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The Church Law Society has been cooperating for more than twenty years with one of the world's leading centres for the teaching and research of canon and religion law, located at the University of Strasbourg. The first meeting of colleagues from the Czech Republic and Alsace took place as part of the Second European-American Conference, organized in June 1999 by Professor Gerhard Robbers at the University of Trier.

In 2000, the chairman of the Society, Professor Jiří Rajmund Tretera, visited Professor Francis Messner, head of the Strasbourg centre, director of the Religion Law Department of the French Academy of Sciences and Professor at the Robert Schuman University in Strasbourg. He also met the then editor-in-chief of the *Revue de Droit Canonique*, published by the University of Strasbourg, which was Dr Jean Werckmeister (1947–2011) and arranged with him the exchange of the journals *Revue církevního práva/Church Law Review*, published by the Church Law Society in Prague, and *Revue de Droit Canonique*, which is still ongoing.

Revue de Droit Canonique (RDC) is the oldest French scientific periodical on canon law. It was founded in 1951 by Professor Jean Bernhard and today it is led by Professor Marcel Metzger and Professor Marc Aoun as editor-in-chief. RDC is characterized not only by the highly professional content of its articles in the fields of canon and church law, religion law, and the law of religious communities (especially Jewish law) and the legal history of churches, but also by beautiful graphic design.

In the issue no. 69/2, 2019, which we received, there are even colour pictures in several articles, which make the text even more interesting.

The first article in issue no. 69/2 *An Orthodox Consideration on the Legislative Work of Pope Francis* by Grigorios D. Papatomas focuses on the legislative acts presented by Pope Francis in the first five years of his pontificate. The legislative work of Pope Francis being so large, the author of the paper deals mainly with two fields: Marriage and Family and Ecclesial Synodality. The first field represents

the inner matter of the Church, whereas the latter one influences primarily Catholic Church relationship with other Churches.

In his study *Rethinking the Governance of Catholic Parishes* Benoît Pigé analyses the different possible approaches to the parish governance. On the diocese of Poitiers the author demonstrates a ‘model where the priest loses his office of *curé* (in the sense of leader) of the parish to become guarantor of the Catholic communities’ communion in the diocesan Church’.

When the first lockdown in France ended in May 2020, the gathering in the places of worship still remained prohibited. The attitude of French bishops towards the restrictions differed. Some bishops permitted private masses in small circles, some did not. Article *The Church in France Faced with the Prohibition of Gatherings in Places of Worship on Sanitary Grounds: the Question of Mass at Home* by Pierre-Marie Berthe evaluates this contemporary practice and its problematic aspects.

Christian Wehking’s study on *Sunday Rest and Its Evangelical Perception During the Period of the Reformation. A Franco-German Approach to the Sources About the ‘Dies Domini’* reflects the changes in observance of the Lord’s Day Rest (i.e. the Sunday Rest and the participation in Sunday Mass) since the 16th century. The author emphasizes the importance of this living tradition of the Church also in the field of ecumenical dialogue.

In *Christ and the Adulterous Woman: A Legal Approach* François Gendron demonstrates that the origin of the legal principal which forbids the use of courts for purposes contrary to justice can be traced down in the story of merciful Jesus and the woman taken in adultery.

The last two papers concern with the manuscripts: *Canon Law Manuscripts of the Abbey Saint-Martial of Limoges (9th–11th Century)* by Laura Viaut and *The Production of the Manuscripts of Gregorius IX’s Decretales in Italy. Some Peculiarities in the History of the Book* by Frédérique Cahu.

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