Budějovice, a judge of the Metropolitan Court in Prague, and Professor JUDr. Dagmar Císařová, DrSc., from the Law School of Charles University in Prague and the Police Academy of the Czech Republic.

The discussion continued during the social part of the program, which ensued in a friendly atmosphere. The event concluded at about 8 pm. Mr. Antonín Krč documented the event with his camera and made more than 150 photographs. The participants received copies of these photographs.

### **Congratulations to Church Law Society Members**

On 21 January 2015 ICLic. Mgr. Miloš Szabo, Th.D., the parish priest at St. Prokop in Prague – Žižkov, the district vicar of the IIIrd Prague vicariate, and the defender of the bond of the Metropolitan Court in Prague, defended his dissertation at the Catholic Theological School of Charles University in Prague. His dissertation was entitled *Effects of Differences among Ceremonies in Matrimonial Cases Before the Church Court*. He was awarded the degree of doctor of theology.

Mrs. Jitka Jindráčková, a founding member and regular participant at events of the Church Law Society, celebrated an important life milestone on 15 February 2015.

On 28 February 2015 Professor JUDr. Ignác Antonín Hrdina, DrSc., O.Praem., was appointed an honorary member of the Moravian-Silesian Christian Academy in recognition of his many-year collaboration with and work on the editorial board of the magazine *Dialogue Europe XXI*.

Associate Professor Zdenka Kareninová, a founding member and regular participant at events of the Church Law Society, celebrated an important life milestone on 1 March 2015 and on 28 March 2015 was awarded the Thalia Award for her life achievements in opera during a celebration at the National Theater in Prague.

JUDr. Štěpán Hůlka, Ph.D., LL.M., a member of the working committee of the Church Law Society and the editorial board of the Church Law Review, celebrated his 40<sup>th</sup> birthday on 2 March 2015.

Associate Professor ICLic. JUDr. Záboj Horák, Ph.D., LL.M., the vice-chairman of the Church Law Society and the deputy editor-in-chief of the Church Law Review, celebrated his 40th birthday on 5 March 2015.

Mgr. Jakub Kolda, the editor of the Church Law Review, completed the master's program at the Law School of Charles University in Prague and received his degree at a graduation ceremony in Karolinum on 10 March 2015.

Ing. Jiří Vaingát, the Secretary of the Church Law Society in 2006–2013, celebrated his 75th birthday on 10 April 2015.

Jiří Hájek, the Archdean in Stříbro, celebrated his 80th birthday on 22 April 2015.

Mgr. Stanislav Pšenička, member of the working committee of Church Law Society and of redaction of the Church Law Review, celebrated his 40th birthday on 28 April 2015.

### **Obituaries**

On 3 February 2015 we lost Professor JUDr. Ing. Roman Makarius, CSc., president emeritus of the Czech Mining Authority, and a founding member of the Church Law Society.

On 27 April 2015 we lost Associate Professor JUDr. Jiří Kejř, DrSc., the Comtur of the Order of St. Sylvester Pope, a Researcher Emeritus of the Institute for State and Law of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences, a prominent Czech expert of the medieval history of canon law, and a founding member of the Church Law Society.

Requiescant in pace.

*Jiří Rajmund Tretera*