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Newsletter for the English speaking members and friends of the Church Law Society
Prague – Brno – Olomouc – Stříbro

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National Pilgrimage to St. Wenceslas in Stará Boleslav

As we informed in the last issue of this periodical, the celebrations of the main patron of the Czech lands, St. Wenceslas, took place. The national pilgrimage to St. Wenceslas in Stará Boleslav (Altbunzlau) near Prague, where Prince Wenceslas was murdered in the doorway of the Church of Saints Cosmas and Damian on 28th September 935 (older data state 929), was the major part of the celebrations. In Stará Boleslav, there is also a Marian painting of the Palladium of the Czech lands, venerated in the local Church of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary.

The celebrations took place to a limited extent for hygienic reasons this year. The pilgrimage Mass began on Mariánské náměstí on 28th September at 10:00 am. Dominik Cardinal Duka OP, Archbishop of Prague and Primate of Bohemia, celebrated the Mass. The sermon was delivered by Archbishop Jan Graubner, Metropolitan of Moravia and chairman of the Czech Bishops' Conference.



Photo Roman Albrecht, source Man and Faith

In his homily, Archbishop Graubner reminded us that Prince St. Wenceslas advocated the Christian and European orientation of our nation and showed the wisdom drawn from God's word. The legacy of St. Wenceslas binds us, because now we take care of his country. He then mentioned the papal ecological encyclical *Laudato si'*, bringing the challenge into a broader context.

The main celebrant Cardinal Duka asked present diplomats and their governments to work for the restoration of peace in Nagorno-Karabakh. He also thanked all the pilgrims, but also police officers, doctors, and medical staff for their extraordinary efforts at this time.

On the same morning, Michael Cardinal Czerny, S. J., Canadian Jesuit born in 1946 in Brno (Moravia) celebrated the Holy Mass in honour of St. Wenceslas in Rome in the Basilica of St. Peter. The concelebrants were priests from the Czech residence hall Nepomucenum in Rome.

Vojtěch Círus

Professor Gerhard Robbers Celebrates Life Anniversary

On 17th November 2020, Professor Gerhard Robbers from Trier, the world's leading religion law expert, science organizer and publisher of religion law publications, will celebrate his 70th birthday.

Professor Robbers was born in Bonn. Between 1989 and late 2014 he was Professor of Public Law at the University of Trier, where he was the Director of the Institute for European Constitutional Law. In 2003–2004 he presided the European Consortium of Church and State Research. He served as judge of the Constitutional Court of the state of Rhineland-Palatinate, and between November 2014 and May 2016 he was the state's Minister of Justice and Consumer Protection.



Professor Gerhard Robbers lectures at the fourth season of international conference Prague Dialogues on Church and State Relations.

Photo Antonín Krč

Prof. Robbers is a member of the Steering Committee of the International Consortium for Law and Religion Studies (ICLARS). He was President of the 34th German Protestant Church Congress (2013).

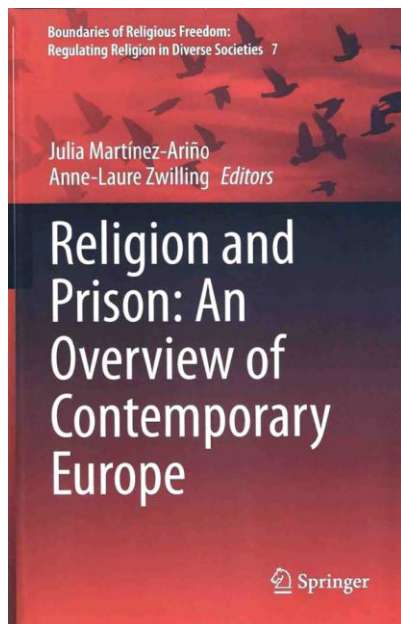
His leading editorial works include the massive volume *Church and State in the European Union*, the third edition of which was published in 2019 by Nomos, Baden-Baden, and the five-volume *Encyclopaedia of Law and Religion*, published by Brill.

Professor Robbers has visited the Czech Republic several times and lectured for the Church Law Society. Last year he lectured at the fourth season of international conference Prague Dialogues on Church and State Relations, held at the Faculty of Law, Charles University, from 13th to 15th June 2019 that focused to the topic Spiritual Care in Public Institutions. He lectured on the legal status of spiritual care in Germany.

We thank Professor Robbers for his support of religion law in the Czech Republic and around the world and for his long-time friendship, and we wish him many more happy years.

Jiří Rajmund Tretera/Záboj Horák

New Book *Religion and Prison*



These days, a new book in the fields of religion law and sociology has been published on the position of religion in the prison system of 24 European countries and Turkey.

The monograph is arranged according to a unified system. Coverage for each country includes historical background, current penitentiary organization and recent changes or trends. In their exploration of legal aspects, the contributors look at such factors as the status of prison chaplains and regulations concerning religious practice and religious freedom. These include meals, prayers, and visits. Their analysis of sociological aspects examines religious discrimination in prison, church-prison relation, conversion and proselytism, and more.

Formation of the book took 5 years. It started with a meeting of correspondents from the EUREL internet database – Sociological and legal data on religions in Europe and beyond, which took place in October 2015 at the University of Strasbourg.

MARTÍNEZ-ARIÑO, Julia, ZWILLING, Anne-Laure (eds.), *Religion and Prison: An Overview of Contemporary Europe*, Springer, New York, 2020, 423 pp., ISBN 978-3-030-36833-3.

including:

HORÁK, Záboj, *Czech Republic: Religious Assistance in Prisons in the Past and Today*, pp. 79–90.

FORESTIER, Vincente, *France: Worship in Prison – Legal Framework and Religious Experience*, pp. 171–184.

ZAWIŚLAK, Michał, CZELNY, Michał, ABRAMOWICZ, Aneta, *Poland: Religious Assistance and Religious Practices in the Prisons*, pp. 299–315.

TODD, Andrew J., *United Kingdom: The Public Reconstruction of Religion and Belief in Prisons – Negotiating Diversity, Rights and Constraints*, pp. 401–420.

From New Publications

BEN HORIN, Nathan, *Le relazioni tra Israele e Vaticano. 1904–2005. Questioni teologiche e politiche*, Panozzo Editore, Rimini, 2019, 312 pp., ISBN 978-8874724109.

WIESER, Bernd, LAZUR, Yaroslav, BILASH, Oleksandr, *Einführung in das ukrainische Recht*, C. H. Beck, München, 2021, 300 pp., ISBN 978-3-406-76652-7.

Journals, periodicals

Ecclesiastical Law Journal, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, ISSN 0956-618X, Vol. 22 No. 2, May 2020, including:

HILL, Mark, *Sir John Laws (1945–2020)*, pp. 277–278.

Ius Canonicum, revista general de Derecho canónico y de Derecho eclesiástico, Universidad de Navarra, Pamplona, ISSN 0021-325X, ISSN-e 2254-6219, Vol. 60, 120 (2020), including:

MICHOWICZ, Przemysław, OFMConv, *Razonamiento por principios. Aproximación canónica*.

Revue de Droit Canonique, Université de Strasbourg, Strasbourg, 2019, ISSN 0556–7378, Tome 69/1, including:

BAMBERG, Anne, *Sanctions canoniques face aux abus financiers*, pp. 85–104.

Zeitschrift der Savigny-Stiftung für Rechtsgeschichte, Kanonistische Abteilung, 137. Band, 2020, Walter de Gruyter GmbH, Berlin/Boston, ISSN 0323-4096, including:

CSUKÁS, Adam, *Zum Tod von Lóránd Boleratzky*, pp. 497–502.

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Stará Boleslav, National Pilgrimage to St. Wenceslas, 28th September 2020. Dominik Cardinal Duka OP, Archbishop of Prague and Primate of Bohemia celebrates the Holy Mass. Photo: Roman Albrecht, source Man and Faith.

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