

## From the Church Law Society

*Aus der Gesellschaft für Kirchenrecht  
Dalla Società per il diritto canonico*

### Church Law Review Placed Third in the Czech Republic

We are pleased to announce that the Church Law Review placed third in the Czech Republic and fourth in the Czech Republic and Slovakia in the best law journal competition in the period 2016/2017 organized by the “Karlsbader Juristentage” Society of German, Czech, Slovak and Austrian Lawyers. The result was announced at a festive banquet at the Grandhotel Ambassador Národní dům in Karlovy Vary on Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> June 2017. There were 35 Czech and Slovak journals (i.e., several more journals than in the past) that entered the competition. These journals took the first five places:

1. Ars notaria (Chamber of Notaries of the Slovak Republic),
2. Eprávo (EPRAVO.CZ),
3. Bulletin advokacie (Czech Bar Association),
4. Revue církevního práva – Church Law Review (Church Law Society),
5. Právní rozhledy (C. H. Beck).

We thank all the loyal readers who have cast their vote for our journal.

### 77<sup>th</sup> Church Law Society Evening Event

A festive evening event took place at the baroque refectory of the Dominican priory of St. Giles in the Old Town of Prague on 7<sup>th</sup> June 2017, during which three new publications from the fields of church law and legal history of the churches were presented, namely *Církevní právo* (Church Law) by Prof. Jiří Rajmund Tretera and Assoc. Prof. Zábaj Horák, *Počátky hierarchického uspořádání v rané církvi* (The Beginnings of the Hierarchical Arrangement in the Early Church) by Assoc. Prof. Stanislav Příbyl, and *Záhady kolem sňatku Anny Kateřiny Šporkové* (Mysteries Concerning the Marriage of Anne Katherine Špork) by Prof. Antonín Ignác Hrdina and Dr. Hedvika Kuchařová. The authors presented their books, and

Assoc. Prof. Záboj Horák, Assoc. Prof. Stanislav Příbyl and Dr. Hedvika Kuchařová presented the author readings as well.

JUDr. Jana Sladká Hyklová, Ph.D., editor-in-chief of the Leges publishing house, which published the book *Církevní právo* (Church Law) as well as the earlier published monograph *Konfesní právo* (Religion Law) and the book *Církev a právo – Miscellanea* (Churches and Law – Miscellanea), greeted the audience. Participants listened to piano pieces by Joseph Haydn and Johann Sebastian Bach in a masterful presentation by Assoc. Prof. Stanislav Příbyl between individual sections of the event. The toast at the end of the first part of the evening was delivered by Bc. František Kratochvíl, a member of the management of our Society. In the second part of the evening, informal talks were held over a glass of wine and refreshments.

### **Church Law Society Has 486 Members**

We report that according to records in the membership list, our Society reached a total of 486 members as of the date 1<sup>st</sup> July 2017. It has eight members more than at the beginning of the year. The fluctuation of members in the first half of 2017 is as follows:

<b>Period</b>	<b>Number of newly accepted members</b>	<b>Number of members who left</b>	<b>Number of members who died</b>	<b>Number of members as of 1<sup>st</sup> July 2017</b>
First half of 2017	12	1	3	486

### **Annual Audit of Activities of the Church Law Society Successfully Carried Out**

On Monday, 26<sup>th</sup> June 2017, the Supervisory Committee of the Church Law Society, composed of Mgr. Jan Czernin, LL.M., Bc. František Kratochvíl and JUDr. Tomáš Tuza, carried out an audit of the economic activities, administration of the membership list of the Church Law Society and editorial activities related to publishing of the Church Law Review for the year 2016, in accordance with section eight of the Bylaws of the Church Law Society of 24<sup>th</sup> April 2014. It came after the previous audit regarding the year 2015, which was carried out on 11<sup>th</sup> March 2016. The Supervisory Committee did not find any inconsistencies

and confirmed that all three audited areas of activity have been properly managed. We cordially thank all members of the Supervisory Committee.

### **Academic Committee of Czech Christian Academy Hold a Meeting**

The regular semi-annual meeting of the Czech Christian Academy took place on Saturday, 10<sup>th</sup> June 2017, in the Emmaus Benedictine monastery in Prague. President Mons. Tomáš Halík read a report regarding activity of the Czech Christian Academy during the last half-year and the publication of the *Universum* journal, which is published four times a year in 1,500 copies. According to the presented statistics, the Czech Christian Academy has currently 1,121 individual members, five collective members and 64 local groups.

In his speech, Mons. Halík stressed that the Czech Christian Academy is proud of the activities of its legal section and collective member, which is the Church Law Society. He mentioned that the Church Law Review published by the Society has multiplied the number of its issues from three to four annually since this year, and has increased the number of copies from 900 to 1,000 copies for each issue.

Mons. Halík reported on the negotiations with the new presidency of the Moravian-Silesian Christian Academy, which concluded a mutual cooperation agreement.

Then, as usual, the highlight of the evening followed, a part rich in content, during which the directors of scientific sections and chairmen of local groups presented reports on the activities of the parts of the Czech Christian Academy under their administration, especially about all lectures and other events held during the last period. Vice-Chairman of the Church Law Society Assoc. Prof. Záboj Horák presented a report concerning the legal section of the Czech Christian Academy and the Church Law Society as a collective member.

### **Prof. Michal Tomášek Received Miroslav Ivanov Prize**

On Friday, 12<sup>th</sup> May 2017, the Vice-Dean of the School of Law of Charles University in Prague, Prof. JUDr. PhDr. mult. Michal Tomášek, DrSc., received the prestigious Miroslav Ivanov Prize, as another award for his book *Právní systémy Dálného východu I* (Legal Systems of the Far East I). He received the prize at the 23<sup>rd</sup> international book fair and literary festival Book World Prague 2017 at the Prague Exhibition Grounds. Congratulations!

### **Mons. Tomáš Halík Received Prize of Pontifical Council for Culture**

Prof. PhDr. Tomáš Halík, Th.D., President of the Czech Christian Academy, honorary member of the Church Law Society, parish priest of the Academic Parish in Prague and Professor of the School of Arts of Charles University in Prague, received the prize *Per artem ad Deum* for 2017 at the festival in Kielce (Poland) on 12<sup>th</sup> June 2017. The prize is granted annually by the Pontifical Council for Culture appreciating support of dialogue between cultures. Congratulations!

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

*A. R. P. Assoc. Prof. Damián Němec, dr, OP*, head of the Department of Church History and Church Law at the Sts. Cyril and Methodius School of Theology and teacher at the School of Law and School of Arts of Palacký University in Olomouc, was elected a member of the academic senate of the Palacký University in Olomouc for the period 2017–2020.

*R. D. ThDr. ICLic. Jiří Koniček* was elected a chairman of the Moravian-Silesian Christian Academy on 25<sup>th</sup> February 2017. We are looking forward to future cooperation.

*R. D. Dr. Jiří Majkov, IC.D.*, parish priest in Loket, was appointed vicar general for the area of Karlovy Vary, Sokolov and Cheb vicariates of the Diocese of Pilsen, on 31<sup>st</sup> May 2017.

*Assoc. Prof. JUDr. Jan Kysela, Ph.D., DSc.*, was appointed professor in constitutional law and theory. He received the naming decree in Karolinum on 23<sup>th</sup> June 2017.

*Jakub Zechovský* completed the master's program at the School of Law of Charles University in Prague and received his degree at a graduation ceremony in Karolinum on 29<sup>th</sup> June 2017.

### **Mons. Václav Škach Passed Away**

On 7<sup>th</sup> May 2017, Mons. Václav Škach, the papal prelate, founding member of the Church Law Society, passed away. Mons. Václav Škach was born on 15<sup>th</sup> January 1932 in Prague, in the parish of the Most Sacred Heart of Our Lord, where his father worked for almost half a century as a sacristan. Václav Škach graduated from the Sts. Cyril and Methodius School of Theology in 1953. He was ordained as priest in Litoměřice on 26<sup>th</sup> June 1955. After ordination, he was sent to the

parish of Úšovice nearby Mariánské Lázně, where he served for five years. He then moved to the parish of Mnichov, also nearby Mariánské Lázně, where he served for 32 years. After the establishment of the Diocese of Pilsen in May 1993, he was the chancellor of the curia until the end of October 2007. His funeral Holy Mass took place on 13<sup>th</sup> May 2017 in the Cathedral of St. Bartholomew in Pilsen. Requiescat in peace!

**JUDr. Karel Čermák, dr. h. c., Passed Away**

On 19<sup>th</sup> June 2017, JUDr. Karel Čermák, dr. h. c., attorney, long-time chairman of the Czech Bar Association, former Minister of Justice of the Czech Republic, holder of the Decoration of Honour for Services to the Republic of Austria and member of the Church Law Society passed away at the age of nearly 83 years. We said goodbye to the deceased during the funeral service which took place in the Church of the Most Sacred Heart of Our Lord in Prague. Requiescat in peace!

*Jiří Rajmund Tretera*