From the Church Law Society

The Publication Religion and Law in the Czech Republic has Received an Award in the Charles University High Quality Monographs Competition

The competition among high quality monographs has taken place at the Charles University in Prague since 2010. Monographs are evaluated annually by two eleven--member expert committees (the Committee for Medical and Natural Sciences and the Committee for Humanities and Social Sciences). Through the evaluation process, the two Committees set standards and difficulty levels for various types of publications; the standards and levels are regarded as crucial in their respective scientific areas.

A book by Professor Jiří Rajmund Tretera and Associate Professor Záboj Horák, *Religion and Law in the Czech Republic*, published by Wolters Kluwer in Alphen aan den Rijn in the Netherlands, was ranked among 83 selected monographs; its rank was 33–39. The award was granted in appreciation of the work of the authors, as well as of the field of *religion law* in general, and the teaching of the field of law at universities.

Among the books that received awards were publications by authors from the School of Law of the Charles University (7), the School of Catholic Theology of the Charles University (3), the School of Evangelical Theology of the Charles University (1), and the School of Hussite Theology of the Charles University (1). The names of the authors and the titles of all 83 publications are available at cuni.cz/UK-6826.html.

XXIVth Karlsbader Juristentage

The XXIVth Karlsbader Juristentage took place in the Thermal Hotel in Karlovy Vary from 16th to 18th June 2016; Professor Dr. Friedrich Graf von Westphalen presided over the conference. Among the conference speakers were Marc Jaeger, the President of the Tribunal of the Court of Justice of the European Union in Luxembourg; Professor JUDr. Irena Pelikánová, DrSc., a Judge of the Tribunal of the Court of Justice of the European Union; and JUDr. Lenka Bradáčová, Ph.D.,

the High Public Prosecutor of the High Public Prosecutor's Office in Prague. Professor JUDr. Jiří Rajmund Tretera and Associate Professor JUDr. ICLic. Záboj Horák, Ph.D., represented the Church Law Society.

At the end of the second day of the conference the Society Karlsbader Juristentage announced its annual awards. The award for the best law journal was given jointly for the Czech Republic and Slovakia to the *Bulletin advokacie*; the second place award went to *Právní rozhledy*; and the third place award went to *Ars Notaria* from Slovakia. The Church Law Review placed fifth among 32 competing law reviews. We thank all those who voted for the Church Law Review.

Associate Professor Stanislav Přibyl Has Earned an Additional Doctoral Degree

On 21st June 2016, Associate Professor JUDr. Stanislav Přibyl, Ph.D., IC.D, defended his dissertation at the School of Theology of the South Bohemian University in České Budějovice. The topic of his dissertation was *The Beginnings of a Hierarchical Structure in the Early Church*. The dissertation resulted from Professor Přibyl's many year study of the early Church, which was inspired by Mons. Professor Karel Skalický during Professor Přibyl's studies at the Pontifical Lateran University in Rome. Mons. Skalický was present at the dissertation defence. This, the fourth doctoral degree for Professor Přibyl, evidences his passion for three areas of research: church law, religion law, and the legal history of the Church.

22nd Annual Conference Church and State in Brno

On Thursday, 15th September 2016, the Department of Constitutional Law and Political Science at the School of Law of Masaryk University in Brno and the Church Law Society organized a national conference on religion law which, as always, attracted participants from several countries. The conference took place in the conference room of the Dean's Office at the School of Law of Masaryk University in Brno. The topic of this year's conference was *Do We Need a New Act on Churches?* More than 40 participants were present, among them ten speakers.

Congratulations to Church Law Society Members

On 29th June 2016 *P. Associate Professor Damián Němec OP* and *P. Professor Jiří Rajmund Tretera OP* celebrated their silver priest jubilee. The three together received their ordination in Olomouc's St. Michael Archangel Church, formerly a Dominican Church, from the Olomouc Archbishop, Mons. František Vaňák.

On 1st July 2016 *Mons. ICLic. Mgr. Martin Davídek*, canon of the Cathedral Chapter of St. Stephen in Litoměřice, until that date the episcopal vicar for pastoral care, was appointed the Vicar General of the Diocesan Bishop of Litoměřice.

On 2nd August 2016 *JUDr. Jan Kotous*, the Chairman of the Vyšehrad Society, and an assistant professor at the Department of Labour Law and Social Security Law of the School of Law of the Charles University in Prague, was awarded an extraordinary honour – the St. Auratianus Medal of the First Degree. Mons. Vlastimil Kročil, the Diocesan Bishop, presented him with the Medal.

On 19th August 2016 *JUDr. Dušan Straňák* celebrated his 90th birthday.

On 2nd September 2016 *Mgr. Marek Hannibal* and *Alexandra Nováková* married at the Church of the Most Sacred Heart of Our Lord in Prague – Královské Vinohrady.

Obituary

It is with great sorrow that we announce that on 30th August 2016, Mgr. Vlastimil Rajnošek passed away; he was a lawyer who for many years worked at several central state institutions and recently at the Ministry of Justice of the Czech Republic. The funeral mass took place on 3rd September 2016 in the Capuchin Church of Our Lady of the Angels at the Loreta Square in Prague – Hradčany – the place that he considered his spiritual home. P. Professor Jiří Rajmund Tretera OP, who celebrated the mass together with his Capuchin brothers, said farewell on behalf of the Church Law Society, the academic community, and the Dominican Order.

Jiří Rajmund Tretera