

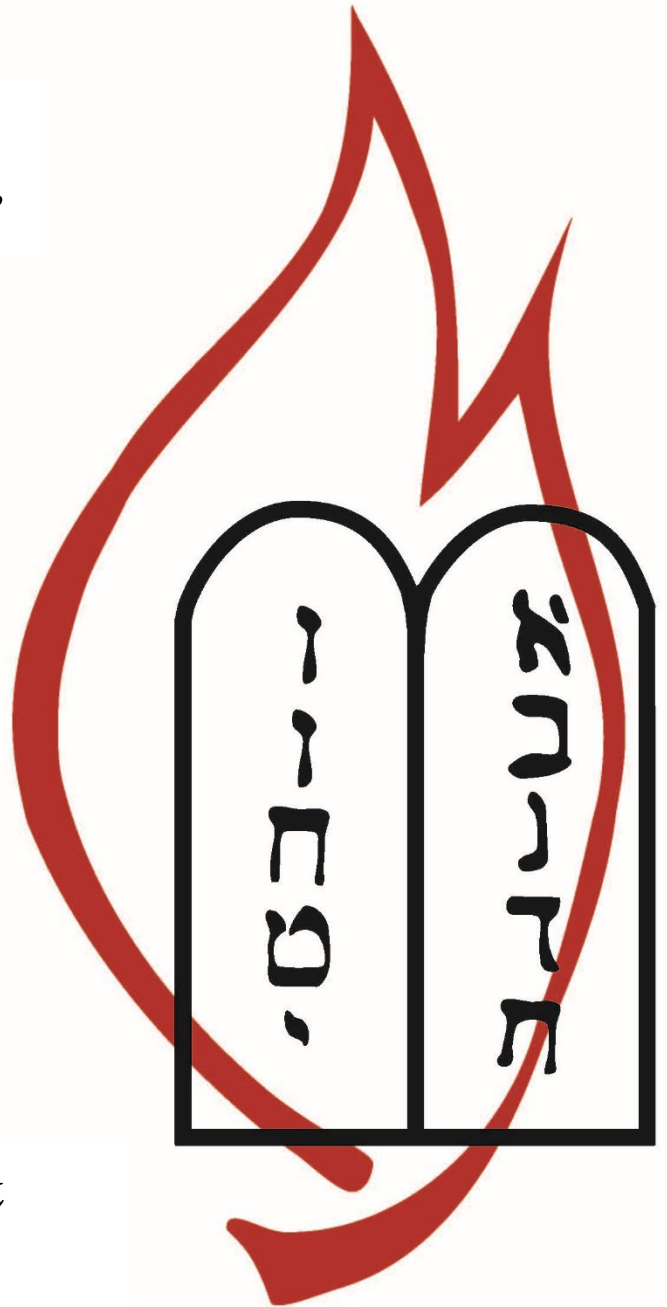
Canon Law Society of America

88th Annual Convention

October 12-15, 2026

St. Louis, Missouri

*The Art of the
Administration of Justice*



**Convention Program &
2026 Annual Reports**

THE ART OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

The 88th Annual Convention of the Canon Law Society of America will offer an opportunity for learning, collaborating, and networking with colleagues and friends as we ponder the “The Art of the Administration of Justice.” This year we gather in St. Louis, Missouri, to enjoy the hospitality of the Midwest. We will be discussing the recommendations of the Constitution Revision Commission that was tasked with helping us work better as a canonical society.

The administration of justice for the faithful includes knowing and understanding the challenges of our time, including the rapid growth of artificial intelligence tools in all areas of ministerial life. The Holy Father’s recently promulgated encyclical, *Magnifica humanitas*, addresses issues related to the use of AI in our world. This year’s convention will include a keynote address to help us begin to envision what ethical impact AI may have on our own work in canonical processes for justice. A major address will look at a bishop’s need to balance his role as pastor and judge.

Seminars will explore the proper method of the relegation of church buildings to profane but not sordid use, the rights of members of institutes of consecrated life and societies of apostolic life during abuse investigations or various other processes, as well as recent trends in Rotal jurisprudence. Other seminars will examine intercultural competencies in Tribunal work as related to Deaf culture, the canonical implications of assisted suicide, and cremation and illicit funeral practices.

There will be two pre-convention workshops this year. One is designed to assist all ministers to better understand and address trauma-related issues of the faithful we serve through various church processes and with those staff members we collaborate with who can be affected by those experiences. The second will look at best practices related to working with minors and adults in vulnerable situations.

We hope to see you at this year’s convention to connect with canonists from around the country and the world.

CLSA Board of Governors
May 2026

CLSA BOARD OF GOVERNORS

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President

Rev. Msgr. Robert Oliver, JCD
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Consultor, 2023-2026

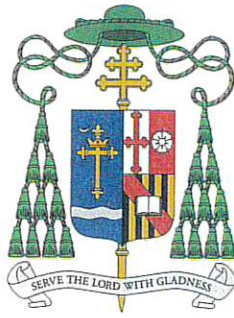
Very Rev. Jamin S. David, JCL
Consultor, 2025-2026

Very Rev. Peter Mottola, JCL
Consultor, 2024-2027

Vacant
Consultor, 2024-2027

Rev. Msgr. Jason Gray, JCD
Consultor, 2025-2028

Mr. Benjamin Roodhouse, JCL
Consultor, 2025-2028



October 2026

Dear members of the Canon Law Society of America,

It is with great joy that I welcome you to Saint Louis for the annual Convention of the Canon Law Society of America. The Archdiocese of Saint Louis is deeply honored to host such an esteemed gathering of canonists whose dedicated ministry plays a vital role in upholding justice and order in the universal Church.

Your gathering here takes place during a profoundly historic milestone for our local Church. This year we are celebrating our Bicentennial Jubilee Year, marking 200 years since Pope Leo XII established the Diocese of Saint Louis on July 18, 1826. When our first bishop, Joseph Rosati, was entrusted with this local Church, it encompassed a vast, frontier mission territory that extended from the Louisiana border all the way to the Rocky Mountains.

While we look back with gratitude on these two centuries of formal diocesan structure, the roots of our Catholic heritage run even deeper. For more than 300 years, the Catholic presence here has shaped the spiritual and cultural landscape of this region. Long before the city or diocese were formally established, early missionaries and faithful pioneers carried the light of Christ to the banks of the Mississippi River and laid a foundation of enduring faith that continues to bear fruit.

As you gather to deliberate on contemporary canonical matters, you stand at the crossroads of this rich history. I invite you to draw inspiration from the missionary legacy of those who have gone before us. Just steps from your venue sits the Basilica of Saint Louis IX, King of France—affectionately known as the "Old Cathedral"—the historic cradle of our diocese. I also warmly encourage you to visit the Cathedral Basilica of Saint Louis, home to one of the largest mosaic installations in the Western Hemisphere, where generations of the faithful have gathered in prayer.

May the Holy Spirit guide your discussions, presentations, and fellowship during this convention, and may our patron, Saint Louis IX, intercede for you all. Welcome to Saint Louis!

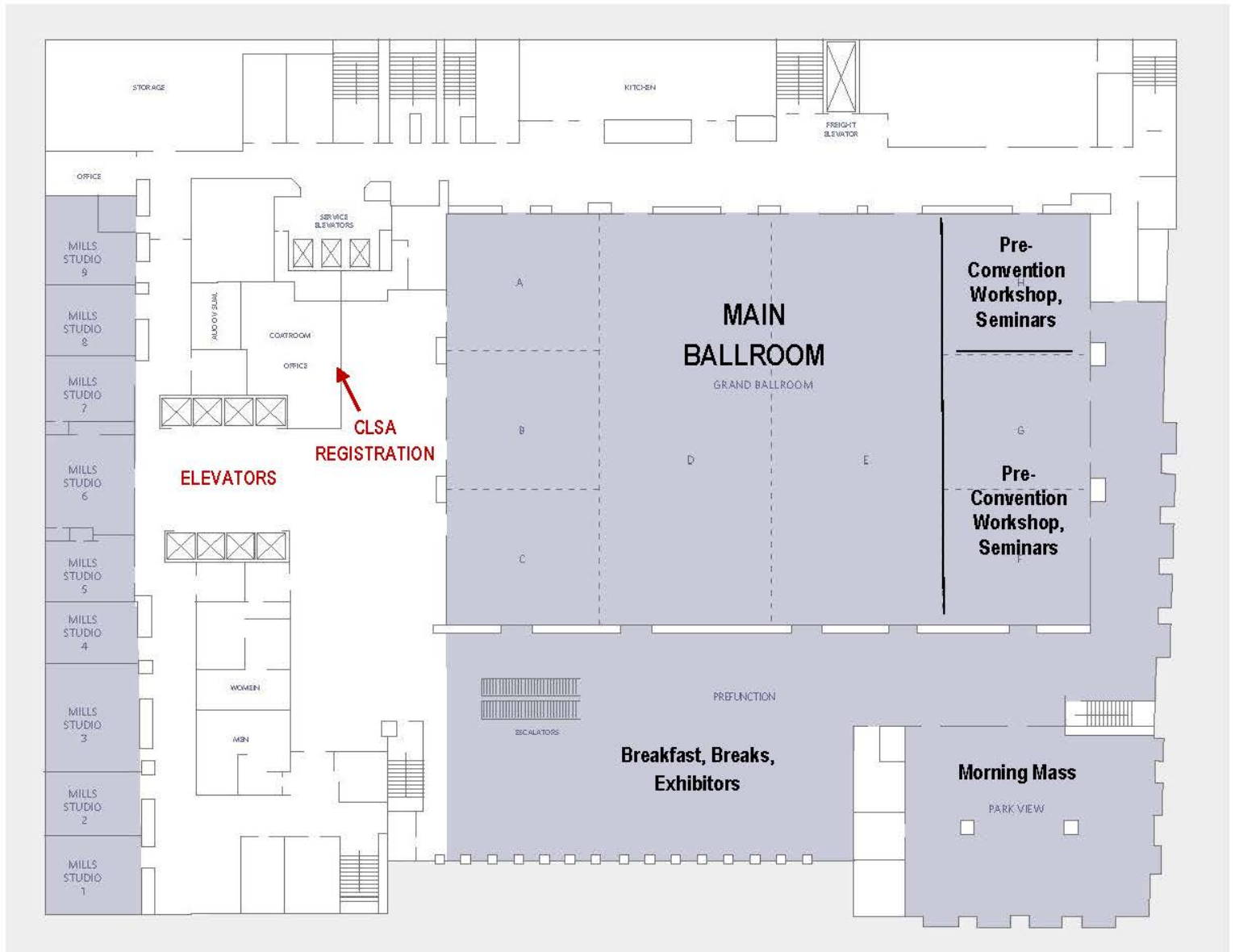
Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Mitchell T. Rozanski
Archbishop of Saint Louis

CLSA CONVENTION 2026

Hyatt Regency St. Louis

Most activities will take place on the fourth floor



Canon Law Society of America
88th Annual Convention Program and Reports
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PRE-CONVENTION WORKSHOPS

Understanding Trauma and Supporting Trauma Survivors in Canon Lawyers and Tribunal Staff

[Stephen T. Carroll, PhD, LCPC, Director of Education & Aftercare Services, Saint Luke Institute](#)

There is growing public awareness and acceptance of the broad adversity that trauma survivors experience when addressing sexual abuse to PTSD in veterans. Likewise, trauma has become a more frequent issue that people are willing to share in formal and informal ministry settings such as canon law matters. People working in modern ministry, especially canon law, need a basic understanding of trauma and its effect on daily behavioral, emotional, and spiritual functioning.

Dr. Stephen Carroll will provide an overview of trauma and its symptoms so that people in canon law settings can recognize when the circumstances require referrals to mental health professionals. This workshop offers basic models for understanding different types of trauma and reviews active listening skills and de-escalation techniques to attend to a trauma survivors' emotional, psychological, and spiritual needs. The workshop provides tools to differentiate between a person dealing with grief and a person experiencing trauma symptoms like flashbacks or dissociation. Current research will also be reviewed on burnout in ministry settings due to vicarious trauma which explains the benefits of self-care practices like mindful breathing, progressive muscle relaxation, and peer support groups. Finally, Dr. Carroll presents wellness practices for canon lawyers and tribunal staff to decrease their own burnout when ministering to traumatized individuals or communities.

The Role of Canon Law and the Canonist in Building a Culture of Safeguarding and Care

[Dr. Heather T. Banis, PhD, Dr. Teresa Kettelkamp, and Rev. Gregory T. Luyet, JCL](#)

Pope Leo XIV remarked, "...the protection of minors and persons in vulnerable situations is not an isolated area of ecclesial life, but a dimension that permeates pastoral care, formation, governance and discipline." (Pope Leo XIV, address to the Pontifical Commission for the Protection of Minors Plenary Assembly, March 16, 2026).

The workshop heeds the call of Pope Leo XIV that safeguarding must permeate every aspect of ecclesial life. It will be a practical workshop grounded in canon law, principles of safeguarding and trauma-informed theology. This interactive program will provide context (best principles) and strategies (best practices) essential to preventing, responding, and enhancing safeguarding efforts to ensure that the Church is a safe place for all.

The presenters, drawing upon their unique backgrounds in safeguarding, policy, canon law, law enforcement, victims' assistance, trauma-informed theology, best principles and practices apply their experience and expertise as they relate to the specific constructs of responsibility, accountability, transparency, and compliance.

Scenarios representative of real events, as experienced from various perspectives, will be discussed in table-top exercises allowing for deeper analysis, understanding and local applicability by participants related to the respective key topics.

PRE-CONVENTION WORKSHOPS

Sunday, October 12 - Monday, October 13

*The Pre-Convention Workshops are optional and require a separate registration fee.
Continental breakfasts, breaks, and a reception are included in the pre-convention registration fee.
Room accommodations are not included.*

Pre-Convention Workshop Schedule

Saturday, October 10	5-6:30 p.m.	Pre-Convention Workshop Attendee Check-in
Sunday, October 11	7:30 a.m.	Mass
	8:00 a.m.	Pre-Convention Workshop Attendee Check-in Continental Breakfast for Workshop Attendees (badges required)
	9:00 a.m.	Workshops begin
	12:00 p.m.	Lunch on your own
	5:00 p.m.	Workshops end for the day
	5:30 p.m.	Reception for Pre-Convention Workshop Attendees (badges required)
Monday, October 12	7:30 a.m.	Mass
	8:00 a.m.	Continental Breakfast for Pre-Convention Attendees (badges required)
	9:00 a.m.	Workshops begin
	12:00 p.m.	Workshops conclude

Pre-Convention Workshop Frequent Questions

Can I switch back and forth between the two workshops?

No. Each workshop is a standalone event with separate registrations.

Is the Pre-Convention Workshop part of my convention registration?

No. The Pre-Convention Workshop is a separate registration fee.

How much does it cost to attend the Pre-Convention Workshop?

If you register and pay by August 30, you can take the early-bird discount and pay just \$350. The regular fee (through September 30) is \$475. Beginning in October, the fee is \$575.

Can I attend the Pre-Convention Workshop if I'm not staying for the whole convention?

Of course! Simply register online and click the WORKSHOP ONLY option.

If my diocese wants to register multiple people for a workshop, is there a group discount?

We do not offer group discounts.

I am not attending the Pre-Convention Workshop; can I attend the reception on Sunday?

The Pre-Convention Workshop Reception is reserved for those who registered for the workshop. Guest badges are not available for the Pre-Convention Workshop Reception or the Opening Reception.



CLSA 2026 Convention has gone mobile!

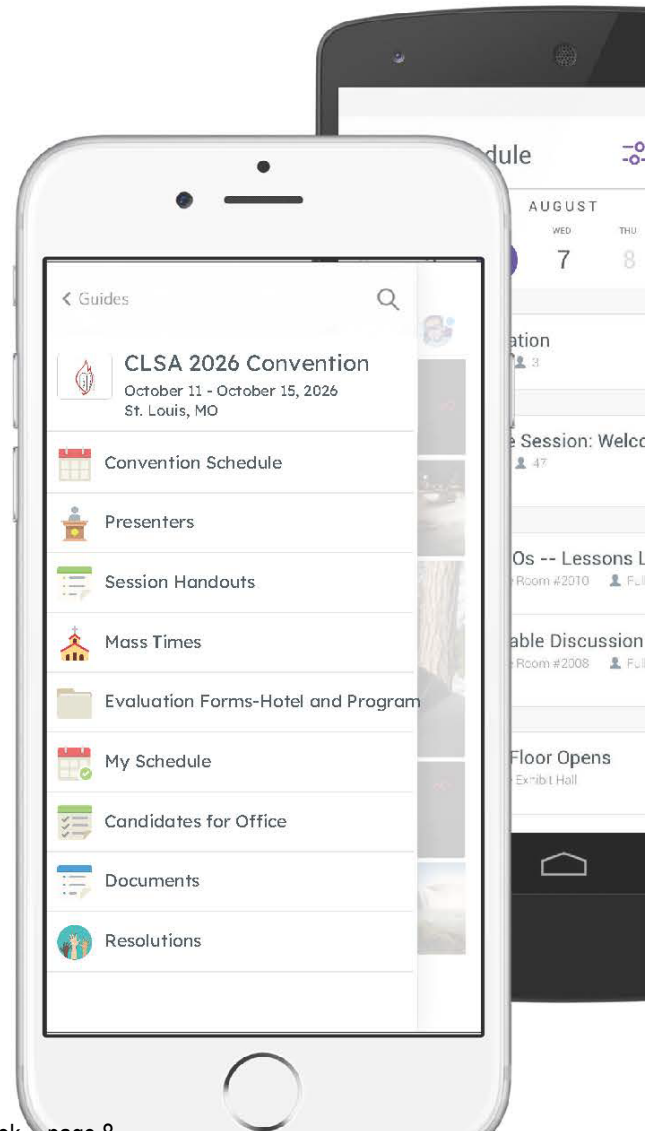
Download the free app now

<https://builder.guidebook.com/g/clsa2026/>

Tap "Download the app" to access the guide on your iOS or Android device.

To access the guide, use the
passphrase: **2026arch**

Prefer the web version? Some content
and networking tools may be available
to you online.



CONVENTION SCHEDULE

Monday, October 12, 2026

7:30 a.m. Mass

1-4 p.m. Convention Attendee Check-in Begins
Exhibits Open

4 p.m. Evening Prayer and Welcome

4:30 p.m. Keynote Address

Intelligence, Technology, and Hope: Faithfully Considering AI

Dr. John P. Slattery, PhD

How should we think about AI? What does AI have to do with questions of faith? How does AI operate like a traditional technology, and how is it something new? This talk will explore the broader questions of technology that will help us understand the groundswell of generative AI, in order to effectively encounter AI from a position of faith. It will delve into Pope Leo's many discussions of AI, as well as the wider landscape of ethical approaches to AI, and will offer challenges to think critically about AI usage in the context of intelligence discussions and the Catholic tradition.

6 p.m. Opening Reception for Convention Attendees (*badge required*)

Tuesday, October 13, 2026

7:30 a.m. Mass for the Deceased Members of the CLSA

8:00 a.m. Continental Breakfast for Convention Attendees (*badge required*)

Candidate Meet & Greet

View candidate videos linked on the [2026 Convention web page](#).

9:00 a.m. Constitution Revision Commission Presentation

Very Rev. Luke Millette, Chair

Two years ago, at our Annual Business Meeting in Albuquerque, the membership voted to revise the CLSA Constitution. In response to that mandate, the Constitution Revision Commission has spent the past two years preparing a revised draft. Throughout this process, the commission has received valuable feedback from both the CLSA membership and leadership through a variety of channels, and that input has greatly informed the revision.

During this session, the commission will present the proposed Constitution and explain the more significant changes. Members will then have an opportunity to ask questions and provide feedback. The commission will use this input to make any necessary revisions before the proposed Constitution is presented for a vote at the Business Meeting on Wednesday.

Tuesday, October 13, 2026

10:30 a.m. Coffee Break

11:00 a.m. SEMINARS

A1 Assigning 'Unassignable Priests': Some Case Studies

Rev. Sean Bransfield, Chair, CLSA Clergy Committee

There is much confusion surrounding the "unassignable priest." Every Diocesan Bishop experiences the difficulty of finding an assignment for priests after they have exhibited non-delictual, yet problematic, conduct. This seminar, presented by the CLSA Clergy Committee, will discuss the competing goods which must be considered during these difficult deliberations by examining four case studies. The cases will highlight the varied and nuanced fact patterns that can occur while providing helpful ways to analyze and navigate these common and difficult situations.

A2 Strategies for Maintaining Spiritual and Vocational Identity in Administrative and Leadership Roles

Rev. Patrick J. McDevitt, CM, PhD

Canon lawyers today deal with a range of stressful issues from annulments to dioceses or religious orders in bankruptcy. The seminar will provide an overview of strategies for clergy, religious, and lay staff members to sustain a pastoral presence when conducting administrative functions like tribunal work. Canon lawyers are often asked to serve simultaneously as a legal advisor and pastoral companion. Tribunals face constant pressure to provide verdicts on cases, which can lead to professional and spiritual burnout. Attendees will learn practical skills for canon lawyers and tribunal staff to use to balance their daily responsibilities with a pastoral presence.

A3 Ascription and Recordkeeping

Rev. Paul Luniw, JCOD

Issues of immigration and migration are not just for political discussion; they also pose a challenge to our Eastern and Latin Catholic Churches. Invasions, war, and genocide permeate our modern world, with cultures, traditions, and genetic heritages threatened with extinction. As a Church, should we be concerned, and should consider, how can we preserve identities and create communities in foreign lands.

A4 Prove It! Methods of Proof for the Most Common Grounds of Marriage Nullity in Recent Rotal Sentences (Session repeats at B4)

Rev. Eric Culler, JCL

While the proof sets for the grounds of marriage nullity are well established, the Auditors of the Roman Rota continue to provide unique insights and emphases to help Tribunal personnel apply the law in current situations. This presentation aims to help judges and all ministers of justice evaluate proofs for the most common grounds of marriage nullity by highlighting new insights from recently published Decisions of the Roman Rota. Citations and samples will be provided to help refresh the Law sections of sentences, vota, and animadversions.

Tuesday, October 13, 2026

12:30 p.m. Lunch on your own

2:30 p.m. SEMINARS

B1 Civil Legal Issues in the Use of AI: Privacy and Attorney Client Privilege

Prof. Tiffany C. Li, JD, MSt

This session examines the privacy and confidentiality risks that arise when sensitive information is processed through AI platforms, with particular attention to privilege waiver, fiduciary obligations, and the impact of AI use on the trust relationships central to legal representation. Drawing on emerging civil law frameworks and professional responsibility standards, the presentation will consider the extent to which current legal doctrine adequately addresses these risks and will offer a practical framework for identifying risk and adopting AI tools in a manner consistent with attorneys' duties to their clients and their communities.

B2 Justice, Rights, and Obedience in Apostolic Religious Institutes

Deborah Cerullo, SSND, JD, JCL

The 1983 Code specifies some rights specifically for members of religious institutes, along with obligations that belong to their state of life. How do these rights and obligations interact with the ideals of justice and fairness, especially regarding those in authority in the Institute? Are there ways to vindicate rights when they are perceived to be violated? Lastly, how do all of these questions interface with the vow of obedience? This seminar will assist those advising both members and leadership when facing conflict regarding members' rights.

B3 What's on Your Checklist? An Overview of the Canonical Processes of the Modification of Parishes and the Relegation and Alienation of Churches

Rev. Christopher R. Seibt, PhL, STL, JCL

The administrative canonical processes of parish modifications (e.g., mergers) and church relegations and alienations are complex. Various canons in the Code as well as other canonical sources pertain to them. It is easy to get lost in these processes, which can have significant consequences. This presentation will provide basic checklists for all three processes (modification, relegation, alienation). It will also provide some of the juridical principles underlying them along with concrete examples of them. Accordingly, it is both for new and seasoned canonists involved (or about to be involved) in this area of the law.

B4 Prove It! Methods of Proof for the Most Common Grounds of Marriage Nullity in Recent Rotal Sentences (Session repeats at A4)

Rev. Eric Culler, JCL

See A4 session for information.

4:00 p.m. Break

4:30 p.m. Budget Report and Open Hearing on Resolutions

6:00 p.m. Alumni Receptions

7:00 p.m. Presidential Dinner (*by invitation*)

Wednesday, October 14, 2026

7:00 a.m. Friends of Bill Meeting

7:30 a.m. Past Presidents Breakfast (*by invitation*)

8:00 a.m. Continental Breakfast for Convention Attendees (*badge required*)

9:00 a.m. SEMINARS

C1 How Tribunals Can Best Assist their Deaf & Hard of Hearing Communities

Very Rev. Robert Herbst, OFM Conv., JCD

While infrequent, Deaf and Hard of Hearing individuals needing the services of the Diocesan Tribunal or Canonical Services face significant linguistic and cultural problems, from initial contact to resolution of their needs. This presentation will touch on the issues of 'communication' and not 'language', 'culture' as it impacts modes of communication, and most importantly, how Tribunals and Canonical Services departments can assist those who use Sign Language(s) as their primary mode of communication.

C2 OCIA and Marriage: Smooth Sailing or Stormy Seas?

Linda Budney, JCD

Most adults exploring baptism or reception into full communion in the Catholic Church participate in the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA). Some of these participants have prior marriages which may delay or prevent their faith journey to the Catholic faith. This presentation addresses what OCIA—and the USCCB National Statutes—have to say about those with previous marriages, what factors must be considered in early discussions with participants, what information must be provided by participants when a case is submitted, and suggests strategies for educating pastors and parochial staff to ensure that cases are submitted in a timely manner.

LETTERS OF SUITABILITY

All priests and deacons who intend public ministry, including concelebration at the 2026 CLSA Convention, must submit a letter of suitability.

MAIL: Most Reverend Mitchell T. Rozanski. Mark the envelope to the attention of Mr. Eric Gabrielson, Metropolitan Tribunal, Archdiocese of Saint Louis, 20 Archbishop May Drive, Saint Louis, MO 63119.

EMAIL: Send PDF from the order or Archdiocese/Diocese to Tribunal@archstl.org.

Do not send your forms to CLSA.

Wednesday, October 14, 2026

C3 Sending Material to the Nunciature and/or Rome

Br. Joseph J. Britt, CFX

"Apostolic Nunciature" carries with it a shroud of mystery, including the everyday practicalities. In a seminar addressed to all in a chancery office (not only canon lawyers) who would send material through the apostolic nunciature for transmission to the Holy See. Br. Joseph J. Britt, CFX, who served as archivist from 2010-2026, will present such topics as: what is a diplomatic pouch, the role of the Treaty of Vienna, and general guidelines to help ensure that a dossier or other documentation makes it way to the proper dicastery or tribunal of the Holy See, including cover letters, protocol numbers, package size limitations, and more.

C4 Canonical Implications of Assisted Suicide

Rev. Luke Beckett, OSB

Assisted suicide is already a reality in many jurisdictions, and proposals to permit the practice are advanced in other places. Following a legislative proposal in England and Wales, Fr. Beckett will reflect on how we might suggest responses as canonists, both regarding the person who chooses to kill themselves and those who assist them. In regard to the latter, the implications for clerics are of particular importance.

10:30 a.m. BREAK

11:00 a.m. 88th Annual Business Meeting

12:30 p.m. Networking Lunch

1:30 p.m. Second Instance Judicial Vicars' Meeting
Chancellors' Meeting

2:30 p.m. SEMINARS

D1 Controversy and Communion

Rev. Michael Joyce, CM, JCD

This presentation addresses situations in which diocesan leadership and the leadership of institutes of consecrated life and societies of apostolic life find themselves in different positions and yet strive to maintain communion. It will use both canon law and forms of governance in proposing how to proceed at such times in the administration of justice.

Wednesday, October 14, 2026

D2 *Safeguarding Justice and Efficiency: The Tribunal's Response to Dilatory Appeals*

Dr. David Castronovo, JD, JCD

This seminar examines the canonical provision permitting a collegiate tribunal to confirm the sentence of the prior instance by decree when an appeal clearly appears merely dilatory. Situated within the framework of matrimonial appellate procedure, the norm seeks to promote procedural economy while safeguarding the right of defense. Explore the juridical foundations and limits of this faculty, with particular attention to the discernment required of judges in identifying truly dilatory appeals. Drawing on jurisprudence of the Roman Rota, the presentation will also consider whether current praxis adequately balances efficiency with the demands of justice.

D3 *Ad resurgendum cum Christo at 10 and its Application to Contemporary Funeral Alternatives*

Rev. Vincent Woo, JCD

Ten years have passed since the CDF issued *Ad resurgendum cum Christo* on the conservation of ashes after cremation. New funeral alternatives, such as human composting and the use of biodegradable urns, have become more popular. If a deceased Catholic chooses one of these methods, a pastor may wonder whether he should grant or deny an ecclesiastical funeral. To address this lacuna in the law, this presentation applies principles from the canonical tradition to the present day. It analyzes these funeral alternatives to help pastors and local ordinaries make informed decisions.

D4 *Ascription, Biritual Faculties, and Adaptation of Rite: An Evolving Praxis Curiae*

Rev. John D. Faris, JCOD

A 2026 letter of the Dicastery for Eastern Churches—disclosing that Apostolic See authorization is not required for the reception of baptized Protestants into an Eastern Church *sui iuris*—provides the occasion for this presentation. Read together with the Dicastery's circular letter of November 2024 and the *Osservazioni* of the Pontifical Council for Legislative Texts of 2012, the three documents illuminate an evolving curial practice on ascription, transfer of ascription, biritual faculties, and adaptation of rite. This presentation examines the canonical reasoning behind each document and its implications for practitioners.

LITURGY HELP NEEDED!

Lectors, Eucharistic ministers, and deacons are needed at all Masses during the Convention. Laity are encouraged to volunteer as lectors; clerics are encouraged to volunteer as Eucharistic ministers. Please contact Rev. Jonathan Sorensen, at jsorensen@gidiocese.org if you can help.

Wednesday, October 14, 2026

5:00 p.m. Convention Mass and Installation of Officers

Mass will be held at the Basilica of Saint Louis, King of France (also known as the Old Cathedral), located at 209 Walnut Street, St. Louis, MO 63102.

Important notes:

- The Basilica is about a four-minute walk from the hotel.
- We will not offer transportation to Mass.

6:30 p.m. Convention Banquet

- Convention attendees and their paid guests are welcome to attend.
- Badges are required to attend. There will be a cash bar.
- The Role of Law presentation will take place at the conclusion of dinner.



Thursday, October 15, 2026

7:30 a.m. Mass

8:00 a.m. Continental Breakfast for Convention Attendees (*badge required*)

9:00 a.m. Major Address

The Diocesan Bishop: Balancing the Role of Pastor and Judge

Most Rev. Bernard A. Hebda, JCL, JD

10:30 a.m. Closing Remarks

SAVE THE DATE!

89th Annual Convention
October 11-14, 2027

Hyatt Regency
DFW Airport



CANDIDATES FOR OFFICE

Office of the Vice President/President-Elect



Very Rev. Jamin Scott David

Vicar General & Moderator of the Curia
Diocese of Baton Rouge,
Louisiana

Ordained

Priest of the Diocese of Baton Rouge, 2008

Education

- JCL, The Catholic University of America, Washington, DC, 2011
- MDiv, Notre Dame Seminary & Graduate School of Theology, New Orleans, LA, 2008
- BA, St. Joseph Seminary College, Covington, LA, 2004

Positions Held

- Vicar General & Moderator of the Curia (2021-Present)
- College of Consultors (2019-Present)
- Judge, Diocese of Baton Rouge (2011-Present)

Service to the Society

- Member since 2009
- Treasurer (2022-2025)
- Senior Consultor (2025-Present)
- Resolutions Committee Member (2013-2016); Chair (2015-2016)
- Convention Planning Committee Chair (2016-2019)
- Sacramental Law Committee Chair (2020-2022)
- Professional Responsibility Committee Chair (2025-Present)
- Tribunal Audit Team Chair (2016, 2017, 2022, 2023, 2025)
- Major Address Panelist: "An Overview of *Mitis Iudex*, Two Years On," (Indianapolis, 2017)
- Workshop Presenter (San Diego, 2021)

Other Relevant Experience

- Conference of Chancery and Tribunal Officials (Vice President 2013; President 2014; Secretary-Treasurer 2015-Present)
- Episcopal Vicar for Strategic Planning (2019-2021)
- Secretary for Administration (2019-Present)
- College of Consultors (2019-Present)
- Director of Formation for the Permanent Diaconate (2014-2021)
- Trustee - FRAU, Baton Rouge (2018-Present)



Dr. Christina Hip-Flores

Canonist

Vocation

Consecrated in the Ordo Virginum of Santiago de Cuba, 2012

Education

- Princeton, Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs (BA, 1999)
- Harvard, Kennedy School of Government (MPP, 2004)
- Catholic University of America (JCL, 2010)
- University of Navarra (JCD, 2015)
- Catholic University of America (JD, 2021)

Ministerial Experience

Non-Canonical

- Spanish Catholic Center of the Archdiocese of Washington, Director of Social Programs (2004-2005)
- Lay Leadership Institute of the Archdiocese of Washington, Director (2005-2010)
- Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Newark, Staff Attorney (2022-2024)

Canonical

- Practicing canon law since 2011. I began my canonical career as tribunal director in the Second Instance Tribunal of the Archdiocese of Santiago in Cuba.
- Defender of the Bond, Promotor of Justice, Collegial Judge, and Consultant for various tribunals in the United States, Cuba, and Mexico (2012-present)

Teaching

- Catholic International University (Marriage Law, Temporal Goods)
- St. John Seminary, Los Angeles (Introduction to Canon Law)

Service to the Society

- Member since 2012
- Committee on Consecrated Life (2015-2017, 2024-present)
- Presenter, Pre-Convention Workshop (2015)
- Consultor, Board of Governors (2017-2020)
- Presenter, Convention (2020)
- Contributor, New Commentary of the Code of Canon Law (*forthcoming*)

CANDIDATES FOR OFFICE

Office of the Vice President/President-Elect



Dr. Benedict Nguyen

Executive Vice President,
Christendom College

Education

- D.Min-ABD, Nashotah House Seminary
- Ed.D, University of St. Thomas, Houston
- JD, Hamline University School of Law
- JCL, The Catholic University of America
- MTS, University of Dallas
- BA-Musicology, University of Kansas

Ministerial Experience

- Adjunct Professor of Canon Law (St. Mary Seminary, Houston, 2024-2026)
- Canonical Counsel, Promoter of Justice (Diocese of Corpus Christi, 2015-2022)
- Communications Director, Director of Sacred Worship (Diocese of Venice, 2014-2015)
- Asst. Professor, Ave Maria University, 2007-2015
- Adjunct Professor, Avila Institute (2014-2025)
- Instructor, Diaconate Formation, (Archdiocese of Kansas City and Diocese of Corpus Christi)
- Chancellor, Defender of the Bond, Director of Comms. (Diocese of La Crosse, 2003-2010)

Service to the Society

- Member since 2003
- Consultor, Board of Governors (2022-2025)
- Scholarship Committee (2024-2025)
- Convention Presenter (2024)
- Member, Publications Advisory Board (2022-2024)
- Member, Professional Responsibility Committee (2019-2022); Hearing Officer (2019-2022)
- Presenter, NW Regional Canon Law Society, 2022

Other Relevant Experience

- Asst. Professor, Center for Educational Philosophy & Leadership (current)
- Asst. Vice President for Student Affairs, University of St. Thomas (2022-2026)
- Dean of Students, University of St. Thomas (2022-2026)
- Adjunct Professor, Cameron School of Business (2021-2022)

CANDIDATES FOR OFFICE

Office of the Secretary



Very Rev. Alan M. Guanella

Vicar General/Judicial Vicar
Diocese of La Crosse, WI

Ordination

Priest of the Diocese of La Crosse, 2013

Education

- GCert, Church Management, Villanova University, 2025
- JCL, Catholic University of America, 2019
- ThDip, Spiritual Theology, Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas, 2013
- STB, Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas, 2012
- BA, Saint Mary's University of Minnesota, 2009

Ministerial Experience

- Judicial Vicar since 2025
- Adjunct Judicial Vicar, 2023-2025
- Judge, 2023-present
- Defender of the Bond, 2023-2025
- Pastor, 2019-2025
- High School Chaplain, 2013-2017
- Diaconate Program Lecturer in Liturgical Practica, 2014-2016
- Diaconate Program Lecturer Canon Law, 2026-present

Service to the Society

- Student Member, 2016-2019
- Active Member since 2019

Membership

- Canadian Canon Law Society since 2020
- Canon Law Society of Great Britain and Ireland since 2020
- Priestly Fraternity of St. Dominic (Third Order) since 2016
- Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem since 2016

Other Relevant Experience

- Assessor for Administrative Penal Processes
- Promotor of Justice *ad causum*
- Canonist for Missionary Sisters
- Adoremus Bulletin contributor



Dr. Sofia Markovich

Secretary for Canonical Services
and Metropolitan Judge
Archdiocese of Washington, DC

Education

- JCD, The Catholic University of America
- JCL, Pontifical Gregorian University, Italy
- STL, Pontifical Catholic University of Chile
- STB, Pontifical Catholic University of Chile
- Diploma in Contemporary Philosophy, Alberto Hurtado University, Chile
- BA, Philosophy, Alberto Hurtado University, Chile

Ministerial Experience

- Metropolitan Judge, Metropolitan Tribunal of the Archdiocese of Washington, DC (2017–present)
- Canonical Consultant, Metropolitan Tribunal of the Archdiocese of Washington, DC (2015–present)
- Research Assistant, School of Canon Law, The Catholic University of America (2014–2017)
- Adjunct Faculty of Canon Law, Pontifical Faculty of the Immaculate Conception at the Dominican House of Studies (2014–2016)
- FYE Teaching Fellow, School of Theology and Religious Studies, The Catholic University of America (2014–2016)

Service to the Society

- Member since 2014
- Committee on Church Governance (2018-2021)
- Committee on Research and Development (2022-2024)
- Committee on Sacramental Law (2022-2023)
- Member, and now chair of the Committee on Resolutions (2024-present)

Other Relevant Experience

- Member, Consociatio internationalis studio iuris canonici promovendo
- Member, The Canon Law Society of Chile
- Member, The John Carroll Society, Washington, DC

CANDIDATES FOR OFFICE

Office of Consultor



Very Rev. J. David Carter

Pastor and Rector of the Basilica of Sts. Peter and Paul, Chattanooga, TN; Judicial Vicar and Vice Chancellor for Canonical Affairs for the Diocese of Knoxville, TN

Ordination: Priesthood, July 1, 2005

Education

- BA from Conception Seminary College 2001
- STB from the Pontifical Gregorian University 2004
- JCL from the Pontifical Gregorian University, 2010

Ministerial Experience

- Parochial Vicar, St. Jude Chattanooga, TN 2005-2008
- Parochial Vicar, All Saints, Knoxville, 2010-2013
- Chaplain, Knoxville Catholic High School, 2013
- Pastor and Rector, Basilica of Sts. Peter and Paul, Chattanooga, 2013-present

Service to the Society

- Member since 2010
- PAB 2025-present

Other Relevant Experience

- Episcopal Delegate for Diocesan Inquiry for Servant of God Fr. Patrick Ryan
- Promotor of Justice for Diocesan Inquiry for the Five Shreveport Martyrs



Rev. James Clark

Judicial Vicar & Chancellor of the Diocese of Memphis
Pastor of Holy Rosary Parish, Memphis, TN

Ordination: June 4, 2011

Education

- BA, Franciscan University of Steubenville (2005)
- MA Theology, Franciscan University of Steubenville (2006)
- STB, Sacred Heart Major Seminary, Detroit (2008)
- JCL, St. Paul University, Ottawa (2018)
- JCD, St. Paul University, Ottawa (2025)

Ministerial Experience

- Parochial Vicar, St. Ann Parish, Bartlett, TN (2011-2012)
- Parochial Vicar, Holy Rosary Parish, Memphis, TN (2012-2016)
- Pastor, St. Mary Parish, Savannah, TN (2016-2017)
- Judicial Vicar & Chancellor, Diocese of Memphis (2018-present)
- Parochial Administrator, St. Anne Parish, Memphis (2025)
- Pastor, Holy Rosary Parish, Memphis, TN (2026-present)

Service to the Society

- Member since 2015

Other Relevant Experience

- Judge & Defender of the Bond *ad causam* for other tribunals
- Assessor & Promoter of Justice for penal cases in other dioceses
- Instructor for Dispensations from the Clerical State

CANDIDATES FOR OFFICE

Office of Consultor



Joe Gehret

Archdiocese of Indianapolis

Education

- JCL, Catholic University of America
- BA, Marian University

Ministerial Experience

- Defender of the Bond, 2024-present
- Judge: 2022-2024
- Assessor/Auditor: 2019-2022
- Advocate: 2015-2019

Service to the Society

- Member since 2016 (Associate Member 2015-2020, Active 2021-present)
- Chair, Subcommittee on Convention Liturgy, 2021-2024

Other Relevant Experience

- Lecturer, Program for Deacon Formation, St. Meinrad Archabbey and School of Theology, 2026
- Voted "Most Likely to Become Famous," Versailles High School Class of 2010



Dcn. Matthew Glover

Chancellor and General Counsel
Diocese of Little Rock, AR

Ordination

Deacon of the Diocese of Little Rock, 2016

Education

- JCL, Catholic University of America (2015)
- JD, Univ. of Ark. Little Rock Bowen School of Law (2008)
- STB, Pontifical Gregorian University (2004)
- BA, Loyola University New Orleans (2001)

Ministerial Experience

- Deacon, Christ the King Church, Little Rock (2016-present) and St. Theresa Church, Little Rock (2024-present)
- Chancery and Tribunal work, various capacities, Diocese of Little Rock (2012-present))

Service to CLSA

- Student Member (2012-2015); Full Member (2015-present)
- Laity Committee (2018-2021; Chair, 2020-2021)
- Ad Hoc Committee on National Penal Tribunal (2020-2021)
- Strategic Visioning Task Force (2022-2024)
- Constitution Revision Commission (2024-present)
- Presentation: Canonical Issues in the Permanent Diaconate (2019 Convention)
- Presentation: Canonical Impacts of Immigration Law (2024 Convention)
- Authored Chapter 13, "Immigration Issues," in *Clergy Procedural Handbook*, 2nd ed. (2025)

Other Relevant Experience

- Instructor of canon law, philosophy, and theology in various programs
- Associate Attorney, Wright, Lindsey & Jennings LLP (2010-2012)
- Law Clerk to Chief Judge of a Federal District Court (2008-2010)

PRESENTERS

PRE-CONVENTION WORKSHOPS

Dr. Heather T. Banis, PhD, Victims Assistance Coordinator, Archdiocese of Los Angeles, CA

Dr. Stephen T. Carroll, PhD, LCPC, Director of Education & Aftercare Services, Saint Luke Institute

Dr. Teresa Kettelkamp, Former Adjunct Secretary, Pontifical Commission for the Protection of Minors

Rev. Gregory T. Luyet, JCL, Judicial Vicar, Diocese of Little Rock, AR

KEYNOTE

Dr. John P. Slattery, PhD, Executive Director, Grefenstette Center for Ethics, Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, PA

MAJOR ADDRESS

Most Rev. Bernard A. Hebda, JD, JCL, Archbishop of the Diocese of St. Paul-Minneapolis, MN

SPEAKERS

Rev. Luke Beckett, OSB, General Secretary, Canon Law Society of Great Britain and Ireland

Br. Joseph Britt, CFX, Archivist, Xaverian Brothers

Dr. Linda Budney, JCD, Defender of the Bond, Archdiocese of Washington, DC

Dr. David Castronovo, JD, JCD, Advocate of the Roman Rota, Wilmington, DE

Sr. Deborah Cerullo, SSND, JD, JCL, Fairfield, CT

Rev. Eric Culler, JCL, Judicial Vicar, Diocese of Toledo, OH

Rev. John D. Faris, JCOD, Pastor of Saint Anthony Maronite Catholic Church, Glen Allen, VA; Professor at The Catholic University of America

Very Rev. Robert Herbst, OFM Conv., JCD, Chancellor & Judicial Vicar, Archdiocese of Las Vegas, NV

Rev. Michael Joyce, CM, JCD, Perryville, MO

Prof. Tiffany C. Li, JD, MSt, Associate Professor of Law, Southwestern Law School, Los Angeles, CA

Rev. Paul Luniw, JCOD, Judicial Vicar; Pastor; Hospital Chaplain, Terryville, CT

Rev. Patrick J. McDevitt, CM, PhD, President & CEO, Saint Luke Institute

Rev. Christopher R. Seibt, PhL, STL, JCL, Pastor of the Parishes of Sacred Heart and Divine Mercy; Vice Chancellor of the Diocese of Syracuse, NY

Rev. Vincent Woo, JCD, Assistant Professor at St. Patrick's Seminary and University, Menlo Park, CA; Defender of the Bond, Diocese of Oakland, CA

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

Dr. Diane L. Barr, JD, JCD

Every president starts their term in the joy and excitement of the annual convention. In my more than 30 years attending our conventions, I never paid much attention to the “changing of the guard” before I was the one undertaking the new role! Like all times of service, events often have an oversized effect on what can and must be done by those in leadership. That was certainly the case this year. It’s my pleasure to look back at what’s been done this year and what’s left “undone” for those who will follow.

Constitutional Revision Commission

The amazing work of the Constitutional Revision Commission (CRC) over the past two years has influenced both current operations and the planning that could be done for the future of the organization. The Board of Governors (BOG) committed to providing the CRC with any support it would need to accomplish its task as well as to provide input when requested by the committee members. Great progress was made through the exceptional commitment of individual committee members. I am personally grateful for the fruits of their labors that we will be considering during this year’s annual meeting at the convention.

The work of the CRC has been amazing, but it has also brought challenges to future planning for the BOG since a “two-track” approach has been necessary as no one can certain whether a new constitution will be approved by the membership in St. Louis.

Mentoring Program

The BOG has also been very committed to moving the Mentoring Program brought forward by the Laity Committee into reality. With the appointment of co-directors Reverend Sean Bransfield, JCL and Ms. Clair Breau, JCL, I am confident that this program will finally begin to serve the membership. Many of our members have indicated how challenging it is to meet new colleagues at our convention.

Networking and Engagement

I am aware of the challenges we all encounter to keep in touch with our colleagues both in person and electronically given the ever-increasing demands on our time and talent, but this year, *please take some time to truly engage with one or two canonists you’ve never met and expand your circle of knowledge and support. You will be surprised how easy it is since we all at least have our service in canon law in common!*

Board of Governors Engagement

It has been my pleasure to work closely with all the members of the Board of Governors this year. We have utilized the concept of BOG subcommittees to address a variety of issues including office relocation, IT issues, advancement and specific matters related to our publication challenges. The BOG members have all brought unique and wonderful talents to our work that have helped us move various projects forward. The group has also weathered some changes in personnel due to several unexpected resignations in a thoughtful, professional manner. I am so grateful for their support and the continued willingness to look to the future with excitement and hope.

Office Relocation

As part of a strong effort to economize to make sure we live within our means and can afford to support our various projects, our office has found a new home on the campus of The Catholic University of America. The three months around the time of the actual move proved to be

especially consequential with the unexpected death of Mr. Mark Francisco and the resignation of Mrs. Donna Miller. Our General Secretary, Kathleen Butler has worked tirelessly to make sure that our convention would take place as planned given these staff changes. We have welcomed Ms. Leslie Jones as our new Membership Coordinator, whom I hope you have already met at this year's convention or in your interactions with the CLSA office for other needs.

New Commentary

The BOG has been particularly concerned about the pace of completion of the CLSA Commentary that was undertaken in 2019. The decision to create and publish the volume ourselves has been a road untraveled before. Challenges remain, but work continues on this important publication. Editors Monsignor Ronny Jenkins, JCD, and Chorbishop John Faris, JCD, and others under their direction, continue to move this project forward.

Relationships with Other Societies

Over the last year, I was warmly welcomed at the annual convention of the Canon Law Society of Great Britain and Ireland (CLSGBI) in Glasgow, Scotland in May and at the annual convention of the Canon Law Society of Australia and New Zealand (CLSANZ) in Sydney in September. The relationships we have with other canonists around the world are essential to our understanding of the role of the law among the faithful. All of us are committed to seeking out creative solutions to the many (and often similar) problems we encounter in our commitment of service to the Church and its people.

If you have any questions regarding this report or anything else, I'm happy to answer you if I can.

Blessings on you and your good ministry!

REPORT OF THE TREASURER

Very Rev. W. Chris Palladino, JCL

Thank you for your confidence in electing me as Treasurer and my personal thanks to past-Treasurer, Very Rev. Jamin David, JCL, and General Secretary, Ms. Kathleen Butler for their guidance and assistance during the transition and budget process. My appreciation to the members of the Resource Asset Management (RAM) Committee for their counsel as the budget was prepared and presented to the Board of Governors (BOG) and other financial matters.

The Society is in a strong fiscal position but reliant on savings to offset a substantial decrease in publication sales. The budget process this fiscal year has focused on relying only on member dues for income with any additional income from sales of publications as extraordinary. The Commentary project continues and within budget; however, the prolonged processes needed to present a professional and canonically accurate publication has put a financial strain on the Society and her assets.

The Society's assets continue to be professionally managed by The Boyle Anderson Group - UBS Financial Services Inc. with detailed statements, availability for consultation, competitive fees and products, which include a transfer of the Society's credit cards for FY27. Kindly refer to the draft financial statements for an overview of the Society's financial information. The Auditor was still reviewing our financial statements at the time this letter was being written and why draft documents were used and referenced.

The Licentiate and Doctorate scholarship funds are stable and well-funded. The maximum allowable for awards was agreed upon by the responsible subcommittee and distributed this year. Please encourage qualified applicants to submit requests in a timely manner with accurate information for consideration. My thanks to all who have contributed to the funds.

To date, the Society has had to withdraw from savings nearly \$344,000 combined in FY25 and FY 26 with the hope of transferring at least \$100,000 in Q2 FY26 to leave a balance of \$25,000 due for FY25 and all of FY26. It is expected that once the Commentary is set for publication and sale that we can repay the remaining balance due yet that will be a temporary fix unless further changes are made to generate income including the need to increase member dues, which I am reluctant to recommend.

Expenses are within budget with a moderate increase in salary payments to staff and related benefits. The office was relocated to the campus of Catholic University earlier this year due to a favorable lease agreement leading to a decrease in month expenses – my appreciation to the subcommittee involved in that process of which I was included. Contracts with various vendors and Walsh Accounting Services, LLS, have been reviewed for necessity and effectiveness with a new contract negotiated with Walsh for level billing. The Nix and Associates contract has been renewed in order for the Society to continue to offer excellent conferences and look for future convention locations reliant on Nix's professionalism and expertise.

As mentioned in newsletters, the BOG and relevant subcommittees have investigated the possibility of two stable convention locations that appear to offer convenience for the membership and cost effectiveness. I am in favor of this consideration and will discuss it the with RAM Committee at the next meeting. Also, noted previously, maintaining annual dues for the next fiscal

year and the cost to attend the annual convention is a major focus; however, given the state of the present economy and increasing costs, it is possible that dues and fees will increase for FY28.

Credit card processing fees have exponentially increased resulting in nearly a \$20,000 per year expense to the Society. While this expense is anticipated, it is not offset by publication sales or other income. It will be necessary beginning in 2027 to transfer the cost of using a credit card to the user in order to stabilize expenditures. Use of checks as payment instruments instead of a credit card has an equal cost but at the expense of the staff who need to match the payments and process the deposits. As an aside, kindly insist that accounting departments from the diocese and/or religious communities accurately list on the payment a name and invoice number which contributes to further staff involvement, returned payments and possible lost income.

In the months to come, the budget process will begin again in consultation with the BOG, RAM Committee, and General Secretary. Items for discussion are mentioned above with minimal changes for the way the Society operates unless mandated to do so. Therefore, income and expenses will remain static for the next fiscal year. The Commentary project, related expenses, sale price and consideration for future publications will be the only possibility for new income.

Canon Law Society of America

Balance Sheet
As of Jun 30, 2026

	Jul 2025	Aug 2025	Sep 2025	Oct 2025	Nov 2025	Dec 2025	Jan 2026	Feb 2026	Mar 2026	Apr 2026	May 2026	Jun 2026
Assets												
Current Assets												
Bank Accounts												
1010 TD Operating Account - 9622	\$215,333.98	\$205,182.16	\$165,765.51	\$93,877.60	\$62,146.10	\$25,682.68	\$78,141.87	\$71,415.49	\$47,901.95	\$67,271.43	\$124,293.23	\$195,014.65
1050 Cash Box	\$458.75	\$408.75	\$1,013.75	\$593.75	\$593.75	\$581.75	\$581.75	\$581.75	\$256.75	\$194.59	\$194.59	\$384.59
1072 Bill.com Money Out Clearing	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,212.50	\$3,212.50	\$3,212.50	\$3,212.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total for Bank Accounts	\$215,792.73	\$205,590.91	\$166,779.26	\$94,471.35	\$65,952.35	\$29,476.93	\$81,936.12	\$75,209.74	\$48,158.70	\$67,466.02	\$124,487.82	\$195,399.24
Accounts Receivable												
Accounts Receivable (A/R)	\$2,453.41	\$10,252.41	\$2,848.84	\$3,602.59	\$1,477.59	\$1,777.84	\$1,313.97	\$28,843.03	\$29,275.09	\$35,349.84	\$34,514.13	\$38,955.56
Total for Accounts Receivable	\$2,453.41	\$10,252.41	\$2,848.84	\$3,602.59	\$1,477.59	\$1,777.84	\$1,313.97	\$28,843.03	\$29,275.09	\$35,349.84	\$34,514.13	\$38,955.56
Other Current Assets												
1200 Accounts Receivable												
1210 Accounts Receivable	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
1220 Accounts Rec -Other Funds	\$236.28	\$236.28	\$256.28	\$12,256.28	\$12,256.28	\$256.28	\$256.28	\$256.28	\$256.28	\$256.28	\$256.28	\$0.00
Total for 1200 Accounts Receivable	\$236.28	\$236.28	\$256.28	\$12,256.28	\$12,256.28	\$256.28	\$256.28	\$256.28	\$256.28	\$256.28	\$256.28	\$0.00
1400 Prepaid Expenses												
1410 Prepaid/Rent Insurance	\$576.48	\$479.06	\$381.64	\$284.22	\$186.80	\$89.38	\$1,220.00	\$1,118.33	\$1,016.66	\$914.99	\$813.32	\$711.65
1420 Other Prepaid Expenses	\$7,195.99	\$5,430.13	\$4,643.25	\$3,347.08	\$4,583.82	\$3,855.55	\$2,359.51	\$1,700.43	\$6,362.50	\$5,742.14	\$5,118.46	\$4,494.78
1421 Other Prepaid Exp (Publications)	\$0.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
1422 Other Prepaid Ex (Convention)	\$75,447.09	\$150,881.99	\$151,499.00	\$20,891.51	\$20,599.84	\$20,308.17	\$47,716.50	\$47,424.83	\$47,133.16	\$50,432.65	\$55,784.58	\$57,680.34
1423 Other Prepaid Exp (Ops)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
1424 Other Prepaid Exp (Scholarships)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total for 1400 Prepaid Expenses	\$83,219.56	\$158,791.18	\$158,523.89	\$26,522.81	\$27,370.46	\$26,253.10	\$53,296.01	\$52,243.59	\$56,512.32	\$59,089.78	\$63,716.36	\$64,886.77
1500 Inventory Asset												
1510 Inventory - Books & CDs (Publication in Process)	\$36,238.10	\$35,095.77	\$38,040.26	\$39,220.91	\$38,332.75	\$37,299.70	\$34,784.30	\$34,630.93	\$45,706.05	\$41,613.26	\$41,613.26	\$38,108.08
1520 Commentary	\$159,133.33	\$159,133.33	\$159,133.33	\$217,133.33	\$217,133.33	\$217,133.33	\$217,133.33	\$217,133.33	\$217,133.33	\$217,133.33	\$217,133.33	\$217,133.33

Canon Law Society of America

Balance Sheet
As of Jun 30, 2026

	Jul 2025	Aug 2025	Sep 2025	Oct 2025	Nov 2025	Dec 2025	Jan 2026	Feb 2026	Mar 2026	Apr 2026	May 2026	Jun 2026
Total for 1500 Inventory Asset	\$195,371.43	\$194,229.10	\$197,173.59	\$256,354.24	\$255,466.08	\$254,433.03	\$251,917.63	\$251,764.26	\$262,839.38	\$258,746.59	\$258,746.59	\$255,241.41
Undeposited Funds	\$12,029.77	\$21,012.35	\$5,452.06	-\$258.94	\$112.93	\$275.58	-\$86.14	-\$191.25	\$423.78	\$8,210.56	\$5,217.66	\$18,058.10
Total for Other Current Assets	\$290,857.04	\$374,268.91	\$361,405.82	\$294,874.39	\$295,205.75	\$281,217.99	\$305,383.78	\$304,072.88	\$320,031.76	\$326,303.21	\$327,936.89	\$338,186.28
Total for Current Assets	\$509,103.18	\$590,112.23	\$531,033.92	\$392,948.33	\$362,635.69	\$312,472.76	\$388,633.87	\$408,125.65	\$397,465.55	\$429,119.07	\$486,938.84	\$572,541.08
Fixed Assets												
1700 Fixed Assets												
1710 Furniture and Equipment (Ops)	\$31,471.00	\$31,471.00	\$31,471.00	\$31,471.00	\$31,471.00	\$31,471.00	\$31,471.00	\$31,471.00	\$31,471.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
1720 Technology Equipment	\$13,186.98	\$13,186.98	\$13,186.98	\$13,186.98	\$13,186.98	\$13,186.98	\$13,186.98	\$13,186.98	\$13,186.98	\$13,185.98	\$13,185.98	\$13,185.98
1790 Accumulated Depreciation(contra	-\$37,652.99	-\$38,113.90	-\$38,574.81	-\$39,035.72	-\$39,496.63	-\$39,957.54	-\$40,418.45	-\$40,879.36	-\$41,340.27	-\$8,840.50	-\$8,966.95	-\$9,093.40
Total for 1700 Fixed Assets	\$7,004.99	\$6,544.08	\$6,083.17	\$5,622.26	\$5,161.35	\$4,700.44	\$4,239.53	\$3,778.62	\$3,317.71	\$4,345.48	\$4,219.03	\$4,092.58
Total for Fixed Assets	\$7,004.99	\$6,544.08	\$6,083.17	\$5,622.26	\$5,161.35	\$4,700.44	\$4,239.53	\$3,778.62	\$3,317.71	\$4,345.48	\$4,219.03	\$4,092.58
Other Assets												
1230 Security Deposit (Ops)	\$2,094.40	\$2,094.40	\$2,094.40	\$2,094.40	\$2,094.40	\$2,094.40	\$2,094.40	\$2,094.40	\$2,094.40	\$2,094.40	\$2,094.40	\$2,094.40
1600 Investment												
1610 CUIT MMF - Ops (0001/0004292001	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
1611 CUIT BF - Ops (0026/0004292001)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
1612 CUIT Magnus-Ops (Ending 2001)	\$990,184.04	\$1,063,104.23	\$1,094,850.96	\$1,104,676.00	\$958,561.48	\$962,456.31	\$907,060.06	\$860,159.01	\$823,506.62	\$879,397.54	\$897,871.20	\$898,034.14
1620 CUIT BF-Licentiate (0004292002)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
1621 CUIT BF-	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

Canon Law Society of America

Balance Sheet
As of Jun 30, 2026

	Jul 2025	Aug 2025	Sep 2025	Oct 2025	Nov 2025	Dec 2025	Jan 2026	Feb 2026	Mar 2026	Apr 2026	May 2026	Jun 2026
Doctoral (0004292003)												
Total for 1600 Investment	\$990,184.04	\$1,063,104.23	\$1,094,850.96	\$1,104,676.00	\$958,561.48	\$962,456.31	\$907,060.06	\$860,159.01	\$823,506.62	\$879,397.54	\$897,871.20	\$898,034.14
1650 Investment - Scholarship Fund												
1622 CUIT Magnus- Licentiate (...2002)	\$1,429,903.87	\$1,453,112.41	\$1,496,482.76	\$1,510,027.62	\$1,518,071.76	\$1,524,365.60	\$1,556,092.89	\$1,564,520.87	\$1,495,235.27	\$1,593,350.37	\$1,626,003.33	\$1,623,697.30
1623 CUIT Magnus- Doctoral (...2003)	\$128,622.96	\$130,710.62	\$133,749.65	\$135,496.63	\$136,264.08	\$136,625.29	\$139,572.62	\$141,254.82	\$134,975.61	\$142,342.27	\$145,885.93	\$144,463.12
Total for 1650 Investment - Scholarship Fund	\$1,558,526.83	\$1,583,823.03	\$1,630,232.41	\$1,645,524.25	\$1,654,335.84	\$1,660,990.89	\$1,695,665.51	\$1,705,775.69	\$1,630,210.88	\$1,735,692.64	\$1,771,889.26	\$1,768,160.42
1800 Finance Right of Use (net)	\$10,502.07	\$7,886.22	\$5,263.92	\$2,635.16	-\$0.00	-\$0.00	-\$0.00	-\$0.00	\$54,860.57	\$53,422.37	\$51,976.98	\$50,524.36
Total for Other Assets	\$2,561,307.34	\$2,656,907.88	\$2,732,441.69	\$2,754,929.81	\$2,614,991.72	\$2,625,541.60	\$2,604,819.97	\$2,568,029.10	\$2,510,672.47	\$2,670,606.95	\$2,723,831.84	\$2,718,813.32
Total for Assets	\$3,077,415.51	\$3,253,564.19	\$3,269,558.78	\$3,153,500.40	\$2,982,788.76	\$2,942,714.80	\$2,997,693.37	\$2,979,933.37	\$2,911,455.73	\$3,104,071.50	\$3,214,989.71	\$3,295,446.98

Canon Law Society of America

Balance Sheet
As of Jun 30, 2026

	Jul 2025	Aug 2025	Sep 2025	Oct 2025	Nov 2025	Dec 2025	Jan 2026	Feb 2026	Mar 2026	Apr 2026	May 2026	Jun 2026
Liabilities and Equity												
Liabilities												
Current Liabilities												
Accounts Payable												
Accounts Payable (A/P)	\$46,251.17	\$84,187.13	\$11,936.69	\$152,689.41	\$13,295.32	\$7,776.00	\$35,173.65	\$8,466.68	\$29,184.00	\$9,910.29	\$14,377.19	\$15,628.11
Total for Accounts Payable	\$46,251.17	\$84,187.13	\$11,936.69	\$152,689.41	\$13,295.32	\$7,776.00	\$35,173.65	\$8,466.68	\$29,184.00	\$9,910.29	\$14,377.19	\$15,628.11
Credit Cards												
2160 Bank of America - 7812	\$138,290.96	\$140,280.60	\$142,458.68	\$147,726.57	\$153,249.01	\$156,257.19	\$157,572.89	\$159,004.49	\$159,444.61	\$161,276.10	\$162,182.70	\$167,502.99
2161 BoA Credit Card K. Butler Visa - 5317	\$100,043.76	\$103,930.39	\$106,063.93	\$112,787.45	\$114,163.47	\$115,180.58	\$116,345.88	\$116,870.40	\$118,536.17	\$119,391.47	\$123,670.80	\$124,088.92
2162 BofA Credit Card D. Miller Visa - 6414	\$41,191.80	\$41,693.40	\$41,892.17	\$42,086.63	\$42,285.41	\$42,479.84	\$42,678.60	\$42,877.36	\$42,940.95	\$43,777.99	\$43,852.18	\$43,926.37
Total for 2160 Bank of America - 7812	\$2,944.60	\$5,343.19	\$5,497.42	\$7,147.51	\$3,199.87	\$1,403.23	\$1,451.59	\$743.27	\$2,032.51	\$1,893.36	\$5,340.28	\$512.30
Total for Credit Cards	\$2,944.60	\$5,343.19	\$5,497.42	\$7,147.51	\$3,199.87	\$1,403.23	\$1,451.59	\$743.27	\$2,032.51	\$1,893.36	\$5,340.28	\$512.30
Other Current Liabilities												
2100 Accounts Payable												
2110 Accounts Payable	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
2111 Accounts Payable (Scholarships)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total for 2100 Accounts Payable	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
2115 Accrued Scholarships Licentiate	\$69,746.01	\$61,053.68	\$60,053.68	\$58,678.68	\$58,178.68	\$48,145.35	\$46,561.35	\$46,561.35	\$46,561.35	\$43,228.00	\$43,228.00	\$39,894.33
2116 Accrued Scholarship Doctoral	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
2120 Accrued Expenses - Royalties	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
2121 AccruedExp-Holy See CCEO (8%)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
2122 AccruedExp-CodeCanonLawLat (4%)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
2123 Accrued Exp-Holy See Dignit(6%)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
2124 AccruedExp(CMSM/NCVR/LCWR/Sl60%	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
2126 QUQQUEU, Code - 4th Edition	\$200.40	\$507.32	\$827.72	\$899.52	\$1,024.04	\$1,237.44	\$329.80	\$341.40	\$465.60	\$654.52	\$819.22	\$994.28
2127 AccruedExp-Holy See CCEO (6%)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

Canon Law Society of America

Balance Sheet
As of Jun 30, 2026

	Jul 2025	Aug 2025	Sep 2025	Oct 2025	Nov 2025	Dec 2025	Jan 2026	Feb 2026	Mar 2026	Apr 2026	May 2026	Jun 2026
Total for 2120 Accrued Expenses - Royalties	\$200.40	\$507.32	\$827.72	\$899.52	\$1,024.04	\$1,237.44	\$329.80	\$341.40	\$465.60	\$654.52	\$819.22	\$994.28
2130 Accrued Payroll												
2131 Accrued Wages	\$15,720.41	\$17,457.57	\$20,191.80	\$25,011.02	\$25,084.93	\$17,133.92	\$17,260.13	\$17,673.53	\$21,303.76	\$32,746.06	\$10,748.96	\$1,014.88
2132 Accrued Vacation											\$13,304.58	\$7,017.91
Total for 2130 Accrued Payroll	\$15,720.41	\$17,457.57	\$20,191.80	\$25,011.02	\$25,084.93	\$17,133.92	\$17,260.13	\$17,673.53	\$21,303.76	\$32,746.06	\$24,053.54	\$8,032.79
2135 Accrued Expenses	\$12,000.00	\$12,000.00	\$12,000.00	\$12,000.00	\$12,000.00	\$12,000.00	\$12,357.66	\$12,000.00	\$12,000.00	\$12,000.00	\$12,000.00	\$16,000.00
2136 Accrued Commentary Contributors	\$11,180.87	\$11,180.87	\$11,180.87	\$32,780.54	\$32,780.54	\$32,780.54	\$32,780.54	\$32,780.54	\$32,780.54	\$23,180.54	\$23,180.54	\$23,180.54
2150 Short Term Lease Liability	\$10,892.03	\$8,178.69	\$5,458.90	\$2,732.65	-\$0.05	-\$0.05	-\$0.05	-\$0.05	\$19,897.37	\$19,897.37	\$19,897.37	\$19,897.37
2155 Lease Clearing Account	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
2200 Deferred Revenue												
2201 Deferred Revenue (Conv. Reg.)	\$130,618.00	\$251,040.50	\$269,036.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,228.00
2203 Deferred Revenue (W2 Pre-Conv)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
2204 Deferred Rev - Membership Dues	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$93,600.00	\$191,975.00	\$337,300.00
2205 Deferred Rev (Schaaf Project)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
2206 Deferred Revenue - Other	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total for 2200 Deferred Revenue	\$130,618.00	\$251,040.50	\$269,036.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$93,600.00	\$191,975.00	\$340,528.00
Total for Other Current Liabilities	\$250,357.72	\$361,418.63	\$378,749.47	\$132,102.41	\$129,068.14	\$111,297.20	\$109,289.43	\$109,356.77	\$133,008.62	\$225,306.49	\$315,153.67	\$448,527.31
Total for Current Liabilities	\$299,553.49	\$450,948.95	\$396,183.58	\$291,939.33	\$145,563.33	\$120,476.43	\$145,914.67	\$118,566.72	\$164,225.13	\$237,110.14	\$334,871.14	\$464,667.72
Long-term Liabilities												
2300 Other Long Term Liabilities	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
2700 Long Term Lease Liability	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$34,963.15	\$33,524.95	\$32,079.56	\$30,626.94
3202 Board Designated Net Assets (Pu	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
3203 Board Designated Net Assets (Op	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total for Long-term Liabilities	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$34,963.15	\$33,524.95	\$32,079.56	\$30,626.94

Canon Law Society of America

Balance Sheet
As of Jun 30, 2026

	Jul 2025	Aug 2025	Sep 2025	Oct 2025	Nov 2025	Dec 2025	Jan 2026	Feb 2026	Mar 2026	Apr 2026	May 2026	Jun 2026
Total for Liabilities	\$299,553.49	\$450,948.95	\$396,183.58	\$291,939.33	\$145,563.33	\$120,476.43	\$145,914.67	\$118,566.72	\$199,188.28	\$270,635.09	\$366,950.70	\$495,294.66

Canon Law Society of America

Balance Sheet
As of Jun 30, 2026

	Jul 2025	Aug 2025	Sep 2025	Oct 2025	Nov 2025	Dec 2025	Jan 2026	Feb 2026	Mar 2026	Apr 2026	May 2026	Jun 2026
Equity												
30000 Opening Balance Equity	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
3101 Unrestricted	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
3102 Undesignated	\$627,114.77	\$637,796.25	\$633,258.46	\$631,642.75	\$629,716.23	\$628,882.40	\$625,594.70	\$625,594.70	\$625,594.70	\$625,594.70	\$625,594.70	\$308,450.81
3103 Board designated - Publications	-\$130,178.87	-\$133,147.47	-\$102,837.58	-\$95,178.28	-\$87,623.57	-\$77,511.22	-\$61,169.57	-\$61,169.57	-\$61,169.57	-\$61,169.57	-\$61,169.57	-\$44,609.44
Total for 3101 Unrestricted	\$496,935.90	\$504,648.78	\$530,420.88	\$536,464.47	\$542,092.66	\$551,371.18	\$564,425.13	\$564,425.13	\$564,425.13	\$564,425.13	\$564,425.13	\$263,841.37
3120 Temporarily restricted	\$1,405,074.79	\$1,397,361.91	\$1,371,589.81	\$1,365,546.22	\$1,359,918.03	\$1,350,639.51	\$1,337,585.56	\$1,337,585.56	\$1,337,585.56	\$1,337,585.56	\$1,337,585.56	\$1,638,169.32
3126 Unrestricted Retained Earn-Scho	\$563,568.33	\$563,568.33	\$563,568.33	\$563,568.33	\$563,568.33	\$563,568.33	\$563,568.33	\$563,568.33	\$563,568.33	\$563,568.33	\$563,568.33	\$563,568.33
Net Income	\$312,283.00	\$337,036.22	\$407,796.18	\$395,982.05	\$371,646.41	\$356,659.35	\$386,199.68	\$395,787.63	\$246,688.43	\$367,857.39	\$382,459.99	\$334,573.30
Total for Equity	\$2,777,862.02	\$2,802,615.24	\$2,873,375.20	\$2,861,561.07	\$2,837,225.43	\$2,822,238.37	\$2,851,778.70	\$2,861,366.65	\$2,712,267.45	\$2,833,436.41	\$2,848,039.01	\$2,800,152.32
Total for Liabilities and Equity	\$3,077,415.51	\$3,253,564.19	\$3,269,558.78	\$3,153,500.40	\$2,982,788.76	\$2,942,714.80	\$2,997,693.37	\$2,979,933.37	\$2,911,455.73	\$3,104,071.50	\$3,214,989.71	\$3,295,446.98

Canon Law Society of America
Budget Overview: FY 2026-2027 - FY27 P&L
 July 2026 - June 2027

	Total
Income	
4100 Stewardship	0.00
4110 Membership Dues	0.00
4111 New Member Dues	22,450.00
4112 Annual Dues Renewal	377,100.00
Total 4110 Membership Dues	\$ 399,550.00
4130 Scholarship Contributions	0.00
4131 Licentiate Scholarship	12,000.00
4132 Doctoral Scholarship	4,000.00
Total 4130 Scholarship Contributions	\$ 16,000.00
4140 Investment Income	0.00
4141 Interest & Dividend-Operations	22,500.00
4142 Interest & Dividend-Licentiate	40,000.00
4143 Interest & Dividend - Doctoral	4,000.00
4160 Unreal. Gains/Loss - Gen Ops (001)	60,000.00
4161 Unreal Gains/Loss-Licentiate Sch (002)	97,000.00
4162 Unreal Gains/Loss-Doctoral Sch (003)	9,000.00
Total 4140 Investment Income	\$ 232,500.00
Total 4100 Stewardship	\$ 648,050.00
4300 Membership Development	0.00
4310 Annual Convention-Members Mtg	0.00
4311 Exhibitors/Sponsorships	4,000.00
4312 Banquet Fees (Additional)	1,000.00
4313 Convention Registration	240,000.00
4314 Pre-Convention Fees	21,000.00
4315 Convention Workbook Purchases	1,000.00
4316 One Day Registration	700.00
4317 Sponsorship Donations	5,000.00
4318 Contract Commission	22,000.00
4350 Discounts/Refunds Given	-5,000.00
Total 4310 Annual Convention-Members Mtg	\$ 289,700.00
Total 4300 Membership Development	\$ 289,700.00
4400 Product Development	0.00
4410 Publication and Resources	0.00
4411 Publications Sales	27,000.00
4413 Product Partnership Royalties	2,000.00
4420 Publications - Amazon sales	6,000.00
4430 Publication shipping income	3,780.00
Total 4410 Publication and Resources	\$ 38,780.00

Total 4400 Product Development	\$ 38,780.00
Total Income	\$ 976,530.00
Gross Profit	\$ 976,530.00
Expenses	
5100 Stewardship Expense	0.00
5120 Scholarships	0.00
5121 Licentiate Scholarship Awards	62,000.00
5122 Doctoral Scholarship Awards	5,000.00
5123 Other Scholarship Expenses	100.00
Total 5120 Scholarships	\$ 67,100.00
Total 5100 Stewardship Expense	\$ 67,100.00
5200 Professional Developmnt	0.00
5223 Networking	10,000.00
Total 5200 Professional Developmnt	\$ 10,000.00
5300 Convention and workshops (Membership Dev)	0.00
5310 Membership Outreach	0.00
5311 Outreach Projects	2,000.00
5313 Membership Expenses	10,000.00
Total 5310 Membership Outreach	\$ 12,000.00
5320 Annual Convention - Members Mtg	0.00
5321 Convention Exhibit/Advertising	500.00
5322 Convention Hotel, Food Events	115,000.00
5323 Convention Audio Visual Contractor	67,000.00
5324 Convention Supplies	3,000.00
5325 Convention Travel	7,000.00
5327 Convention Postage/Shipping	2,000.00
5328 Convention Printing/Copying	1,200.00
5329 Promotion; Program Materials/Banner	6,000.00
5330 Liturgy & Environment	2,000.00
5331 Speaker Honoraria/ Stipends	17,800.00
5332 Speaker/Travel	7,500.00
5333 Convention Lodging/Meals	4,000.00
5334 Convention Planner	45,000.00
Total 5320 Annual Convention - Members Mtg	\$ 278,000.00
5340 Board of Governors	0.00
5345 BOG Travel	18,000.00
5346 BOG Lodging/Meals	25,000.00
5348 President Discretionary Fund	2,000.00
Total 5340 Board of Governors	\$ 45,000.00
Total 5300 Convention and workshops (Membership Dev)	\$ 335,000.00
5350 Committees	0.00
5352 Standing Committees	1,000.00
5357 Constitution Revision Commission	5,000.00
Total 5350 Committees	\$ 6,000.00

5400 Product Development	0.00
5420 Expenses-Publication & Resource	0.00
5423 Books/Media/Materials	18,000.00
5427 Publications Postage/Shipping	500.00
5428 Supplies	500.00
Total 5420 Expenses-Publication & Resource	\$ 19,000.00
5430 Logistech-Outsourcing Pub & Res	0.00
5434 Rent-Storage Space (Pallet/Quic	1,000.00
5435 Ordering Processing	3,000.00
5440 Postage/Shipping	15,000.00
Total 5430 Logistech-Outsourcing Pub & Res	\$ 19,000.00
5450 Expenses-Royalties Pub & Resour	0.00
5456 QUQQEI, Code - 4th Edition	3,500.00
5457 Royalties for CCEO (6% of NR)	1,800.00
Total 5450 Expenses-Royalties Pub & Resour	\$ 5,300.00
5460 Product Partnerships	0.00
5461 CLSA Research Database Hosting	1,000.00
Total 5460 Product Partnerships	\$ 1,000.00
Total 5400 Product Development	\$ 44,300.00
6100 Canon Law Society Operating Exp	0.00
6110 Salaries and Benefits	0.00
6111 Salaries	200,000.00
6112 Employer Payroll Taxes	16,486.00
6113 Professional Development (Staff	1,000.00
6114 Employee Health Benefit Plan	26,000.00
6115 Pension Plan Administration	200.00
6116 403b Obligations	10,000.00
Total 6110 Salaries and Benefits	\$ 253,686.00
6120 Operating Expenses	0.00
6121 Publication/Media Materials	200.00
6127 Rent	20,550.00
6130 Printing/Copying	1,000.00
6132 Professional Services (Contract	25,000.00
6134 Accounting/Audit Fees	13,000.00
6135 Legal Fees	2,000.00
Total 6132 Professional Services (Contract	\$ 40,000.00
6133 Bank/Financial Fees/PayrollFees	25,000.00
6138 CMS and Website Licensing	5,000.00
6143 Fund Manager Fees	0.00
6146 Fund Manager Fee Gen Ops	8,000.00
6147 Fund Manager Fee JCL	12,000.00
6148 Fund Manager Fee - JCD	1,000.00
Total 6143 Fund Manager Fees	\$ 21,000.00
6145 Other Business Expenses	0.00

6122 Software/Subscription/Licenses	6,000.00
6123 Advertising/Marketing/Graphic Design	100.00
6124 Awards/Gifts	1,000.00
6125 Equipment Lease/Purchase/Maint	1,000.00
6126 Business Insurance	1,200.00
6128 Telecommunications	1,440.00
6129 Postage/Shipping	1,000.00
6131 Supplies	1,000.00
6137 Lodging/Meals	1,000.00
6140 Depreciation Expense	4,000.00
Total 6145 Other Business Expenses	\$ 17,740.00
Total 6120 Operating Expenses	\$ 130,490.00
Total 6100 Canon Law Society Operating Exp	\$ 384,176.00
Total Expenses	\$ 846,576.00
Net Operating Income	\$ 129,954.00
Net Income	\$ 129,954.00

Canon Law Society of America

Budget vs. Actuals: FY 2025-2026 - FY26 P&L

July 2025 - June 2026

	TOTAL			
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET	% OF BUDGET
Income				
4100 Stewardship				
4110 Membership Dues	1,125.00		1,125.00	
4111 New Member Dues	14,700.00	20,000.00	-5,300.00	73.50 %
4112 Annual Dues Renewal	362,125.00	340,000.00	22,125.00	106.51 %
Total 4110 Membership Dues	377,950.00	360,000.00	17,950.00	104.99 %
4120 Donations				
4122 General Donations	-6.00		-6.00	
Total 4120 Donations	-6.00		-6.00	
4130 Scholarship Contributions	4,870.00		4,870.00	
4131 Licentiate Scholarship	4,693.75	13,500.00	-8,806.25	34.77 %
4132 Doctoral Scholarship	2,431.25	4,500.00	-2,068.75	54.03 %
Total 4130 Scholarship Contributions	11,995.00	18,000.00	-6,005.00	66.64 %
4140 Investment Income				
4141 Interest & Dividend-Operations	16,461.92	14,000.00	2,461.92	117.59 %
4142 Interest & Dividend-Licentiate	27,122.17	18,000.00	9,122.17	150.68 %
4143 Interest & Dividend - Doctoral	2,306.68	1,600.00	706.68	144.17 %
4144 Int & Div - Scholarship (TD Bank)		0.00	0.00	
4160 Unreal. Gains/Loss - Gen Ops (001)	119,921.08	80,000.00	39,921.08	149.90 %
4161 Unreal Gains/Loss-Licentiate Sch (002)	184,637.60	100,000.00	84,637.60	184.64 %
4162 Unreal Gains/Loss-Doctoral Sch (003)	15,052.71	8,500.00	6,552.71	177.09 %
Total 4140 Investment Income	365,502.16	222,100.00	143,402.16	164.57 %
Total 4100 Stewardship	755,441.16	600,100.00	155,341.16	125.89 %
4300 Membership Development				
4310 Annual Convention-Members Mtg	27,068.31		27,068.31	
4311 Exhibitors/Sponsorships	13,400.00	4,000.00	9,400.00	335.00 %
4312 Banquet Fees (Additional)	1,450.00	1,250.00	200.00	116.00 %
4313 Convention Registration	242,627.50	240,000.00	2,627.50	101.09 %
4314 Pre-Convention Fees	15,446.00	40,000.00	-24,554.00	38.62 %
4315 Convention Workbook Purchases		0.00	0.00	
4316 One Day Registration		700.00	-700.00	
4317 Sponsorship Donations	2,000.00	10,000.00	-8,000.00	20.00 %
4318 Contract Commission	14,008.44	25,000.00	-10,991.56	56.03 %
4350 Discounts/Refunds Given		-5,000.00	5,000.00	
Total 4310 Annual Convention-Members Mtg	316,000.25	315,950.00	50.25	100.02 %
Total 4300 Membership Development	316,000.25	315,950.00	50.25	100.02 %
4400 Product Development				
4410 Publication and Resources				
4411 Publications Sales	106,519.89	50,000.00	56,519.89	213.04 %
4413 Product Partnership Royalties	2,718.02	2,500.00	218.02	108.72 %
4416 Miscellaneous Income	350.00		350.00	
4420 Publications - Amazon sales	10,017.06	5,500.00	4,517.06	182.13 %

Canon Law Society of America

Budget vs. Actuals: FY 2025-2026 - FY26 P&L

July 2025 - June 2026

	TOTAL			
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET	% OF BUDGET
4430 Publication shipping income	13,386.93	6,500.00	6,886.93	205.95 %
Total 4410 Publication and Resources	132,991.90	64,500.00	68,491.90	206.19 %
Total 4400 Product Development	132,991.90	64,500.00	68,491.90	206.19 %
Uncategorized Income	0.00		0.00	
Total Income	\$1,204,433.31	\$980,550.00	\$223,883.31	122.83 %
GROSS PROFIT	\$1,204,433.31	\$980,550.00	\$223,883.31	122.83 %
Expenses				
5100 Stewardship Expense				
5120 Scholarships	0.00		0.00	
5121 Licentiate Scholarship Awards	8,692.67	33,000.00	-24,307.33	26.34 %
5122 Doctoral Scholarship Awards		3,000.00	-3,000.00	
5123 Other Scholarship Expenses		500.00	-500.00	
Total 5120 Scholarships	8,692.67	36,500.00	-27,807.33	23.82 %
Total 5100 Stewardship Expense	8,692.67	36,500.00	-27,807.33	23.82 %
5200 Professional Developmnt				
5223 Networking	-1,290.97	3,000.00	-4,290.97	-43.03 %
Total 5200 Professional Developmnt	-1,290.97	3,000.00	-4,290.97	-43.03 %
5300 Convention and workshops (Membership Dev)				
5310 Membership Outreach		0.00	0.00	
5311 Outreach Projects	844.99		844.99	
5313 Membership Expenses	2,267.74	5,500.00	-3,232.26	41.23 %
Total 5310 Membership Outreach	3,112.73	5,500.00	-2,387.27	56.60 %
5320 Annual Convention - Members Mtg				
5321 Convention Exhibit/Advertising	2,622.07	500.00	2,122.07	524.41 %
5322 Convention Hotel, Food Events	114,564.00	110,000.00	4,564.00	104.15 %
5323 Convention Audio Visual Contractor	56,724.50	68,000.00	-11,275.50	83.42 %
5324 Convention Supplies	3,040.71	3,000.00	40.71	101.36 %
5325 Convention Travel	3,706.05	3,500.00	206.05	105.89 %
5326 Convention Telecommunications	529.65		529.65	
5327 Convention Postage/Shipping	3,413.58	1,000.00	2,413.58	341.36 %
5328 Convention Printing/Copying	1,123.81	1,000.00	123.81	112.38 %
5329 Promotion; Program Materials/Banner	4,033.26	3,500.00	533.26	115.24 %
5330 Liturgy & Environment	3,571.38	4,500.00	-928.62	79.36 %
5331 Speaker Honoraria/ Stipends	13,050.00	18,400.00	-5,350.00	70.92 %
5332 Speaker/Travel	3,428.59	6,000.00	-2,571.41	57.14 %
5333 Convention Lodging/Meals	9,002.25	5,000.00	4,002.25	180.05 %
5334 Convention Planner	64,274.20	60,000.00	4,274.20	107.12 %
5336 Convention Guest Expenses	7,774.81		7,774.81	
Total 5320 Annual Convention - Members Mtg	290,858.86	284,400.00	6,458.86	102.27 %
5340 Board of Governors				
5343 BOG Printing/Copying	45.28		45.28	
5345 BOG Travel	8,796.40	10,000.00	-1,203.60	87.96 %

Canon Law Society of America

Budget vs. Actuals: FY 2025-2026 - FY26 P&L

July 2025 - June 2026

	TOTAL			
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET	% OF BUDGET
5346 BOG Lodging/Meals	27,494.29	15,000.00	12,494.29	183.30 %
5347 Officers' Expenses	738.03	6,000.00	-5,261.97	12.30 %
5348 President Discretionary Fund	545.40	2,000.00	-1,454.60	27.27 %
Total 5340 Board of Governors	37,619.40	33,000.00	4,619.40	114.00 %
Total 5300 Convention and workshops (Membership Dev)	331,590.99	322,900.00	8,690.99	102.69 %
5350 Committees				
5351 Constitutional Committees		0.00	0.00	
5352 Standing Committees		0.00	0.00	
5353 Convention Planning Committee	294.96	0.00	294.96	
5355 Strategic Visioning		0.00	0.00	
5356 Publication Advisory Board Comm		0.00	0.00	
5357 Constitution Revision Commission	2,305.38	40,000.00	-37,694.62	5.76 %
Total 5350 Committees	2,600.34	40,000.00	-37,399.66	6.50 %
5400 Product Dvelopment				
5410 COGS - Publication & Resources				
5411 Cost of Goods Sold	17,973.93		17,973.93	
Total 5410 COGS - Publication & Resources	17,973.93		17,973.93	
5420 Expenses-Publication & Resource				
5423 Books/Media/Materials	15,347.17	113,000.00	-97,652.83	13.58 %
5424 Membership Dues/Subscription/Licensing		1,000.00	-1,000.00	
5426 Bank/Financial Services Fees	1,600.21	0.00	1,600.21	
5427 Publications Postage/Shipping	300.16	500.00	-199.84	60.03 %
5428 Supplies	1,075.17	500.00	575.17	215.03 %
Total 5420 Expenses-Publication & Resource	18,322.71	115,000.00	-96,677.29	15.93 %
5430 Logistech-Outsourcing Pub & Res				
5434 Rent-Storage Space (Pallet/Quic	1,248.97	1,000.00	248.97	124.90 %
5435 Ordering Processing	3,926.93	3,000.00	926.93	130.90 %
5438 Prof Services (Projects/Warehouse Support)		100.00	-100.00	
5440 Postage/Shipping	14,709.47	10,000.00	4,709.47	147.09 %
Total 5430 Logistech-Outsourcing Pub & Res	19,885.37	14,100.00	5,785.37	141.03 %
5450 Expenses-Royalties Pub & Resour				
5451 Royalties for CCEO (8% of NR)	112.52	500.00	-387.48	22.50 %
5452 Royalties for CIC (8% of NR)	881.16	400.00	481.16	220.29 %
5453 Royalties for Dignitas Connubbii (6% of NR)	-16.44	0.00	-16.44	
5454 Royalties for Selected Issues (60% of NR)	0.00		0.00	
5456 QUQQEI, Code - 4th Edition	2,118.60		2,118.60	
5457 Royalties for CCEO (6% of NR)	975.42		975.42	
Total 5450 Expenses-Royalties Pub & Resour	4,071.26	900.00	3,171.26	452.36 %
5460 Product Partnerships				
5461 CLSA Research Database Hosting	1,392.80	1,600.00	-207.20	87.05 %
Total 5460 Product Partnerships	1,392.80	1,600.00	-207.20	87.05 %
Total 5400 Product Dvelopment	61,646.07	131,600.00	-69,953.93	46.84 %

Canon Law Society of America

Budget vs. Actuals: FY 2025-2026 - FY26 P&L

July 2025 - June 2026

	TOTAL			
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET	% OF BUDGET
6100 Canon Law Society Operating Exp				
6110 Salaries and Benefits				
6111 Salaries	215,039.33	231,000.00	-15,960.67	93.09 %
6112 Employer Payroll Taxes	16,871.58	18,720.00	-1,848.42	90.13 %
6113 Professional Development (Staff	2,328.54	1,000.00	1,328.54	232.85 %
6114 Employee Health Benefit Plan	24,616.82	25,000.00	-383.18	98.47 %
6115 Pension Plan Administration	252.00	240.00	12.00	105.00 %
6116 403b Obligations	11,221.52	11,000.00	221.52	102.01 %
Total 6110 Salaries and Benefits	270,329.79	286,960.00	-16,630.21	94.20 %
6120 Operating Expenses				
6121 Publication/Media Materials	1,340.69	200.00	1,140.69	670.35 %
6127 Rent	21,151.92	33,000.00	-11,848.08	64.10 %
6130 Printing/Copying	114.98	1,000.00	-885.02	11.50 %
6132 Professional Services (Contract	8,268.14	4,000.00	4,268.14	206.70 %
6134 Accounting/Audit Fees	67,779.90	80,000.00	-12,220.10	84.72 %
6135 Legal Fees	3,805.39	2,000.00	1,805.39	190.27 %
Total 6132 Professional Services (Contract	79,853.43	86,000.00	-6,146.57	92.85 %
6133 Bank/Financial Fees/PayrollFees	30,004.17	25,000.00	5,004.17	120.02 %
6138 CMS and Website Licensing	5,501.88	5,000.00	501.88	110.04 %
6143 Fund Manager Fees				
6146 Fund Manager Fee Gen Ops	5,448.78		5,448.78	
6147 Fund Manager Fee JCL	8,940.79		8,940.79	
6148 Fund Manager Fee - JCD	707.37		707.37	
Total 6143 Fund Manager Fees	15,096.94		15,096.94	
6144 Operating Lease Expense	13,176.10		13,176.10	
6145 Other Business Expenses				
6122 Software/Subscription/Licenses	5,820.88	6,000.00	-179.12	97.01 %
6123 Advertising/Marketing/Graphic Design	33.00	100.00	-67.00	33.00 %
6124 Awards/Gifts	243.94	1,000.00	-756.06	24.39 %
6125 Equipment Lease/Purchase/Maint	2,050.22	2,000.00	50.22	102.51 %
6126 Business Insurance	1,274.25	1,200.00	74.25	106.19 %
6128 Telecommunications	6,807.16	6,000.00	807.16	113.45 %
6129 Postage/Shipping	735.11	1,000.00	-264.89	73.51 %
6131 Supplies	1,268.20	1,000.00	268.20	126.82 %
6136 Executive Coordinator/Travel	37.93	1,500.00	-1,462.07	2.53 %
6137 Lodging/Meals	0.00	1,000.00	-1,000.00	0.00 %
6140 Depreciation Expense	4,807.73	4,000.00	807.73	120.19 %
Total 6145 Other Business Expenses	23,078.42	24,800.00	-1,721.58	93.06 %
6150 Miscellaneous Expenses	120.00	-16,000.00	16,120.00	-0.75 %
6152 Moving Expenses	9,086.53		9,086.53	
Total 6120 Operating Expenses	198,525.06	159,000.00	39,525.06	124.86 %
Total 6100 Canon Law Society Operating Exp	468,854.85	445,960.00	22,894.85	105.13 %

Canon Law Society of America

Budget vs. Actuals: FY 2025-2026 - FY26 P&L

July 2025 - June 2026

	TOTAL			
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET	% OF BUDGET
Total Expenses	\$872,093.95	\$979,960.00	\$ -107,866.05	88.99 %
NET OPERATING INCOME	\$332,339.36	\$590.00	\$331,749.36	56,328.71 %
Other Income				
7100 Other Miscellaneous Income	799.53		799.53	
Total Other Income	\$799.53	\$0.00	\$799.53	0.00%
Other Expenses				
7600 Gain/Loss on Fixed Asset	-1,434.41		-1,434.41	
Total Other Expenses	\$ -1,434.41	\$0.00	\$ -1,434.41	0.00%
NET OTHER INCOME	\$2,233.94	\$0.00	\$2,233.94	0.00%
NET INCOME	\$334,573.30	\$590.00	\$333,983.30	56,707.34 %

Canon Law Society of America

Profit and Loss by Class

July, 2025-June, 2026

	Conventions and Workshops	General and Administrative	Member Services	Publications	Scholarship Fund	Not specified	Total
Income							
4100 Stewardship							
4110 Membership Dues			\$1,125.00				\$1,125.00
4111 New Member Dues			\$14,700.00				\$14,700.00
4112 Annual Dues Renewal	\$0.00		\$362,225.00	-\$100.00			\$362,125.00
Total for 4110 Membership Dues	\$0.00		\$378,050.00	-\$100.00			\$377,950.00
4120 Donations							
4122 General Donations		-\$6.00					-\$6.00
Total for 4120 Donations		-\$6.00					-\$6.00
4130 Scholarship Contributions					\$4,870.00		\$4,870.00
4131 Licentiate Scholarship					\$4,693.75		\$4,693.75
4132 Doctoral Scholarship					\$2,431.25		\$2,431.25
Total for 4130 Scholarship Contributions					\$11,995.00		\$11,995.00
4140 Investment Income							
4141 Interest & Dividend-Operations		\$16,461.92					\$16,461.92
4142 Interest & Dividend-Licentiate					\$27,122.17		\$27,122.17
4143 Interest & Dividend - Doctoral					\$2,306.68		\$2,306.68
4160 Unreal. Gains/Loss - Gen Ops (001)		\$119,921.08					\$119,921.08
4161 Unreal Gains/Loss-Licentiate Sch (002)		\$0.00			\$184,637.60		\$184,637.60
4162 Unreal Gains/Loss-Doctoral Sch (003)		\$0.00			\$15,052.71		\$15,052.71
Total for 4140 Investment Income		\$136,383.00			\$229,119.16		\$365,502.16
Total for 4100 Stewardship	\$0.00	\$136,377.00	\$378,050.00	-\$100.00	\$241,114.16		\$755,441.16
4300 Membership Development							
4310 Annual Convention-Members Mtg	\$27,068.31						\$27,068.31
4311 Exhibitors/Sponsorships	\$13,400.00						\$13,400.00
4312 Banquet Fees (Additional)	\$1,450.00						\$1,450.00
4313 Convention Registration	\$242,627.50						\$242,627.50
4314 Pre-Convention Fees	\$15,446.00						\$15,446.00
4317 Sponsorship Donations	\$0.00	\$2,000.00					\$2,000.00
4318 Contract Commission	\$14,008.44						\$14,008.44
Total for 4310 Annual Convention-Members Mtg	\$314,000.25	\$2,000.00					\$316,000.25
Total for 4300 Membership Development	\$314,000.25	\$2,000.00					\$316,000.25

Canon Law Society of America

Profit and Loss by Class

July, 2025-June, 2026

	Conventions and Workshops	General and Administrative	Member Services	Publications	Scholarship Fund	Not specified	Total
4400 Product Development							
4410 Publication and Resources							
4411 Publications Sales			\$525.00	\$105,994.89		\$0.00	\$106,519.89
4413 Product Partnership Royalties		\$1,492.41		\$1,225.61			\$2,718.02
4416 Miscellaneous Income				\$350.00			\$350.00
4420 Publications - Amazon sales				\$10,017.06			\$10,017.06
4430 Publication shipping income		-\$80.18	-\$5,172.99	\$18,640.10			\$13,386.93
Total for 4410 Publication and Resources		\$1,412.23	-\$4,647.99	\$136,227.66		\$0.00	\$132,991.90
Total for 4400 Product Development		\$1,412.23	-\$4,647.99	\$136,227.66		\$0.00	\$132,991.90
Uncategorized Income	\$0.00		\$0.00				\$0.00
Total for Income	\$314,000.25	\$139,789.23	\$373,402.01	\$136,127.66	\$241,114.16	\$0.00	\$1,204,433.31
Gross Profit	\$314,000.25	\$139,789.23	\$373,402.01	\$136,127.66	\$241,114.16	\$0.00	\$1,204,433.31
Expenses							
5100 Stewardship Expense							
5120 Scholarships					\$0.00		\$0.00
5121 Licentiate Scholarship Awards					\$8,692.67		\$8,692.67
Total for 5120 Scholarships					\$8,692.67		\$8,692.67
Total for 5100 Stewardship Expense					\$8,692.67		\$8,692.67
5200 Professional Developmnt							
5223 Networking	\$586.00	-\$1,876.97					-\$1,290.97
Total for 5200 Professional Developmnt	\$586.00	-\$1,876.97					-\$1,290.97
5300 Convention and workshops (Membership Dev)							
5310 Membership Outreach							
5311 Outreach Projects		\$844.99					\$844.99
5313 Membership Expenses			\$2,267.74				\$2,267.74
Total for 5310 Membership Outreach		\$844.99	\$2,267.74				\$3,112.73

Canon Law Society of America

Profit and Loss by Class

July, 2025-June, 2026

	Conventions and Workshops	General and Administrative	Member Services	Publications	Scholarship Fund	Not specified	Total
5320 Annual Convention - Members Mtg							
5321 Convention Exhibit/Advertising	\$2,622.07						\$2,622.07
5322 Convention Hotel, Food Events	\$114,564.00						\$114,564.00
5323 Convention Audio Visual Contractor	\$56,724.50						\$56,724.50
5324 Convention Supplies	\$1,711.13	-\$96.32		\$1,425.90			\$3,040.71
5325 Convention Travel	\$4,302.79	-\$596.74					\$3,706.05
5326 Convention Telecommunications	\$529.65						\$529.65
5327 Convention Postage/Shipping	\$2,439.55	\$306.37		\$667.66			\$3,413.58
5328 Convention Printing/Copying	\$305.81			\$818.00			\$1,123.81
5329 Promotion; Program Materials/Banner	\$3,500.04	\$533.22					\$4,033.26
5330 Liturgy & Environment	\$3,571.38						\$3,571.38
5331 Speaker Honoraria/ Stipends	\$12,250.00			\$800.00			\$13,050.00
5332 Speaker/Travel	\$2,528.59	\$900.00					\$3,428.59
5333 Convention Lodging/Meals	\$8,675.31	\$326.94					\$9,002.25
5334 Convention Planner	\$64,274.20						\$64,274.20
5336 Convention Guest Expenses	\$7,774.81						\$7,774.81
Total for 5320 Annual Convention - Members Mtg	\$285,773.83	\$1,373.47		\$3,711.56			\$290,858.86
5340 Board of Governors							
5343 BOG Printing/Copying		\$45.28					\$45.28
5345 BOG Travel	\$1,682.30	\$6,499.10		\$615.00			\$8,796.40
5346 BOG Lodging/Meals	\$9,766.38	\$17,727.91					\$27,494.29
5347 Officers' Expenses	\$614.43	\$123.60					\$738.03
5348 President Discretionary Fund	\$297.18	\$248.22					\$545.40
Total for 5340 Board of Governors	\$12,360.29	\$24,644.11		\$615.00			\$37,619.40
Total for 5300 Convention and workshops (Membership Dev)	\$298,134.12	\$26,862.57	\$2,267.74	\$4,326.56			\$331,590.99
5350 Committees							
5353 Convention Planning Committee	\$294.96						\$294.96
5357 Constitution Revision Commission	\$509.99	\$1,795.39		\$0.00			\$2,305.38
Total for 5350 Committees	\$804.95	\$1,795.39		\$0.00			\$2,600.34
5400 Product Dvelopment							
5410 COGS - Publication & Resources							
5411 Cost of Goods Sold				\$17,973.93			\$17,973.93
Total for 5410 COGS - Publication & Resources				\$17,973.93			\$17,973.93

Canon Law Society of America

Profit and Loss by Class

July, 2025-June, 2026

	Conventions and Workshops	General and Administrative	Member Services	Publications	Scholarship Fund	Not specified	Total
5420 Expenses-Publication & Resource							
5423 Books/Media/Materials	\$3,084.10	\$359.34		\$11,903.73			\$15,347.17
5426 Bank/Financial Services Fees	\$1,600.21	\$0.00		\$0.00			\$1,600.21
5427 Publications Postage/Shipping		\$134.28		\$165.88			\$300.16
5428 Supplies		\$1,075.17					\$1,075.17
Total for 5420 Expenses-Publication & Resource	\$4,684.31	\$1,568.79		\$12,069.61			\$18,322.71
5430 Logistech-Outsourcing Pub & Res							
5434 Rent-Storage Space (Pallet/Quic				\$1,248.97			\$1,248.97
5435 Ordering Processing				\$3,926.93			\$3,926.93
5440 Postage/Shipping				\$14,709.47			\$14,709.47
Total for 5430 Logistech-Outsourcing Pub & Res				\$19,885.37			\$19,885.37
5450 Expenses-Royalties Pub & Resour							
5451 Royalties for CCEO (8% of NR)				\$112.52			\$112.52
5452 Royalties for CIC (8% of NR)				\$881.16			\$881.16
5453 Royalties for Dignitas Connubbii (6% of NR)				-\$16.44			-\$16.44
5454 Royalties for Selected Issues (60% of NR)				\$0.00			\$0.00
5456 QUQQEI, Code - 4th Edition				\$2,118.60			\$2,118.60
5457 Royalties for CCEO (6% of NR)				\$975.42			\$975.42
Total for 5450 Expenses-Royalties Pub & Resour				\$4,071.26			\$4,071.26
5460 Product Partnerships							
5461 CLSA Research Database Hosting		\$1,392.80					\$1,392.80
Total for 5460 Product Partnerships		\$1,392.80					\$1,392.80
Total for 5400 Product Development	\$4,684.31	\$2,961.59		\$54,000.17			\$61,646.07
6100 Canon Law Society Operating Exp							
6110 Salaries and Benefits							
6111 Salaries	\$32,767.02	\$82,614.02	\$21,834.81	\$72,886.75	\$4,936.73		\$215,039.33
6112 Employer Payroll Taxes	\$2,455.25	\$6,837.34	\$1,665.92	\$5,540.15	\$372.92		\$16,871.58
6113 Professional Development (Staff		\$2,328.54					\$2,328.54
6114 Employee Health Benefit Plan	\$3,181.88	\$11,054.52	\$2,171.62	\$7,695.51	\$513.29		\$24,616.82
6115 Pension Plan Administration		\$252.00					\$252.00
6116 403b Obligations	\$1,767.55	\$2,757.66	\$1,626.17	\$4,762.04	\$308.10		\$11,221.52
Total for 6110 Salaries and Benefits	\$40,171.70	\$105,844.08	\$27,298.52	\$90,884.45	\$6,131.04		\$270,329.79

Canon Law Society of America

Profit and Loss by Class

July, 2025-June, 2026

	Conventions and Workshops	General and Administrative	Member Services	Publications	Scholarship Fund	Not specified	Total
6120 Operating Expenses							
6121 Publication/Media Materials		\$1,256.57		\$84.12			\$1,340.69
6127 Rent		\$19,439.42			\$1,712.50		\$21,151.92
6130 Printing/Copying		\$114.98					\$114.98
6132 Professional Services (Contract		\$7,158.14	\$1,110.00				\$8,268.14
6134 Accounting/Audit Fees		\$67,779.90					\$67,779.90
6135 Legal Fees		\$3,060.39		\$745.00			\$3,805.39
Total for 6132 Professional Services (Contract		\$77,998.43	\$1,110.00	\$745.00			\$79,853.43
6133 Bank/Financial Fees/PayrollFees	\$596.00	\$29,408.17					\$30,004.17
6138 CMS and Website Licensing			\$5,501.88				\$5,501.88
6143 Fund Manager Fees							
6146 Fund Manager Fee Gen Ops		\$5,448.78					\$5,448.78
6147 Fund Manager Fee JCL					\$8,940.79		\$8,940.79
6148 Fund Manager Fee - JCD					\$707.37		\$707.37
Total for 6143 Fund Manager Fees		\$5,448.78			\$9,648.16		\$15,096.94
6144 Operating Lease Expense		\$13,176.10					\$13,176.10
6145 Other Business Expenses							
6122 Software/Subscription/Licenses		\$5,820.88					\$5,820.88
6123 Advertising/Marketing/Graphic Design		\$33.00					\$33.00
6124 Awards/Gifts		\$243.94					\$243.94
6125 Equipment Lease/Purchase/Maint		\$2,050.22					\$2,050.22
6126 Business Insurance		\$1,274.25					\$1,274.25
6128 Telecommunications		\$6,267.16		\$540.00			\$6,807.16
6129 Postage/Shipping		\$735.11					\$735.11
6131 Supplies		\$1,268.20					\$1,268.20
6136 Executive Coordinator/Travel		\$37.93					\$37.93
6137 Lodging/Meals		\$0.00					\$0.00
6140 Depreciation Expense		\$4,807.73					\$4,807.73
Total for 6145 Other Business Expenses		\$22,538.42		\$540.00			\$23,078.42
6150 Miscellaneous Expenses		\$120.00					\$120.00
6152 Moving Expenses		\$9,086.53					\$9,086.53
Total for 6120 Operating Expenses	\$596.00	\$178,587.40	\$6,611.88	\$1,369.12	\$11,360.66		\$198,525.06
Total for 6100 Canon Law Society Operating Exp	\$40,767.70	\$284,431.48	\$33,910.40	\$92,253.57	\$17,491.70		\$468,854.85
Total for Expenses	\$344,977.08	\$314,174.06	\$36,178.14	\$150,580.30	\$26,184.37		\$872,093.95
Net Operating Income	-\$30,976.83	-\$174,384.83	\$337,223.87	-\$14,452.64	\$214,929.79	\$0.00	\$332,339.36
Other Income							
7100 Other Miscellaneous Income		\$799.53					\$799.53
Total for Other Income		\$799.53					\$799.53

Canon Law Society of America

Profit and Loss by Class

July, 2025-June, 2026

	Conventions and Workshops	General and Administrative	Member Services	Publications	Scholarship Fund	Not specified	Total
Other Expenses							
Unrealized Gain or Loss							
7600 Gain/Loss on Fixed Asset		-\$1,434.41					-\$1,434.41
Total for Other Expenses		-\$1,434.41					-\$1,434.41
Net Other Income		\$2,233.94					\$2,233.94
Net Income	-\$30,976.83	-\$172,150.89	\$337,223.87	-\$14,452.64	\$214,929.79	\$0.00	\$334,573.30

REPORT OF THE GENERAL SECRETARY

Kathleen Butler

This last year has been full of changes. Some good, some bad, some that were anticipated, and some that were not. Change is inevitable, and without it, we'd never move forward. Still, that doesn't always make it easier. I have a reminder over my desk with a Flannery O'Connor quote that says, "I can, with one eye squinted, take it all as a blessing." Each change – the good ones and the bad ones – has provided an opportunity for CLSA to write a new chapter in our story.

After many discussions over the course of a couple of years, the Board decided to relocate the office after our 10-year lease at the Theological College expired. I'm grateful for the foresight of Fr. Roger Keeler, who made design decisions in that space that suited our work style very well. The Board explored a variety of options for locations and spaces, and we are grateful to The Catholic University of America for extending us a three-year lease at a very favorable rate in Gowan Hall on campus. If you've ever walked to campus from the Brookland metro station, you probably walked right past the building. It's directly across from the metro, and while we miss our friends at the TC, there's one less hill we have to walk up to get to work. I suspect that benefit will seem even sweeter once January and February weather hits. Another squinted blessing.



Our new space comes with a different dynamic based on the layout, and we're getting used to that. As I'm writing this, we're experiencing our first "back to school" season. The slow pace of the summer campus has picked up dramatically, and as the kids would say, it's a definite "vibe shift." We have seen an uptick in office visitors who come to buy books, thanks to our convenient location on campus. I'm very grateful to CLSA member Dr. David Long, who is the Dean of the School of Professional Studies at CUA and our building administrator. David and his staff have been enormously gracious helping us navigate in our new surroundings.



As you probably read in the June newsletter, our staff has undergone tremendous changes in the last year. Mark Francisco, our Membership Coordinator and database wrangler for the last four years, died unexpectedly in May. Not only is his death a loss to CLSA, but it's a personal loss for me. On a small staff, relationships can make or break the work environment, and Mark was a fantastic and friendly partner in our busy office. As his brother wrote in Mark's obituary, "he never encountered a system or process he didn't think he could make simpler, more efficient, or more effective, and he was usually right. He left each role and each organization a little better than he found it, earning his colleagues' respect and affection along the way." Mark will always be one of those blessings in CLSA's history.

In June, Donna Miller, our Executive Coordinator of seven years, left CLSA. I used to say that Donna, Mark, and I were the proverbial "lightning in a bottle." As I've mentioned at the convention in previous years, the three of us worked together in professional, respectful, and complementary ways that made for an efficient working environment.

In 2020, Donna was in DC to train me during the height of COVID-19, and from the beginning, I came to trust her implicitly. I could see right from the start that she had a servant's heart and was dedicated to CLSA. She was instrumental in making sure the 2020 virtual convention went

smoothly. She was the driving force behind moving our fulfillment operations, a move that saves us thousands of dollars each year and provides more hands-on data management for the staff.

Donna revived the production of webinars and taught herself how to produce podcasts. We get questions periodically asking when we will have more webinars and podcasts available. Other projects consumed Donna's time, so she had to set them aside, so the Board will determine how to continue this going forward.

Many of you know that Donna's time was focused primarily on CLSA publications, both print and digital. She not only edited, but also produced, seven volumes of CLSA *Proceedings* and six volumes of *Roman Replies and CLSA Advisory Opinions* with the assistance of our members. Again, with the help of dedicated members, Donna was the editor, project manager, and/or designer of all the books CLSA has brought out in the last seven years, including not only the Latin and Eastern Codes, but also the *Procedural Handbook for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life*, *The Tribunal Handbook: Judicial Procedures in Marriage Nullity Cases*, and *The Clergy Procedural Handbook*. She created Kindle print-on-demand versions of many of our books that we sell in our Amazon storefront.

Donna also managed the Third and Fourth Printings of the Code of Canon Law. You may recall that the Third Printing finally allowed us to update our English translation of the 1983 code after the major changes made by *Mitis Iudex Dominus Iesus* and *De Concordia inter Codices*. Donna made the arrangements with the Holy See (Dicastery for Communication) and the USCCB (Canonical Affairs and Church Governance Office and Communications Office), implemented all of the changes to the text, updated the index and tables of corresponding canons, and worked with the designer to complete the book. It was a mammoth undertaking. We are on our fourth reprint of the Code now and working on plans for how to update it in the most efficient way possible.

In 2024, Donna managed the Second Printing of the *Code of Canons of the Eastern Churches*. Bringing this updated text to fruition was a major accomplishment; two decades had passed since the first printing. It took months to convert the text from the old digital format to a format that could be manipulated for updating. Again, Donna made the necessary arrangements with the Holy See (Dicastery for the Eastern Churches, Secretariat of State, and Dicastery for Communication), since the Eastern code follows a different protocol for translation than the Latin code.

Certainly, Donna's biggest publications task over the last few years was the management of the new commentary with our editorial partner, TextFormations. Like many projects, it swelled beyond its projected scope as we engaged new authors and editors and worked through the management and review of manuscripts. This has been an immense project, requiring hours of Donna's time, far beyond what her part-time hours allowed. I hope all the members of the CLSA will be grateful to her for bringing this project to a place where we can envision its reality. Monsignor Ronny Jenkins and Reverend Joseph Giffords have taken up much of the editorial-review work that Donna was doing, ensuring that we can keep this project on a good trajectory.

Last year, Donna built CLSA's relationship with HeinOnline to allow them to include in their Religion and the Law Library our annual *Proceedings*, back to the first stand-alone volume from 1969. Earlier this year, the BOG approved inclusion of 29 other CLSA publications, many of which are no longer being sold but which retain value for their content and for research purposes. These publications are available to members at no additional cost through this partnership.

For me, Donna's departure was a little bittersweet. Not only was she dedicated to her work for CLSA, but she was also my trusted advisor, a fellow keen-eyed editor, a veritable font of information, a very patient teacher, and a friend. She is definitely missed, but of course, I wish her

fair winds and following seas in her retirement. I don't even have to squint to see Donna as a professional and personal blessing in my life.

In June, I hired Carlton Marsh to work remotely as our part-time fulfillment assistant. Keeping the sales moving through the system requires careful management, and after Mark's death, I needed someone to shepherd that task. A retired teacher, he has worked for a number of years at Alliance Music Publications, fulfilling orders for choral music, so he understood what was required.

In August, Leslie Jones joined the CLSA as our Membership Coordinator, as two of our busiest periods overlapped. She had to learn a lot in a very short amount of time, and our processes are not always simple. Leslie's time has been consumed with dues and convention work, so once we get back from St. Louis, she will begin training on publications fulfillment, and Carlton will transition off the staff. Leslie will be at the convention, so please come and introduce yourself.

Each September for the last several years, Shari Hughes has worked as our convention temp. She organizes all of the registration materials for us, which relieves our small staff of a large burden. I'm so grateful for all of the staff, who work so hard for the Society and its members. I'm very grateful to all the CLSA members, many of whom called to offer support during the move and the staff changes. Thank you for patience this summer as I navigated new terrain on my own.

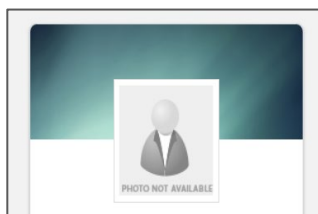
Our convention registration numbers are slightly below previous years. I'll have final numbers in the credentials report at the convention. I hope you will all introduce yourself to one of the 55 (as of this writing) first-time attendees or one of the 25 (and counting) students who are attending. You'll have time at our Networking Lunch on Wednesday after the Business Meeting, so please make a point to welcome new faces to your table.

An easy way to facilitate these introductions is by making sure you have a relatively recent photo in your CLSA profile. If you need help logging in or uploading your photo, call us at 202-238-1460; we'd be happy to help! In fact, come find me or Leslie at the convention and we'll take your photo on the spot with your phone and help you upload it!

As always, a reminder to contact us if any of your information changes. You can update the information in your profile at any time, but if that feels too intimidating, call us. We are happy to assist you. If you know someone who would benefit from a CLSA membership, please help us build our base by telling our story to your non-CLSA colleagues. A canonical degree is not a requirement. For those without a JCL or JCD who are working in your tribunal, perhaps an Associate membership could be helpful.

Thank you for your ministry.

**Does your
member profile photo
look like this?**



If your profile photo is looking a little "generic," here's what to do.

1. Log in to your CLSA account.
2. Click on **My Profile** in the red bar at the top.
3. Move your cursor over the generic photo graphic like the one at left. It will say "Edit" when you do this. Click the graphic.
4. Navigate to the desired photo on your computer and click on it.
5. That's it! Your photo will show up on your profile.

Canon Law Society of America
Eighty-Seventh Annual Business Meeting
Orlando, Florida
October 15, 2025

Minutes

CALL TO ORDER AND OPENING PRAYER

The Very Reverend Patrick Cooney, OSB, President, called to order the Eighty-Seventh Annual Business Meeting of the Canon Law Society of America (CLSA) on October 15, 2025 at the Doubletree by Hilton at SeaWorld Hotel in Orlando, Florida at 11:09 a.m. He presided over the meeting as Chair and led the assembly in an opening prayer.

The Chair announced that Fr. Kevin Niehoff, OP, would serve as the timekeeper, and Mrs. Donna Miller, CLSA Executive Coordinator, would substitute for the Secretary, Sr. Rose Marie Timmer, RSM, who was unable to attend. He announced that the parliamentarian for the meeting would be Ms. Lucy Johnson and that *Robert's Rules of Order* would be used in matters not included in the CLSA Constitution or Bylaws.

CREDENTIALS REPORT

Ms. Kathleen Butler, the General Secretary of the CLSA, presented the credentials report. A motion was made and seconded to accept the credentials report as presented, which was approved by the assembly.

ADOPT RULES OF MEETING

The Parliamentarian presented the proposed rules for the Business Meeting. The Chair stated that the Board of Governors moved for their approval. There was no discussion. All in favor were asked to stand. Seeing the clear majority for approval, the Chair declared the rules for the meeting were adopted.

REVIEW OF MINUTES

The Chair explained the minutes of the Eighty-Sixth Annual Business Meeting of the CLSA were published in the CLSA website Member Center and in the 2024 *Proceedings*. The Chair called for any corrections to the minutes as submitted; none were proposed. The Chair announced the minutes of the Eighty-Sixth Annual Business Meeting were approved and stand as published.

The Chair appointed Fr. Greg Luyet, Fr. Paul Counce, and Miss Mary Gen Blittschau as the approval committee for the minutes of this meeting.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND CONSULTORS

Fr. Patrick invited Dr. Zabrina Decker, Chair of the Committee on Nominations, to present the slate of nominees for officers and consultors.

Fr. Patrick inquired if there were additional nominations from the floor. There were no additional nominations from the floor.

After a brief instruction on the mechanics of the election, active members were invited to cast their ballots.

For the Office of Vice President/President-Elect

224 ballots were cast; 113 were needed for election. There were 2 invalid ballots. The votes cast were as follows:

Ms. Anna Marie Chamblee received 42
Rev. Msgr. Robert Oliver received 180

The Chair declared that there was an election. The Rev. Msgr. Robert Oliver was elected Vice President/President-Elect.

For the Office of Treasurer

223 ballots were cast; 112 votes were needed for election. There was 1 invalid ballot. The votes cast were as follows:

Very Rev. Jeffrey Cabral received 96
Rev. W. Chris Palladino received 126

The Chair declared that there was an election. The Rev. W. Chris Palladino was elected Treasurer.

For the Office of Consultor

221 ballots were cast; 111 votes were needed for election. There were 3 invalid ballots. The votes cast were as follows:

Mrs. Amanda Crawford received 60
Rev. Msgr. Jason Gray received 124
Rev. Alexander Laschuk received 77
Ms. Lori A. Peery received 65
Mr. Benjamin Roodhouse received 97

The Chair declared there was an election with the Rev. Msgr. Jason Gray elected as Consultor. A run-off election was then held between the Rev. Alexander Laschuk and Mr. Benjamin Roodhouse.

216 ballots were cast; 109 votes were needed for election. There were no invalid ballots. The votes cast were as follows:

Rev. Alexander Laschuk received 69
Mr. Benjamin Roodhouse received 147

The Chair declared there was an election with Mr. Benjamin Roodhouse elected as Consultor.

REPORTS

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Fr. Patrick referred the assembly to the complete text of his President's report. He highlighted the meeting at the Dicastery for Bishops with Cardinal Robert Prevost, who a few months later became Pope Leo XIV.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The CLSA Treasurer, the Very Rev. Jamin David, presented the Treasurer's report. Discussion followed.

EXECUTIVE COORDINATOR'S REPORT

Mrs. Donna Miller, the Executive Coordinator of the CLSA, presented her report.

GENERAL SECRETARY'S REPORT

Ms. Kathleen Butler, General Secretary, presented her report.

RESOLUTIONS

The Chair read the applicable CLSA Bylaws that govern the proposal of resolutions from the floor and asked if there were any such resolutions to be presented. There were none.

The Chair called the Rev. Langes Silva, Chair of the Resolutions Committee, to the podium to present the resolution. After reading the resolution, Fr. Silva announced that the committee moved the resolution.

The Chair opened the floor for discussion. Fr. Jamin David, Treasurer, on behalf of the Board of Governors which developed the resolution, spoke in favor of the resolution.

Fr. John Hammond (Nashville) moved to divide the question into separate motions of raising the dues for Active and Associate Members from \$350 to \$400 beginning with the 2026-2027 fiscal year and of raising the dues for Student Members from \$175 to \$200 beginning with the 2026-2027 fiscal year. The motion to divide was seconded and approved.

The motion to raise the dues for Active and Associate Members from \$350 to \$400 per year beginning with the 2026-2027 fiscal year was approved.

The motion to raise the dues for Student Members from \$175 to \$200 per year failed.

[Note: The texts of the reports and resolutions as amended and approved will be included in the 2025 *Proceedings*.]

CONSTITUTION REVISION COMMISSION

The Very Rev. Luke Millette, Chair of the Constitution Revision Commission, presented a report on the process and schedule of work. He reviewed the recent survey results, noting that only a small fraction of the membership responded to the two surveys. Of those responses, 84.7% support a two-year presidency. Several straw polls were conducted.

NEW BUSINESS

The Chair opened the floor to discuss any new business of interest to the assembly; there was none.

VARIA

The Chair welcomed the representatives of the sister canon law societies and invited them to address the assembly.

Fr. Gerard Tartaglia, President of the Canon Law Society of Great Britain and Ireland, thanked the CLSA for its hospitality and for our publications. He invited members to join the Canon Law Society of Great Britain and Ireland. Fr. Tartaglia reported that the *Canon Law Abstracts* are kept current on its website and in print. He invited the members to attend the next CLSGBI conference being held in Glasgow May 4-8, 2026.

Fr. Patrick advised the assembly that Fr. Chris Sherren, the Vice President of the Canadian Canon Law Society, was presiding at their concurrent Annual General Meeting but would address the membership the following day. Fr. Patrick noted that we received letters from other international canon law societies and encouraged everyone to read these in the 2025 *Proceedings*.

ADJOURNMENT

The Chair entertained a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded and approved by the assembly. The 87th Annual Business Meeting adjourned at 1:12 p.m.

Submitted by:

Mrs. Donna Miller
Executive Coordinator
October 24, 2025

Approved by the Minutes Approval Committee on November 12, 2025:

Very Rev. Greg Luyet
Very Rev. Paul Counce
Miss Mary Gen Blittschau

Executive Summary

Dear CLSA Members,

I am extremely grateful to be standing before all of you today. To steal a line from Mark Twain, “I’m glad I did it, partly because it was worth it, but mostly because I shall never have to do it again.”

I truly have no doubt that this project has been worth it and it has helped me to grow tremendously in many ways, but I can also be honest that it has been a difficult and long project and we are very happy that it is coming to an end.

I would be remiss if I did not start with some very necessary thank yous. I would first like to start by thanking those who participated in the Strategic Visioning Task Force, which was begun by a resolution passed by the membership in October 2022. The members of this Task Force spent the next two years thinking and dialoguing with the membership about the future of the Society. This culminated with a final report which was delivered to the membership in October of 2024. This report and the consultations that were part of this process set the foundation for the work which soon followed.

In October of 2024, you, the membership, passed a resolution to create a Constitution Revision Commission to propose a comprehensive renewal of the Constitution to the membership at the Annual Convention in 2026.

I wish to first thank all of the membership for your continued participation in this process throughout these past two years. I can truthfully say that your feedback and consultation was invaluable in creating the draft that we have before us today.

I would also like to thank all of the members of the Board of Governors who entrusted us with this process and have helped to support us in numerous ways throughout these past two years. In a special way, I would like to thank Msgr. Bob Oliver and Dr. Jeannine Marino who served as our BOG liaisons. Msgr. Bob was only able to be with us during our first year due to his new Board responsibilities, and Jeannine worked with us the entire two years. They were with us at every meeting and gave just as much time as all of the other members of the CRC on top of their busy schedules. I cannot thank them enough. In addition, I would like to thank Lucy Johnson who is not able to be with us this week but freely volunteered her time to assist us and advise us with all things related to Robert’s Rules as our Parliamentary expert. I also want to thank Laura Meade who has stepped in as our Parliamentary this week.

I would also like to thank all of the staff of the CLSA who assisted us in this process whether it was meeting with us to share their thoughts about the Society or to assist in contacting the membership. In a particular way, I would like to thank Kathleen Butler who spent a lot of time assisting me in various ways whether it was getting documents transmitted to the members or setting up Townhalls.

My final thanks go to all of the members of the CRC. I can honestly say that I have never worked with such a capable and hardworking group on anything else in my entire life. From the time we were named to this Commission following the 2024 Convention, we met remotely almost every single week without fail. They would call in from vacation, from the hospital. I cannot emphasize how many sacrifices they made to participate in this process. In addition to this, we met several

Executive Summary

times in person, once with the Board of Governors after we were formed, again at the 2025 Convention, and once again with the Board of Governors two months ago after we submitted our draft of the revised Constitution. By my rough count, each member spent at least 200 hours in meetings. This doesn't even begin to count the amount of time doing the actual work of consulting with members, thinking, and writing. This means that not even counting Msgr. Bob and Jeannine, this group spent over 1,000 hours working on this project over the past two years.

So, I would like to publicly thank Miss Mary Gen Blittschau, Dcn. Matt Glover, Dr. Susan Mulheron, and Msgr. Michael Souckar for all of their hard work. I will treasure the time spent with them although I am sure they are all very happy to be getting a break from me.

I feel that all of this time was used productively. As you know, over the past two years we sought feedback from the membership in a variety of different ways, whether it was meetings with specific groups, consultation with our parliamentarian and a civil lawyer, surveys and townhalls. All of this information was brought back together and discussed ad nauseam as we tried to discern how to best achieve what we were hearing from the members and refine our working document. Even over the past two months, your feedback has been invaluable and led to many revisions and tweaks to the final proposed document.

There were a few overarching principles that were used in the revised Constitution. First, we wanted to address issues that were raised by the Strategic Visioning Task Force or the members in general. We also wanted to address known lacunae or problems in the current Constitution. Where possible and in line with Robert's Rules, we moved things that should not be in the Constitution to the Bylaws to give more flexibility for the future.

With all of that being said, it is time to move on to the meat and potatoes of our time together. All of you should have available on Guidebook a proposed revision to the Constitution with line numbers as well as a redlined version that helps to highlight the major changes between the current Constitution and our proposed revision. You should also have available an FAQ that addresses some of the Frequently Asked Questions which we received during this process. I hope that all of you have taken time to read these documents and familiarize yourself with them.

We do not have time to address all of the changes in the proposed Constitution so I want to highlight some of the biggest changes as well as areas that have received numerous questions.

While you will see many changes, six of the biggest changes are the following:

“Board of Directors” and “Director of Operations”; Changes to Roles of President and Vice President; Member-Driven Election Process; Membership Categories; Committees; and Remote Voting.

“Board of Directors” and “Director of Operations”:

On review of the Constitution, we discovered that the language used was not consistent or clear. While we were initially hesitant about using different language for our leadership, we began to understand the value of clarity, accuracy, and precision in our governing document.

Executive Summary

Regarding the Board of Governors, we believe that the term “directors” more accurately describes their role since the Consultors are not merely a consultative body but have true fiduciary responsibilities for the Society. This term is more widely used for non-profit organizations, including religious ones. A few comments wanted the Board of Directors to be more directly controlled by the membership. It needs to be kept in mind that although we are member-driven, the members have entrusted the Board to make most every-day controlling decisions regarding our organization.

I would like to make a brief comment about the Executive Committee. This is a common function on most Boards, and we believe that it is important for our Constitution to contain this as a possibility in case it is needed. The revised Constitution as it is drafted, however, has controls in place so that the Executive Committee cannot exceed its bounds and work contrary to the Board. For example, the Executive Committee cannot do anything that would be considered an Extraordinary Act of Administration.

Additionally, we recommend eliminating the prior two constitutionally mandated positions of “Executive Coordinator” and “General Secretary” and replacing those with a single constitutionally mandated position titled “Director of Operations.” Historically, the CLSA office was run by an “Executive Coordinator” who must be a canonist, but when it became hard to fill this position, it was split into two different positions. We believe that in order to enable the desired changes to the role of President and Vice President, it is imperative that we have a single figure responsible for supervising the daily functioning of the CLSA operations. We further believe that this single figure ought not be required to be a canonist, in part because of the difficulty in finding a canonist for this role, and in part because the skill set for this role must be broader than just being a canonist (for example, he/she must be skilled at nonprofit organization). Thus, rather than return to the past term of “Executive Coordinator”, we recommend using the term “Director of Operations.” At the same time, the proposed Constitution gives discretion to the Board of Directors to hire additional staff based on the Society’s needs and resources.

We have received many comments about the title “Director of Operations.” We considered several titles before recommending this particular title. Some of those titles are “Executive Coordinator”, “Executive Director”, “Chief Operating Officer”, and “Operations Manager”. While these are good titles, there are reasons that make all of them problematic. Currently, we believe that the title “Director of Operations” is appropriate but are more than willing to dialogue with the membership to find a name that the majority of our membership prefers. We recognize that there are legitimate pros and cons to different titles and want to use whatever title is preferred by the membership.

Regarding this position, some comments were received that this person should have a canon law degree. While we agree that this would be good, we do not believe that it is an absolute necessity. So, as we mentioned, we limit the Constitution to what we see as the absolute minimum. Based on past history, we believe that requiring too many Constitutional conditions for this position will create a “unicorn” that is impossible to find in real life.

Changes to the role of President and Vice-President:

We received consistent feedback from membership that the role of the Office of President needed to be given more clarity and consistency, while removing the need to be involved with the day-to-

Executive Summary

day functioning of the Society. In order to do this, we think it is necessary to eliminate the Office of Past-President and extend the Office of President to a two year term with the possibility of re-election, along with the changes to the Director of Operations position which was mentioned above. Likewise, the Office of Vice President has to be given more clarity as a unique role and de-linked from being President-Elect. Previously serving as Vice President becomes an important qualification to be considered when electing a new President, but not a formal requirement. It is foreseen with this revised structure that a person could happily serve as Vice President without seeking or desiring the President role. It was also commented by some that the President should be required to have previous Board experience. We agree that previous service on the Board should be a strong consideration, but we believe that this should be placed in the Bylaws, not in the Constitution, and that it should not be a requirement so as to not shrink the pool of available candidates.

Member-Driven Election Process:

The membership expressed a strong desire to have a member-driven nomination and election process. It has also been expressed by some that the Board of Governors does not always seem to be reflective of the composition of the Society. CRC also recognizes that historically there has not always been a good vehicle for forming up new leadership which adds to the challenge of having a Board which is reflective of the Society and candidates who are willing to stand for election. These challenges are being addressed by the addition of a membership elected Nominating Committee and a restructured Elections Process.

Our proposal is that the Nominating Committee would now be expanded and elected by the membership, which allows the members to have more of a voice in bringing forward candidates for office. The new Nominating Committee itself will become a good vehicle for engaging and forming new members as future leadership. It is also beneficial that this will be done in a non-contentious manner by a plurality vote. We also believe that this will be an attractive committee for members because the work is focused over a short period of time and has an immediate effect on the Society.

Another goal of this restructured Elections Process is to mitigate some of the challenges we have seen in recent elections which have at times resulted in a level of acrimony that is neither necessary to attain our purposes nor productive. In this revised approach, it will be for the Nominating Committee to reach a consensus on a group of candidates for the respective offices which, as a group, provide the leadership skills and diverse perspectives to serve the Society well. The revised Constitution deliberately does not mandate how many candidates must be presented for the respective offices. This will be guided by the Bylaws and the Nominating Committee Handbook.

Furthermore, nominations “from the floor” are eliminated and the opportunity to present alternative candidates is moved earlier in the process, namely, prior to the Annual Business Meeting so that members have a greater ability to nominate other candidates for office, while also allowing these candidates to obtain any necessary permissions prior to the Convention. In the end, no matter who the Nominating Committee puts forward initially as candidates, individual members always have the right to put additional names forward as candidates as long as they meet the minimum qualifications for that office.

Executive Summary

The CRC believes this approach will help broaden member engagement, put the focus on building a team of leaders for the Society, and lessen some of the unintended challenges that occasionally color the election process.

Membership Categories:

There has been a consistent request by membership to create a new Senior category of membership. This is reflected in the new proposed Constitution. Additionally, changes were made to the category of Honorary Membership. According to the current Constitution, all bishops of the United States and Canada are considered automatic *ex officio* Honorary members of the Society. Practically, this has proven difficult, and after consultation with the USCCB Canonical Affairs and Church Governance Committee, we recommend removing this automatic Honorary Membership for bishops. Instead, we are presenting members with a way for Honorary membership to be granted to both members and non-members of the Society with the Board able to determine whether this Honorary Member will be treated as an Active or Associate member. Bishops who participate in the CLSA may always choose to pay to be Active members (and they often do). We are extremely grateful to all of our bishops who continue to participate as Active members in our Society.

Committees:

Historically, we had four standing committees and numerous special committees. Over time, language shifted, and we began calling our standing committees “constitutional committees” and our other special committees “standing committees.”

Members indicated a desire to shift from multiple special committees to an approach that is more project- or task-driven. It is our recommendation that existing special committees are reconstituted for specific projects. We are very hopeful that this approach will be much more efficient and productive in achieving results for the benefit of the members.

At the same time, we expanded the list of current standing committees from four to seven. This doesn't include the Nominating Committee which now belongs to the Elections Process. The Convention Planning and Publications Committees which are currently special committees are now proposed as standing committees since they touch directly on the purposes of the Society. In addition, we propose adding standing committees for Financial Development, Membership, and Project Development.

Remote Voting:

There was a consistent request from some membership for absentee voting. Absentee voting refers to the ability to vote while not attending the Business Meeting, something which usually occurs by means of proxy voting. After an extensive period of reflection on this and consultation with various experts including our Parliamentarian, we have determined that absentee voting by means of *proxy* is not advisable. One of the many reason that we have come to this decision is because it would mean that we have to eliminate resolutions from the floor. Otherwise, those who are absentee are not fully informed about issues in which voting is occurring.

Executive Summary

Instead, we are recommending that the membership permit electronic voting, both remote and in-person, as a *potential* option as further outlined by the Bylaws and if permitted in specific circumstances by the Board of Directors. By this, we are referring to the *possibility* of participating in business meetings remotely by means of video teleconferencing technology and voting by means of electronic technology.

As currently drafted, there are caveats to this possibility. While we have added remote and electronic voting into the revised Constitution, this will only be possible if this possibility is added to the Articles of Incorporation. Additionally, it is currently expensive to enable remote and electronic voting at business meetings. Although we believe that this cost will go down in the future as technology continues to develop, for now this option may be cost-prohibitive. Finally, even if the Board of Directors were to decide that electronic voting is no longer cost-prohibitive, the wording of the Constitution does not mandate that electronic voting occur unless the Board of Directors also permits it. In other words, there may be legitimate reasons why the Board of Directors, in a specific situation or specific circumstances, might determine not to give the option of electronic voting even if the costs are not prohibitive.

Costs:

Actual cost expenditures were \$2,305.38 from June 2025 until June 2026. While I was unable to verify cost actuals from when we were constituted in January 2025 until June 2025, I believe that our costs were proportional to the 25/26 actuals, showing that we remained well under the \$50,000 amount budgeted in the Resolution. The majority of our costs were associated with our in-person meetings. Some other costs involved things like the following: consultation with a civil lawyer, single event subscriptions to Zoom for our Town Hall meetings, digital cost of surveys, etc...

Path Forward:

We believe that the document sitting before you responds to all of the opinions and desires that we have heard expressed from you over the past two years. Even then, we acknowledge that it is not perfect. Some of that is simply the nature of time limitations. Despite all of the time spent on this document, we could have always used more time to consult and receive further feedback from the members. This, however, would have extended this process out another year which we do not think is appropriate or necessary.

We also know that this document is not “perfect” in the sense that there were clear disagreements between members about certain aspects of our Constitution. For every positive comment that we could point to, there was always someone with a different perspective and response. In this sense, the surveys were extremely useful. They allowed us to choose the path forward which seemed to be favored by the majority of members while using the contrary opinions to further refine and improve the finished product.

One of our mantras has been to not let the perfect be the enemy of the good. And we would respectfully ask all of you to adopt that attitude as well. We know that this document may not yet be perfect, but we do believe that it is good and will be a strong foundation moving forward. And as we live out this new Constitution over the next few years, we will be able to further refine and improve on it with our lived experience.

Executive Summary

With that being said, we have time now and later this afternoon to hear any comments or questions that you might still have about this document. For those who have formal concrete suggestions about the current proposal, we are requiring that everyone puts those comments on the provided Amendment Forms in writing. We are asking for your name and phone number in case we need to speak with you to better understand your comment. While we do not promise to accept your revision, we promise to consider it in light of all of the other deliberations that have occurred. Any Amendment Forms must be put in the box at the registration table no later than today (Tuesday, October 13th) at 6:00 PM.

Sincerely,
Constitution Revision Commission

Miss Mary Gen Blittschau

Dcn. Matt Glover

Very Rev. Luke Millette

Dr. Susan Mulheron

Msgr. Michael Souckar

Frequently Asked Questions

The following questions and answers are intended as a guide for your consideration:

1. What are the biggest changes suggested?

While you will see many proposed changes, some of the biggest changes are the following: “Board of Directors” and “Director of Operations”; Changes to roles of President and Vice President; Member-Driven Election Process; Membership Categories; and Committees.

2. Why are “majority vote” and “plurality vote” used as opposed to “absolute majority” or “simple majority”?

For better clarity and in accord with *Robert’s Rules of Order*, “majority” means 1 more than half, and “plurality” is the most votes received regardless of whether that is or is not 1 more than half.

3. What about electronic, remote, proxy, and absentee voting?

Changes have been proposed which allow for the possibility of electronic voting for both those members physically present as well as those present remotely during meetings. Considerations such as financial impact to the CLSA and compliance with civil laws are also factors involved in any decision to allow those means of voting. Since membership is personal, proxy voting is not allowed nor is absentee voting due to concerns for confidentiality as well as the possibility of live remote voting occurring during meetings.

4. Why change to “Board of Directors”?

On review of the Constitution, we discovered that the language used was not consistent or clear. While we were initially hesitant about using different language for our leadership, we began to understand the value of clarity, accuracy, and precision in our governing document.

The term “directors” more accurately describes their role since the Consultors are not merely a consultative body but have true fiduciary responsibilities for the Society, and officers are also directors. This term is more widely used for non-profit organizations, including religious ones. Certainly, many of us have affection for the “Governors”, but legal precision is beneficial. The CLSA is established as a non-profit in Washington, DC with Articles of Incorporation, not as an association of the Christian faithful.

5. Why change the two positions of Executive Coordinator and General Secretary?

We recommend removing the two constitutionally mandated positions of “Executive Coordinator” and “General Secretary” and replacing those with a single constitutionally mandated position titled “Director of Operations.”

We believe that in order to enable the desired changes to the role of President and Vice President, it is imperative that we have a single figure responsible for supervising the daily functioning of the CLSA operations.

6. What is the position of the Director of Operations?

Historically, the CLSA office was run by an “Executive Coordinator” who must be a canonist, but when it became hard to fill this position, it was split into two different positions. We believe that it is important to return to this single figure, and the current titles of Executive Coordinator or General Secretary do not accurately represent the duties and responsibilities of this office.

Frequently Asked Questions

We recommend using the title “Director of Operations” which better reflects the responsibility of the position. The title of Director is appropriate since he or she sits on the Board of Directors as an *ex officio* non-voting member. While it is possible that this person could be a canonist, the role is primarily one of non-profit management. For this reason, a canon law degree is not being constitutionally required so that the most qualified candidate can be chosen.

7. Will the Board have the ability to hire other staff if necessary?

The proposed Constitution gives discretion to the Board of Directors to hire additional staff based on the Society’s needs and resources.

8. What about changes to the role of President and Vice-President?

We received consistent feedback from membership that the role of the Office of President needs to be given more clarity and consistency while reducing involvement with the day-to-day functioning of the Society. In order to do this, we think it is necessary to eliminate the Office of Past President and extend the Office of President to a two year term with the possibility of re-election.

Likewise, the Office of Vice President is given more clarity as a unique role and de-linked from being President Elect. The VP will focus on member relations and committee management, while the President will focus more on external relations, fundraising, and leading the Society toward sustainably fulfilling its mission.

Previous service as Vice President will be an important qualification to be considered when nominating a candidate for President, though not a strict requirement. It is foreseen with this revised structure that a person could happily serve as Vice President without seeking or desiring the role of President.

9. What are the different term limits?

One of the major changes is moving the Office of President and Vice President to a two year term. This allows for greater stability in this office which addresses many of the stated desires of the membership. If a Vice President were subsequently elected as President, this would create a four year commitment which is only one year more than the current commitment of three years. Additionally, past and current Treasurers recommended that their term is extended to four years due to the highly technical nature of the position. All other term limits remain the same.

10. How would members be more involved in nominations and elections?

The membership expressed a strong desire to have a member-driven nomination and election process. It was expressed by some that the Board of Governors does not seem to be reflective of the composition of the Society. Historically, there has not always been a good vehicle for forming new leadership which adds to the challenge of having a Board which is reflective of the Society and candidates who are willing to stand for election. These challenges are being addressed by the addition of a membership elected Nominating Committee and a restructured elections process.

Our proposal is that the Nominating Committee would be expanded and elected by the membership which allows the members to have more of a voice in bringing forward candidates for office. This is a common and effective practice in other organizations. The new Nominating Committee itself will become a good vehicle for engaging and forming new members as future leadership. It is also beneficial that this will be done in a non-contentious manner by a plurality vote. We also believe

Frequently Asked Questions

that this will be an attractive committee for members because the work is focused over a short period of time and has an immediate effect on the Society.

10. How would candidates for office be surfaced?

It will be for the Nominating Committee to reach a consensus on a group of candidates for the respective offices which, as a group, provides the leadership skills and perspectives to serve the Society well.

The opportunity to present alternative candidates is moved earlier in the process, namely, prior to the Annual Business Meeting so that members have a greater ability to nominate other candidates for office, while also allowing these candidates time to discern and obtain permission from their ecclesiastical superior prior to the convention.

11. Where does the possibility of Senior membership stand?

There has been a consistent request by membership to create a new Senior category of membership. This is reflected in the new proposed Constitution. The membership dues for this new category will be set by a vote of the membership.

12. Does the requirement of 20 years of membership need to be consecutive for Senior Membership?

No; 20 cumulative years suffices. This allows for an occasional lapse in membership while recognizing the longevity of the person's membership in the Society.

13. What about Honorary membership?

According to the current Constitution, all bishops of the United States and Canada are considered automatic *ex officio* Honorary members of the Society. Practically, this has proven difficult and after consultation with the USCCB Canonical Affairs and Church Governance Committee, we recommend removing this automatic Honorary Membership for bishops. Bishops who participate in the CLSA may always choose to be Active members.

We propose the ability for members to nominate both members and non-members to the Board of Directors for Honorary Membership with the status of either an Active or Associate Member.

14. How might committees be changed?

Historically, we had four standing committees and numerous special committees. Over time, language shifted and we began calling our standing committees "constitutional committees" and our other special committees "standing committees."

Members indicated a desire to shift from multiple special committees to an approach that is more project or task driven. It is our recommendation that existing special committees are reconstituted for specific projects. We are very hopeful that this approach will be much more efficient and productive in achieving results for the benefit of the members.

15. What impact would that have on our committees as they are constituted now?

The list of current standing committees would move from four to seven. This doesn't include the Nominating Committee which now belongs to the elections process. The Convention Planning and Publications Committees which are currently special committees are now proposed as standing

Frequently Asked Questions

committees since they touch directly on the purposes of the Society. We propose adding standing committees for Financial Development, Membership, and Project Development.

16. How would the Project Development Committee work?

Committees experience struggles in thinking of projects to work on which takes time away from bringing those to completion. The PDC would surface a project and forward it to a committee to handle and bring to completion for the good of the Society. Members could submit ideas for projects to the PDC.

17. Why is an Executive Committee proposed?

An Executive Committee comprised of the officers is a subset of the Board. This is a common feature of many Boards. It would be authorized to act for the Board so as to address urgent matters and emergency situations if convening the full Board is not possible. The Bylaws would provide details of operation and set appropriate limits to its authority.

18. What if I want to submit an amendment to the draft Constitution?

You may certainly do that. It needs to be submitted by October 13th, 2026 in writing on the form provided no later than the end of the Resolution hearing.

19. What happened to ideas which members submitted to CRC in surveys and other consultations?

We tremendously appreciate your ideas and participation! You will see that many of your thoughtful suggestions were able to be incorporated into the draft Constitution.

In Christ,
The Constitution Revision Commission

TITLE:
REVISION OF THE CLSA CONSTITUTION

STATEMENT OF RATIONALE

Whereas the Constitution Revision Commission was established in 2024 by a vote of the membership at the Annual Business Meeting for the purpose of proposing an amendment of the Constitution to the membership;

Whereas the Constitution Revision Commission met online at least weekly and consulted widely, including but not limited to, review of historic CLSA documents, surveys of members, an online town hall meeting, conversations with members, and the insights of a professional parliamentarian;

Whereas the Constitution Revision Commission drafted the following revised Constitution for proposal to the membership;

Whereas Article XII of the Constitution states that the Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds majority of the active members present and voting at the Annual General Meeting;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

the CLSA Constitution be revised as per the enclosed document.

IMPLEMENTATION BY MEANS OF

Upon adoption by the membership, the Board of Directors shall implement a Task Force who shall be charged with the development of Bylaws for the new Constitution. This Task Force, or another appointed by the Board of Directors, shall be charged with the implementation of the new revised Constitution which shall become effective one year after its adoption by the membership at the start of the Annual Business Meeting in 2027.

Anticipated Costs: \$5,000 for one to two in-person meetings and printing of materials.

Cost Supplied by: CLSA Operational Budget

4 **Constitution**

6 **Preamble**

7 The Canon Law Society of America was founded in 1939 when the membership adopted a
8 Constitution to define its purpose and determine the structure and workings of the Society. The
9 Constitution has been amended several times over the decades in order to address the changing
10 needs of the Society and those of the Church. Following a period of consultation and deliberation,
11 the membership of the Canon Law Society of America adopts this Constitution as its principal
12 governing document. This Constitution along with the Articles of Incorporation and the Bylaws,
13 shall govern the functioning of the Society, keeping in mind that the supreme law of the Church
14 must always be the salvation of souls (cf. can. 1752 *CIC*).
15

16 **Article I — Name**

17 The name of this association shall be **THE CANON LAW SOCIETY OF AMERICA**,
18 **hereinafter referred to in this Constitution as the “Society.”**
19

20 **Article II — Purpose**

21 The purposes of this Society shall be:

- 22 1. To advance the Church’s ministry of the *cura animarum* through the works of justice, law,
23 and mercy.
- 24 2. To foster professional and ministerial ties among Society members, to facilitate the
25 interchange of canonical ideas, and to support the members as practitioners of canon law.
- 26 3. To contribute to the scholarly study and advancement of canon law, including the
27 publication of articles, books, and other educational materials.
- 28 4. To assist those in the Church who exercise legislative authority in the formulation, revision,
29 reception, and implementation of canon law.
- 30 5. To provide resources to those who exercise judicial and executive authority in the Church.
- 31 6. To provide formation to those who accompany the Christian faithful in the exercise of their
32 canonical rights and duties.
- 33 7. To collaborate with other canon law societies in our common mission.
- 34 8. To engage with other organizations that serve the Church, particularly in the United States
35 of America.
36

37 **Article III — Membership**

- 38 1. There are five types of membership in the Society: Active, Associate, Student, Senior, and
39 Honorary.
 - 40 a. ACTIVE membership is open to those who have earned at least a licentiate degree
41 in canon law or other practitioners in canon law who have fulfilled the stipulated
42 requirements established by the Board of Directors as enumerated in the Bylaws.
 - 43 b. ASSOCIATE membership is open to others who wish to associate themselves with
44 the purposes of the Society.

- c. STUDENT membership is open to those enrolled in any ecclesiastical faculty of canon law and engaged in studies to obtain a licentiate degree.
 - d. SENIOR membership is open to those who are at least 70 years old, have held Active membership for at least 20 cumulative years, and are either no longer employed fulltime or are priests/consecrated granted retirement status.
 - e. HONORARY membership is open to both those who are not members of the Society and those who are members who, after being proposed by a member, are elected by a majority vote by the Board of Directors because of outstanding contributions in the field of canon law or support of the Society. The Board of Directors may, at their discretion, decide to grant membership status equivalent to that of Associate or Active membership but the recipient shall not be required to pay annual dues.
2. Loss of membership in the Society and all associated rights, benefits, and duties occurs:
 - a. when there is failure to pay the annual dues by no later than September 1st;
 - b. after reception of a signed letter of resignation; or
 - c. by a two-thirds vote of the Board of Directors after a proven violation of the Code of Professional Responsibilities in accordance with the Bylaws.

Article IV — Rights, Duties, and Benefits of Members

1. Members of the Society shall be entitled to all rights, duties, and benefits of membership as hereinafter described in the Constitution and Bylaws.
2. Each Active member has the duty to support and advance the purposes of the Society in a positive manner, not merely by the payment of annual dues but also by participation in some or all of the following:
 - a. Conventions
 - b. Annual Business Meetings
 - c. Papers, webinars, and other canonical presentations
 - d. Serving on committees and special projects
 - e. Networking and cooperation with other members
 - f. Any other endeavors of the Society
3. Active and Senior members possess the full rights of membership, including but not limited to: vote, motion, holding of office, serving as chairs for committees, serving on the Nominating Committee, and eligibility for elected office unless otherwise specified.
4. Associate and Student members may serve on committees except for the Nominating Committee. Additionally, they may address the Society at business meetings with the prior approval of the majority of the Active members present and voting.
5. All members shall uphold the Code of Professional Responsibility. Failure to do so can result in disciplinary action up to and including loss of membership.

Article V — Dues

1. The annual dues for membership in the Society shall be payable by July 1st.
2. Notification of dues shall be made by May 1st.
3. Those members required to pay dues and who fail to do so by no later than September 1st shall forfeit membership, office, and all associated rights, benefits, and duties in the Society. Reinstatement of membership becomes effective upon payment of dues.

- 90 4. The Board of Directors shall propose any change to the amount for the annual dues for all
91 membership categories. This proposal requires approval by a majority vote of those
92 members with voting rights who are present and voting at the Annual Business Meeting.
93

94 **Article VI — Meetings**

- 95 1. The Society shall meet annually in a general meeting known as the Annual Business
96 Meeting at a time and place selected by the Board of Directors. The diocesan bishop and,
97 if applicable, the eparchial bishop whose See is in the place chosen shall be informed.
98 2. Notice of the Annual Business Meeting and its agenda shall be sent to all members at least
99 one month in advance thereof.
100 3. Conduct of the business of the Society shall be done at one or more sessions of the Annual
101 Business Meeting.
102 4. A special business meeting of the Society may be called by the President with the consent
103 of the Board of Directors. If twenty-five percent of the Active members petition in writing
104 for a special business meeting, the President must call said meeting within sixty days. The
105 diocesan bishop and, if applicable, the eparchial bishop whose See is in the place chosen
106 shall be informed.
107 5. Notice of the Annual Business Meeting and special business meetings must be made by
108 means of electronic or physical mail.
109 6. The Board of Directors shall meet at least twice annually. The first required meeting shall
110 be held at least six months prior to the Annual Business Meeting of the Society. Another
111 required meeting shall be held in conjunction with the Annual Business Meeting. Other
112 meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held as needed at the determination of the
113 President.
114 7. *Robert's Rules of Order* shall settle all questions of procedure not covered by this
115 Constitution or the Bylaws.
116 8. Electronic voting, both remote and in-person, may be used at the Annual Business Meeting
117 and special business meetings as allowed by the Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, and the
118 Board of Directors.
119

120 **Article VII — Board of Directors**

- 121 1. Board of Directors
122 a. The governing body of the Society shall be known as the Board of Directors. It is
123 the duty of the Board of Directors to ensure the best interests of the Society. The
124 Board of Directors shall have those authorities articulated in this Constitution and
125 in the Bylaws.
126 b. The ten voting members of the Board of Directors are the four Officers and six
127 Directors. The Director of Operations shall be an *ex officio* non-voting member of
128 the Board.
129 c. The Officers of the Board of Directors shall be the President, the Vice President,
130 the Secretary, and the Treasurer.
131 d. In accordance with the provisions of the Bylaws, the Board of Directors is
132 responsible for hearing and responding to alleged violations of the Code of
133 Professional Responsibility.
134 e. Officers and Directors shall serve for the limit of their term as stipulated in the
135 Constitution.

136 2. Office of President

- 137 a. The President shall represent the Society and advance its purposes, oversee the
138 general affairs of the Society, and has the authority to act on behalf of the Society
139 as specified in this Constitution and in the Bylaws.
- 140 b. The office of President is exercised in collaboration with the Board of Directors.
- 141 c. The President has the authority to convoke and shall preside at meetings of the
142 Board of Directors, Executive Committee, Conventions, and Business Meetings of
143 the Society.
- 144 d. The President shall listen and respond to the interests of the members of the Society
145 and communicate regularly with them, including by publishing an annual report.
- 146 e. The President, after consultation with the Board of Directors, shall appoint a
147 qualified person to fill a vacancy in the office of Vice President, Treasurer,
148 Secretary, or Director for the duration of the remaining unexpired term.
- 149 f. The President, with the consent of the Board of Directors, shall have the authority
150 to remove a member of the Board of Directors and appoint a qualified person to
151 fulfill the unexpired term if said member becomes incapacitated or, after due
152 warning, remains delinquent in his or her duties.
- 153 g. The President shall perform all other duties of the office of President, as well as
154 those found elsewhere in this Constitution and in the Bylaws.
- 155 h. A candidate for the office of President is to be in full communion and in good
156 standing with the Catholic Church, hold a licentiate or doctorate in canon law, have
157 been an Active member for at least five years, be engaged in the activities of the
158 Society, and have the leadership skills needed to fulfill the duties of the office, as
159 specified in this Constitution and in the Bylaws.
- 160 i. The term of the President shall be two years or until a successor is elected. The
161 current or a former President may be reelected to a second term. No one is eligible
162 to be President for more than two consecutive terms.
- 163 j. Should the President become incapacitated and unable to resign, the Vice President
164 shall convene a meeting of the Board of Directors together with the immediate Past-
165 President to determine whether the office of President should be declared vacant.
166 The immediate Past-President shall preside at this meeting but have no vote. If the
167 immediate Past-President is unavailable, unable, or unwilling to serve, the previous
168 Past-Presidents, beginning with the most recent, shall be invited in succession until
169 one is able and willing to preside. The Board of Directors shall determine, by
170 unanimous vote, whether the office of President shall be declared vacant.
- 171 k. By a unanimous vote of the Board of Directors excluding the President, the
172 President can be removed for grave cause.

173 3. Office of Vice President

- 174 a. The Vice President shall assist the President to further the purposes and mission of
175 the Society.
- 176 b. It shall especially be the duty of the Vice President to promote new membership in
177 the Society and to coordinate and evaluate the work of all committees, task forces,
178 and other established groups.
- 179 c. The Vice President shall represent the Society at the request of the President and
180 fulfill all other duties entrusted to him or her by the President.

- 181 d. Upon the vacancy of the office of President during a term, the Vice President shall
182 assume the office of President for the duration of that term, with all corresponding
183 rights and duties.
- 184 e. A candidate for the office of Vice President is to be in full communion and in good
185 standing with the Catholic Church, hold a licentiate or doctorate in canon law, have
186 been an Active member with the Society for at least three years, and have the
187 leadership skills to assume the office of President, if necessary.
- 188 f. The term of the Vice President shall be two years which are coterminous with the
189 President or until a successor is elected. No one is eligible to be Vice President for
190 more than two consecutive terms.
- 191 4. Office of Secretary
- 192 a. The Secretary shall keep Minutes at all meetings of the Board of Directors and at
193 the Annual Business Meetings.
- 194 b. The Secretary shall also fulfill all additional duties incident to this office as well as
195 any other duties assigned by the President or specified in the Bylaws.
- 196 c. Before leaving office, the Secretary shall ensure that Minutes and other relevant
197 documents are suitably prepared for eventual deposit in the archives of the Society.
- 198 d. A candidate for the office of Secretary shall be especially skilled in the duties of
199 this office and have been an Active member of the Society for at least three years.
- 200 e. The term of the Secretary shall be three years or until a successor is elected.
- 201 5. Office of Treasurer
- 202 a. The Treasurer shall advise the Board of Directors on financial matters affecting the
203 Society including but not limited to financial oversight, collaborating with staff for
204 budget management, monitoring cash flow, and financial reporting, especially in
205 strategic decision-making. The Treasurer also ensures internal controls and legal
206 compliance are observed as well as collaborating with any firms engaged by the
207 President for the financial investments, stability, and growth of the Society.
- 208 b. The Treasurer shall also fulfill all additional duties incident to this office, as well
209 as any other duties assigned by the President or specified in the Bylaws.
- 210 c. A candidate for the office of Treasurer shall be especially skilled in matters of
211 finance, including budgeting and investments, and have been an Active member of
212 the Society for at least three years.
- 213 d. The term of the Treasurer shall be four years or until a successor is elected. No one
214 is eligible to serve as Treasurer for more than two consecutive terms.
- 215 6. Directors
- 216 a. There shall be six Directors who have been Active members of the Society for at
217 least three years and bring to the Board a variety of canonical experience and
218 expertise, talents, and skills, so as to further the purposes of the Society. They shall
219 work in collaboration with the President and other members of the Board.
- 220 b. The Directors shall be assigned specific duties at the discretion of the President and
221 shall report to the Board of Directors on a regular basis.
- 222 c. The Directors are elected for a term of three years or until their successor is
223 elected. The terms of these Directors shall be staggered so that two are elected
224 every year.
- 225
- 226

- 227 7. Director of Operations
228 a. The Director of Operations is an *ex officio* member of the Board of Directors with
229 the right to speak but not vote.
230 8. Executive Committee
231 a. The Officers of the Board of Directors shall constitute the Executive Committee.
232 b. The Executive Committee, when convoked by the President, is authorized to act for
233 the good of the Society outside of regularly scheduled meetings of the Board of
234 Directors.
235 c. The Executive Committee shall not act contrary to the following:
236 i. the purposes of the Society
237 ii. decisions previously made by the Membership or by the Board of Directors
238 iii. this Constitution or the Bylaws
239 d. The Executive Committee shall fully inform the Board of Directors of all actions it
240 has taken as well as the motivations for those actions.
241 e. The working of the Executive Committee is otherwise governed by the Bylaws.
242

243 **Article VIII — Director of Operations and Office Personnel**

- 244 1. The hiring, retention, and termination of the Director of Operations and other office
245 personnel shall be at the discretion of the President with the consent of the Board of
246 Directors.
247 2. There shall be a Director of Operations, who:
248 a. has familiarity with canon law and is well-versed in non-profit management, and
249 otherwise meets the qualifications found in this Constitution and the Bylaws.
250 b. reports to the Board of Directors and is supervised by the President.
251 c. promotes the purposes of the Society.
252 d. implements the decisions of the Board.
253 e. supervises the daily functioning of the Office, including the office personnel.
254 f. conducts annual performance evaluations of the office personnel.
255 3. The President shall conduct an annual performance evaluation of the Director of
256 Operations.
257 4. The Board of Directors shall create and, as needed, amend an Office Procedural Handbook
258 which governs the administrative operations of the Society.
259 5. Financial provisions for the operation of the Office of the Society shall be the responsibility
260 of the Board of Directors in the annual budget.
261

262 **Article IX — Elections**

- 263 1. Elected Positions
264 a. The election of the Board of Directors and Nominating Committee shall take place
265 during the Annual Business Meeting.
266 b. Each nominee must be an Active member of the Society and meet the eligibility
267 requirements found in this Constitution and the Bylaws.
268 c. Each term shall begin at the close of the Annual Business Meeting at which the
269 election results are announced.
270 d. Vacancies in any elected position shall be filled in the manner prescribed by this
271 Constitution and Bylaws.
272

273 2. Nominating Committee

- 274 a. The Active members shall elect a Nominating Committee at the Annual Business
275 Meeting which shall be responsible for identifying, vetting, and proposing
276 candidates to the members for election to the Board of Directors and Nominating
277 Committee.
- 278 b. The Nominating Committee shall consist of seven Active members, who as a group
279 should be broadly representative of the Society's membership.
- 280 c. The term shall be for two years or until a successor is elected.
- 281 d. Elections shall occur every two years and, barring special circumstances, are not to
282 occur in the same year as elections for the President and Vice President.
- 283 e. Elections for the Nominating Committee shall be by plurality vote whereby the
284 seven candidates who receive the most votes are elected.
- 285 f. The candidate who receives the highest number of votes shall convoke the first
286 meeting at which the members of the Nominating Committee elect their Chair.
- 287 g. In the event of a vacancy, the members of the Nominating Committee shall elect a
288 new Chair.
- 289 h. The Chair is responsible for communicating with the Board of Directors.
- 290 i. Members of the Nominating Committee are ineligible to be nominated as
291 candidates for the Board of Directors.
- 292 j. The composition and procedures of this Committee shall be further determined by
293 the Bylaws.

294 3. Nominations Process

- 295 a. Within two months after the close of the Annual Business Meeting, the Nominating
296 Committee shall give Active members two weeks to recommend possible
297 candidates for the next election.
- 298 b. At least eight months prior to the Annual Business Meeting, the Nominating
299 Committee shall communicate to the members its list of nominees which should be
300 broadly representative of the Society's membership while taking into consideration
301 the existing makeup of the Board of Directors.
- 302 c. After the Nominating Committee communicates its list of nominees to the
303 members, Active members shall have two weeks to formally nominate additional
304 candidates for open positions.
- 305 d. The Nominating Committee shall make sure that any additional proposed
306 candidates meet the eligibility requirements and that they accept the nomination.
- 307 e. No one may accept nominations for more than one open office. If the acceptance
308 of a nomination leaves another office vacant, the Nominating Committee provides
309 candidates for any vacancies.
- 310 f. At least four months prior to the Annual Business Meeting, the Nominating
311 Committee shall communicate to the members the final list of nominees.
- 312 g. In case of necessity, such as when a nominee is no longer able or qualified to be
313 elected, the Nominating Committee shall convene to nominate another candidate.
- 314 h. Nominations may not be made from the floor during the Annual Business
315 Meeting.

316 4. Elections Process

- 317 a. At the Annual Business Meeting, the Chair of the Nominating Committee or his/her
318 designee shall present the nominee(s).

- b. Voting is done by secret ballot and is not allowed by proxy.
- c. A majority of the votes cast for candidates for the Board of Directors shall determine an election.
- d. If only one nominee is presented for election, that nominee shall succeed to the office.
- e. If no candidate receives a majority of votes, the Bylaws shall be consulted.

Article X — Committees

1. For the Nominating Committee, see Article IX — Elections.
2. Standing Committees
 - a. The following are the standing committees of the Society, the function of which is defined below and further described in the Bylaws:
 - i. Convention Planning Committee
 - ii. Development Committee
 - iii. Membership Committee
 - iv. Project Development Committee
 - v. Publications Committee
 - vi. Resolutions Committee
 - vii. Resource and Asset Management Committee
 - b. The Convention Planning Committee's function is to recommend to the Board of Directors speakers, topics for major addresses, seminars, and other presentations, to make arrangements for those, and to oversee the planning of all convention liturgies and prayer services.
 - c. The Development Committee's function is to seek outside sources of funding for the Society. The Treasurer is to be a member of this committee.
 - d. The Membership Committee's function is to develop proposals for maintaining and increasing membership as well as encouraging membership participation. The Vice President is to be a member of this committee.
 - e. The Project Development Committee's function is to develop ideas for projects to be worked-on by members to advance the purposes of the Society.
 - f. The Publications Committee's function is to encourage publications and monitor the progress of those endeavors. It shall consist of a minimum of four Active members including the Vice President. The Director of Operations shall serve on the committee *ex officio*.
 - g. The Resolutions Committee's function is to solicit, develop, and draft proposed resolutions which advance the purposes of the Society. It shall consist of a minimum of three Active members.
 - h. The Resource and Asset Management Committee's function is to review and advise on all financial matters of the Society. This shall include but not be limited to safeguarding organizational assets, developing a comprehensive budget for the Society, and overseeing investments in accordance with the criteria established by the Society. It shall consist of a minimum of three people including the Vice President and the Treasurer, who shall serve as Chair of this committee.
 - i. Standing committees may be assigned other duties at the discretion of the President.
 - j. Rights and responsibilities for standing committees are detailed in the Bylaws.

365 3. Special Committees and Task Forces

- 366 a. Members and Standing Committees may recommend ideas for projects to the Board
367 of Directors.
368 b. The President shall have discretionary power to appoint such other special
369 committees and task forces as are needed for the general welfare of the Society,
370 after consultation with the Board of Directors.
371 c. Rights and responsibilities for special committees and task forces are detailed in
372 their mandate.
373 d. Special Committees and Task Forces end at the expiration of their mandate.

374 4. Committee Appointments

- 375 a. Members may recommend themselves or other members for service on any
376 committee.
377 b. Chairs and members of standing and special committees are appointed by the
378 President after consultation with the Board of Directors. The President may appoint
379 those who are not members of the Society as advisors to committees.
380 c. The terms of office for chairs and members shall be three years and may be
381 renewable for two consecutive terms. New members of each committee shall be
382 appointed by the President within thirty days after the close of the Annual Business
383 Meeting.
384 d. For communication purposes, a liaison from the Board of Directors shall be
385 appointed by the President to each standing and special committee except for the
386 Nominating Committee.
387 e. Committee Chairs and members are expected to participate in meetings and work
388 toward productivity for the benefit of the Society.
389 f. The President may remove any committee Chair, member, or liaison in the
390 following ways:
391 i. After consultation with the Board of Directors due to grave negligence in
392 performing one's duties.
393 ii. After three unexcused absences from meetings.
394 g. In the event of a vacancy of a committee Chair, member, or liaison, the President
395 shall appoint a qualified person to fill that position.
396 h. Appointments to and removals from task forces follow the same norms as
397 appointments to committees.
398

399 **Article XI — Administration of Goods**

- 400 1. The fiscal year of the Society shall begin on the first day of July of each year and shall end
401 on the 30th day of June of the following year.
402 2. Acts of Ordinary Administration are those actions carried out in accordance with the fiscal
403 policies and procedures approved by the Board of Directors.
404 3. Acts of Extraordinary Administration must be approved by the Board of Directors.
405 4. Acts of Extraordinary Administration are those that:
406 a. Could adversely affect the financial stability or viability of the Society
407 b. Involve matters that could expose the Society to significant civil liability
408 c. Involve matters that are subject to the Conflict of Interest Policy of the Society
409 d. Involve any expenditure exceeding the amount defined in the Bylaws

- 410 5. The Board of Directors shall ensure that there shall be regular financial audits as indicated
411 in the Bylaws.
412 6. The Bylaws shall determine the procedures for the ordinary and extraordinary
413 Administration of Goods.
414

415 **Article XII - Civil Matters**

- 416 1. The Board of Directors shall ensure that the Articles of Incorporation and all other required
417 documentation are properly filed with the appropriate civil jurisdiction.
418 2. It is the duty of the Board of Directors to periodically review the Articles of Incorporation
419 and, when needed, propose amendments for approval by the membership.
420 3. The Society shall maintain appropriate Directors and Officers Insurance for the Board of
421 Directors and staff of the Society.
422

423 **Article XIII — Amendments**

- 424 1. This Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the Active and Senior members
425 present and voting, provided:
426 a. That the proposal to amend the Constitution has been filed by an Active or Senior
427 member with the Secretary of the Board of Directors at least three months prior to
428 the Annual Business Meeting of the Society at which that member intends the
429 proposal to be submitted
430 b. That notice of the proposed amendment has been sent to each Active member of
431 the Society by physical or electronic mailing no less than one month in advance of
432 that Business Meeting at which the proposal will be voted on
433 2. Amendments to the Constitution shall become effective at the close of the Business
434 Meeting at which the amendment was adopted, unless a different effective date has been
435 specified in the amendment.
436

437 AS FIRST ADOPTED ON NOVEMBER 12, 1939 AND AMENDED ON
438 OCTOBER 22, 1980, OCTOBER 10, 1984, OCTOBER 12, 1988,
439 OCTOBER 11, 1989, OCTOBER 16, 1991, OCTOBER 14, 1992,
440 OCTOBER 12, 1994, OCTOBER 18, 1995, OCTOBER 09, 1996,
441 OCTOBER 14, 1997, OCTOBER 11, 2006, OCTOBER 15, 2008,
442 OCTOBER 16, 2013, OCTOBER 18, 2017, OCTOBER 13, 2020,
443 OCTOBER 13, 2021, OCTOBER 14, 2026.
444

445 The Canon Law Society of America is a non-profit corporation under the laws of the District of
446 Columbia. The Board of Directors of the Society is the Board of Directors of the Corporation, and
447 members of the corporation are the members of the Society. For further details, contact the
448 Administrative Office.

CLSA CONSTITUTION REVISION COMMISSION

Constitution Revision Comparison

Original Constitution (2021)
compared with the
Proposed Revised Constitution (2026 Draft)

Prepared by the Constitution Revision Commission
Version 3.0 — Final Submittal to Society Membership

About this Comparison

This comparison uses the proposed revised Constitution as the base document. Added language will appear in green. Deleted language will appear in red with strikethrough. Notes in boxes in purple font help to indicate movement of text from one location to another. Commission Notes identify articles, sections, and subsections that have been relocated, reorganized, or substantially revised. The Commission Notes are explanatory only and do not form part of the proposed Constitution.

PREAMBLE

Commission Note

Rewritten. The Preamble has been rewritten in its entirety. It reframes the Constitution as the Society's foundational governing document, summarizes its historical development, and explicitly incorporates the canonical principle that the salvation of souls is the supreme law of the Church (cf. CIC c. 1752). Derived from the former Preamble.

Canon Law Society of America
Constitution

Constitution

Preamble

~~We, the members of the Canon Law Society of America, ever eager to fulfill our role in the Church through the proper use of canon law, hereby proclaim our desire to promote the use of every method of serving God's people that comes under the concept of law. Mindful that church laws ought to be pastoral in character and made only to serve the people of God, we accept our responsibility as Christians trained in canon law to continue research and study and to assist any members of Christ's Body singularly or collectively, laity or clergy, who will welcome the deliberations, research and common opinion of this Society. With these thoughts in mind and invoking the help of God, we adopt the following Constitution.~~

Preamble

The Canon Law Society of America was founded in 1939 when the membership adopted a Constitution to define its purpose and determine the structure and workings of the Society. The Constitution has been amended several times over the decades in order to address the changing needs of the Society and those of the Church. Following a period of consultation and deliberation, the membership of the Canon Law Society of America adopts this Constitution as its principal governing document. This Constitution along with the Articles of Incorporation and the Bylaws, shall govern the functioning of the Society, keeping in mind that the supreme law of the Church must always be the salvation of souls (cf. can.1752 *CIC*).

ARTICLE I — Name

Commission Note

Retained. The provisions governing the name of the Society are substantively unchanged. The term “Society” was explicitly stated as referencing CLSA throughout the Constitution. Derived from former Article I (Name).

Article I — Name

The name of this association shall be **THE CANON LAW SOCIETY OF AMERICA**, **hereinafter referred to in this Constitution as the “Society.”**

ARTICLE II — Purpose

Commission Note

Revised. The purposes of the Society have been reorganized and restated while preserving the Society's fundamental mission. Existing purposes have been clarified, consolidated, and modernized, and new provisions have been added. Derived from former Article II (Purpose).

Article II — Purpose

The ~~purpose~~ purposes of this Society shall be:

1. To ~~promote~~ advance the ~~pastoral~~ Church’s ministry of the ~~Church~~ *cura animarum* through the works of justice, law, and mercy.
2. ~~To cooperate in the continuous revision and renewal of the universal law of the Church and with the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops in proposing new legislation, resolving current legal questions and implementing laws and structures which pertain to the vital life of the Church.~~
To foster professional and ministerial ties among Society members, to facilitate interchange of canonical ideas, and to support them as practitioners of canon law.
3. ~~To encourage and participate in canonical research and study toward a constant renewal of canon law.~~ To contribute to the scholarly study and advancement of canon law, including by the publication of articles, books, and other educational materials.
4. ~~To respond to the practical canonical needs of all the people of God in the respective capacities in which they serve and benefit from the Church.~~
To assist those in the Church who exercise legislative authority in the formulation, revision, reception, and implementation of canon law.
5. ~~To facilitate the interchange of canonical ideas, practices and decisions among canon lawyers, and other members of the Society.~~
To provide resources to those engaged in the exercise of judicial and executive authority in the Church.
6. ~~To cooperate with individuals and organizations doing research in other sacred sciences for the promotion of mutual interests.~~
To provide formation to those who accompany the Christian faithful in the exercise of their canonical rights and duties.

#2 addressed
and revised in
Art. II §1, d.

#4 addressed
and revised in
Art. II §1, e
& f.

#5 addressed
and revised in
Art. II §1, b.

#6 addressed
and revised in
Art. II §1, h.

7. ~~To establish a dialogue and share ideas, proposals and insights, with other canon law societies in the world.~~ To collaborate with other canon law societies in our common mission.
8. To engage with other organizations that serve the Church, particularly in the United States of America.

ARTICLE III — Membership

Commission Note

Revised. The membership provisions have been reorganized, a new category of Senior Membership has been added, Honorary Membership has been revised, and loss of membership has been consolidated into this article. Certain rights, duties, and benefits formerly associated with membership have been relocated to Article IV. Derived from former Article III (*Membership*).

Article III — Membership

1. There are ~~four kinds~~ five types of membership in the Society: ~~Canon Law Society of America:~~ Active, Associate, Student, Senior, and Honorary.
~~Members in good standing are those who have paid their annual dues by June 30 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, with a grace period of 31 days.~~
 1. ~~a. Without prejudice to the status of persons who are members at the time of the adoption of this article,~~ ACTIVE membership is open to those who have earned at least a licentiate degree in canon law.
 2. ~~ACTIVE membership is also open in the future to~~ or other practitioners in canon law who demonstrate a broadly-based competence in canonical issues and who have fulfilled the stipulated requirements established by the Board of ~~Governors~~ Directors as enumerated in the ~~By-Laws~~ Bylaws.
 3. b. ASSOCIATE membership is open to others who wish to associate themselves with the purpose of the Society.
 4. c. STUDENT membership is open to those enrolled in any ecclesiastical faculty school of Canon Law and engaged in studies to obtain a licentiate degree. ~~or those engaged in their first year of doctoral coursework. Student members will enjoy the same prerogatives as associate members of the Society.~~
 - d. SENIOR membership is open to those who are at least 70 years old, have held Active membership for at least 20 cumulative years, and are either no longer employed fulltime or are priests/consecrated granted retirement status.
 5. ~~HONORARY members are:~~
 - a. ~~ex officio~~ all the Most Reverend Bishops of the United States and Canada, and
 - b. ~~those persons by reason of outstanding contributions in the field of canon law or in support of the Society, are proposed for this distinction of honorary membership by the Board of Governors and accepted by a majority vote of the active members at a General Meeting. Such elected honorary members shall be considered Active members in good standing but shall not be required to pay annual dues.~~

“Good standing”
addressed and
revised in Art. III
§2, a. and Art. V

“Rights of
members”
addressed in
Art. IV

- e. HONORARY membership is open to both those who are not members of the Society and those who are members who, after being proposed by a member, are elected by a majority vote by the Board of Directors because of outstanding contributions in the field of canon law or support of the Society. The Board of Directors may, at their discretion, decide to grant membership status equivalent to that of Associate or Active membership but the recipient shall not be required to pay annual dues.
2. Loss of membership in the Society and all associated rights, benefits, and duties occurs:
- a. when there is failure to pay the annual dues by no later than September 1st;
 - b. after reception of a signed letter of resignation; or
 - c. by a two-thirds vote of the Board of Directors after a proven violation of the Code of Professional Responsibilities in accordance with the Bylaws.

ARTICLE IV — Rights, Duties, and Benefits of Members

Commission Note

Relocated and expanded. This article principally consists of provisions relocated from former Article V concerning the rights, duties, and benefits of members. These provisions have been reorganized, clarified, and expanded, with additional rights and responsibilities established for the various categories of membership. Certain related provisions formerly contained in Article III have also been incorporated. Derived principally from former Article V (*Rights, Benefits, and Duties*) together with portions of former Article III (*Membership*).

Article IV — Dues

Art. IV (Dues) became
new Art. V (Dues).

Article ~~V~~IV — Rights, ~~Benefits, and Duties~~ Duties, and Benefits of Members

1. Members of the Society shall be entitled to all ~~benefits and rights~~ rights, duties, and benefits of membership as hereinafter ~~delineated~~ described in the Constitution and Bylaws.
2. Each Active member has the ~~obligation~~ duty to support and advance the purposes of the Society in a positive manner, not merely by the payment of annual dues but also, ~~and importantly, by active participation in some or all of the following: general meetings, by presentation of papers at such meetings, by cooperation with the other members in all the projects of the Society.~~
 - a. Conventions
 - b. Annual Business Meetings
 - c. Papers, webinars, and other canonical presentations
 - d. Serving on committees and special projects
 - e. Networking and cooperation with other members
 - f. Any other endeavors of the Society
3. ~~Active members only shall have the right to voice and vote at the Annual General Meeting. Associate members may address the body from the floor with the prior approval of the majority of the Active members present and voting.~~ Active and Senior members possess the full rights of membership, including but not limited to: vote, motion, holding of office, serving as chairs for committees, serving on the Nominating Committee, and eligibility for elected office unless otherwise specified.
4. Associate and Student members may serve on committees, except for the Nominating Committee. Additionally, they may address the Society at business meetings with the prior approval of the majority of the Active members present and voting.
5. All members shall uphold the Code of Professional Responsibility. Failure to do so can result in disciplinary action up to and including loss of membership.

ARTICLE V — Dues

Commission Note

Relocated and revised. This article was formerly Article IV. The provisions governing dues have been reorganized, simplified, and clarified while retaining their essential purpose. Certain provisions concerning forfeiture or loss of membership have been coordinated with Article III. Derived from former Article IV (*Dues*).

~~Article IV — Dues~~

- ~~1. Any change in the amount of the annual dues of Active, Associate and Student members shall be proposed by the Board of Governors but shall be determined by a majority vote of those Active members present and voting at a General Meeting at which the proposal is made.~~
- ~~2. During the third year of the Treasurer's term of office, he or she, with the assistance of the General Secretary and the Society accountant, shall conduct a thorough review of membership dues; evaluate income and expense trends; lead a discussion of these findings with the Board of Governors; and if necessary, propose to the Board Governors any adjustments that may be required to ensure solvency and to provide high-quality services to the membership.~~
- ~~3. The fiscal year of the Society shall begin on the first day of July of each year and shall end on the 30th day of June of the following year.~~
- ~~4. Dues are payable online, by mail, or in person.~~
- ~~5. An Active, Associate or Student member shall forfeit membership in the Society by failing to pay the annual dues by June 30 each year for the fiscal year beginning July 1, with a grace period of 31 days, and shall not be included in the term "member" or "membership" as used in the articles of this Constitution.~~

#1 addressed
and revised in
Art. V §4.

#2 should be
addressed in
the Bylaws.

#3 moved to
Art. XI §1.

#5 addressed in
Art. III §2, a.

Article V — Dues

1. The annual dues for membership in the Society shall be payable by July 1st.
2. Notification of dues shall be made by May 1st.
3. Those members required to pay dues and who fail to do so by no later than September 1st shall forfeit membership, office, and all associated rights, benefits, and duties in the Society. Reinstatement of membership becomes effective upon payment of dues.
4. The Board of Directors shall propose any change to the amount for the annual dues for all membership categories. This proposal requires approval by a majority vote of those members with voting rights who are present and voting at the Annual Business Meeting.

New #4
moved from
Art. V §1.
(formerly
Art. IV §1)

ARTICLE VI — Meetings

Commission Note

Revised. The meeting provisions have been retained in the same article but updated to reflect revised terminology, notice provisions, episcopal notification, Board meetings, special business meetings, Robert's Rules, and electronic voting. Derived from former Article VI (*Meetings*).

Article VI — Meetings

1. The Society shall meet annually in a general meeting known as the Annual Business Meeting at a time and place selected by the Board of ~~Governors~~ Directors, ~~after having informed the diocesan bishop of the place chosen.~~ The diocesan bishop and, if applicable, the eparchial bishop whose See is in the place chosen shall be informed.
2. Notice of the Annual ~~General~~ Business Meeting and its agenda shall be sent to all ~~active, associate and student~~ members ~~by the Committee on Local Arrangements~~ at least one month in advance thereof. ~~The program of the meetings proposed by the Board of Governors shall be sent with the notice.~~
3. Conduct of the business of the Society shall be done at one or more sessions of the Annual ~~General~~ Business Meeting.
4. A special ~~general~~ business meeting of the Society may be called by the President with the consent of the Board of ~~Governors~~ Directors. ~~A special general meeting of the Society must be called by the President within a reasonable time when it is petitioned in writing by a majority of active members. In every case the time and place of a special general meeting are designated by the President after having informed the ordinary of the designated place.~~ If twenty-five percent of the Active members petition in writing for a special business meeting, the President must call said meeting within sixty days. The diocesan bishop and, if applicable, the eparchial bishop whose See is in the place chosen shall be informed shall be informed.
5. Notice of the Annual Business Meeting and special business meetings must be made by means of electronic or physical mail.
6. ~~5.~~ The Board of ~~Governors~~ Directors shall meet at least twice ~~yearly~~ annually. ~~An Annual Plenary Meeting~~ The first required meeting shall be held at least six months prior to the Annual ~~General~~ Business Meeting of the Society. ~~The other meetings~~ Another required meeting shall ~~take place~~ be held ~~immediately before, and~~ in conjunction with, the Annual ~~General~~ Business Meeting. Other meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held as needed at the determination of the President.
7. ~~6.~~ *Robert's Rules of Order* shall settle all questions of procedure not covered by this Constitution or the Bylaws.
8. Electronic voting, both remote and in-person, may be used at the Annual Business Meeting and special business meetings as allowed by the Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, and the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VII — Board of Directors

Commission Note

Reorganized and expanded. This article replaces the former article on Officers with a broader article on the Board of Directors. It establishes the Board of Directors, defines Officers and Directors, expands officer qualifications and duties, addresses vacancies and incapacity, and adds provisions concerning the Director of Operations as an *ex officio* Board member and the Executive Committee. Derived principally from former Article VII (*Officers*) with related material formerly found in Article IX (*Elections*) and new governance provisions.

Article VII — Officers

- ~~1. The officers of this Society elected from the Active membership shall be the President, Vice President, the Secretary, the Treasurer, and six Consultors. Additionally, the immediate Past President shall serve as an officer of this Society in an *ex officio* capacity.~~
- ~~2. These officers, constituting a Board of Governors, shall govern the Society; they shall never act contrary to decisions voted by the active members of the Society at a general meeting.~~
- ~~3. The President shall preside at all the meetings of the Board of Governors, as well as at general meetings of the Society, and shall in general, supervise the business and affairs of the Society, and perform all duties incident to the office of President.~~
- ~~4. The Vice President is the President-elect and, at the request of the President, shall perform the duties of the President.~~
- ~~5. The Secretary shall, in general, perform all the duties incident to the office of Secretary, keep the minutes of the general meeting of the Society and the meetings of the Board of Governors, and such other duties as may from time to time be assigned by the President or the Board of Governors.~~
- ~~6. The Treasurer shall, in general, perform all the duties incident to the office of Treasurer, and such other duties as may from time to time be assigned by the President or the Board of Governors.~~
- ~~7. Six Consultors shall be elected to terms of three years. Their elections shall be so arranged that two Consultors are elected each year.~~
- ~~8. The immediate Past President's term shall extend for the entire time that his or her successor as President is in office.~~

Art. VII (Officers) is addressed and revised in Art. VII (Board of Directors)

Article VII — Board of Directors

1. Board of Directors
 - a. The governing body of the Society shall be known as the Board of Directors. It is the duty of the Board of Directors to ensure the best interests of the Society. The Board of Directors shall have those authorities articulated in this Constitution and in the Bylaws.
 - b. The ten voting members of the Board of Directors are the four Officers and six Directors. The Director of Operations shall be an *ex officio* non-voting member of the Board.

- c. The Officers of the Board of Directors shall be the President, the Vice President, the Secretary, and the Treasurer.
 - d. In accordance with the provisions of the Bylaws, the Board of Directors is responsible for hearing and responding to alleged violations of the Code of Professional Responsibility.
 - e. Officers and Directors shall serve for the limit of their term as stipulated in the Constitution.
2. Office of President
- a. The President shall represent the Society and advance its purposes, oversee the general affairs of the Society, and has the authority to act on behalf of the Society as specified in this Constitution and in the Bylaws.
 - b. The office of President is exercised in collaboration with the Board of Directors.
 - c. The President has the authority to convoke and shall preside at meetings of the Board of Directors, Executive Committee, Conventions, and Business Meetings of the Society.
 - d. The President shall listen and respond to the interests of the members of the Society and communicate regularly with them, including by publishing an annual report.
 - e. The President, after consultation with the Board of Directors, shall appoint a qualified person to fill a vacancy in the office of Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, or Director for the duration of the remaining unexpired term.
 - f. The President, with the consent of the Board of Directors, shall have the authority to remove a member of the Board of Directors and appoint a qualified person to fulfill the unexpired term if said member becomes incapacitated or, after due warning, remains delinquent in his or her duties.
 - g. The President shall perform all other duties of the office of President, as well as those found elsewhere in this Constitution and in the Bylaws.
 - h. A candidate for the office of President is to be in full communion and in good standing with the Catholic Church, hold a licentiate or doctorate in canon law, have been an Active member for at least five years, be engaged in the activities of the Society, and have the leadership skills needed to fulfill the duties of the office, as specified in this Constitution and in the Bylaws.
 - i. The term of the President shall be two years or until a successor is elected. The current or a former President may be reelected to a second term. No one is eligible to be President for more than two consecutive terms.
 - j. Should the President become incapacitated and unable to resign, the Vice President shall convene a meeting of the Board of Directors together with the immediate Past-President to determine whether the office of President should be declared vacant. The immediate Past-President shall preside at this meeting but have no vote. If the immediate Past-President is unavailable, unable, or unwilling to serve, the previous Past-Presidents, beginning with the most recent, shall be invited in succession until one is able and willing to preside. The Board of Directors shall determine, by unanimous vote, whether the office of President shall be declared vacant.
 - k. By a unanimous vote of the Board of Directors excluding the President, the President can be removed for grave cause.

3. Office of Vice President

- a. The Vice President shall assist the President to further the purposes and mission of the Society.
- b. It shall especially be the duty of the Vice President to promote new membership in the Society and to coordinate and evaluate the work of all committees, task forces, and other established groups.
- c. The Vice President shall represent the Society at the request of the President and fulfill all other duties entrusted to him or her by the President.
- d. Upon the vacancy of the office of President during a term, the Vice President shall assume the office of President for the duration of that term, with all corresponding rights and duties.
- e. A candidate for the office of Vice President is to be in full communion and in good standing with the Catholic Church, hold a licentiate or doctorate in canon law, have been an Active member with the Society for at least three years, and have the leadership skills to assume the office of President, if necessary.
- f. The term of the Vice President shall be two years which are coterminous with the President or until a successor is elected. No one is eligible to be Vice President for more than two consecutive terms.

4. Office of Secretary

- a. The Secretary shall keep Minutes at all meetings of the Board of Directors and at the Annual Business Meetings.
- b. The Secretary shall also fulfill all additional duties incident to this office as well as any other duties assigned by the President or specified in the Bylaws.
- c. Before leaving office, the Secretary shall ensure that Minutes and other relevant documents are suitably prepared for eventual deposit in the archives of the Society.
- d. A candidate for the office of Secretary shall be especially skilled in the duties of this office and have been an Active member of the Society for at least three years.
- e. The term of the Secretary shall be three years or until a successor is elected.

5. Office of Treasurer

- a. The Treasurer shall advise the Board of Directors on financial matters affecting the Society including but not limited to financial oversight, collaborating with staff for budget management, monitoring cash flow, and financial reporting, especially in strategic decision-making. The Treasurer also ensures internal controls and legal compliance are observed as well as collaborating with any firms engaged by the President for the financial investments, stability, and growth of the Society.
- b. The Treasurer shall also fulfill all additional duties incident to this office, as well as any other duties assigned by the President or specified in the Bylaws.
- c. A candidate for the office of Treasurer shall be especially skilled in matters of finance, including budgeting and investments, and have been an Active member of the Society for at least three years.
- d. The term of the Treasurer shall be four years or until a successor is elected. No one is eligible to serve as Treasurer for more than two consecutive terms.

6. Directors
 - a. There shall be six Directors who have been Active members of the Society for at least three years and bring to the Board a variety of canonical experience and expertise, talents, and skills, so as to further the purposes of the Society. They shall work in collaboration with the President and other members of the Board.
 - b. The Directors shall be assigned specific duties at the discretion of the President and shall report to the Board of Directors on a regular basis.
 - c. The Directors are elected for a term of three years or until their successor is elected. The terms of these Directors shall be staggered so that two are elected every year.
7. Director of Operations
 - a. The Director of Operations is an *ex officio* member of the Board of Directors with the right to speak but not vote.
8. Executive Committee
 - a. The Officers of the Board of Directors shall constitute the Executive Committee.
 - b. The Executive Committee, when convoked by the President, is authorized to act for the good of the Society outside of regularly scheduled meetings of the Board of Directors.
 - c. The Executive Committee shall not act contrary to the following:
 - i. the purposes of the Society
 - ii. decisions previously made by the Membership or by the Board of Directors
 - iii. this Constitution or the Bylaws
 - d. The Executive Committee shall fully inform the Board of Directors of all actions it has taken as well as the motivations for those actions.
 - e. The working of the Executive Committee is otherwise governed by the Bylaws.

ARTICLE VIII — Director of Operations and Office Personnel

Commission Note

Reorganized and expanded. This article replaces the former constitutional position of Executive Coordinator and General Secretary with the position of the Director of Operations. Provisions are provided which govern the Director of Operations and other office personnel, including hiring, supervision, evaluations, office operations, and the Office Procedural Handbook. Derived from former Article VIII (*Executive Coordinator and General Secretary*).

~~Article VIII — Executive Coordinator and General Secretary~~

- ~~1. Reporting to the Board of Governors and supervised by the President, two collaborative positions serve the Office: the Executive Coordinator, who is a degreed canonist, and the General Secretary, who is qualified in organizational management.~~
- ~~2. Financial provisions for the operation of the office shall be the responsibility of the Board of Governors in the annual budget.~~

Article VIII — Director of Operations and Office Personnel

1. The hiring, retention, and termination of the Director of Operations and other office personnel shall be at the discretion of the President with the consent of the Board of Directors.
2. There shall be a Director of Operations, who:
 - a. has familiarity with canon law and is well-versed in non-profit management, and otherwise meets the qualifications found in this Constitution and the Bylaws.
 - b. reports to the Board of Directors and is supervised by the President.
 - c. promotes the purposes of the Society.
 - d. implements the decisions of the Board.
 - e. supervises the daily functioning of the Office, including the office personnel.
 - f. conducts annual performance evaluations of the office personnel.
3. The President shall conduct an annual performance evaluation of the Director of Operations.
4. The Board of Directors shall create and, as needed, amend an Office Procedural Handbook which governs the administrative operations of the Society.
5. Financial provisions for the operation of the Office of the Society shall be the responsibility of the Board of Directors in the annual budget.

Art. VIII
(Executive
Coordinator
and General
Secretary) is
addressed
and revised in
new Art. VIII
(Director of
Operations
and Office
Personnel)

ARTICLE IX — Elections

Commission Note

Reorganized and expanded. The election provisions have been substantially reorganized into sections on elected positions, the Nominating Committee, the nominations process, the elections process, and active and passive voice. The revised article also moves the Nominating Committee from the committee structure into the elections article. Derived principally from former Article IX (*Elections*) with related material from former Article X (*Committees*).

Article IX — Elections

- ~~1. The election of the Vice President, the Secretary, the Treasurer, and the Consultors shall take place during the Annual General Meeting.~~
- ~~2. The person elected Vice President thereby becomes President-elect and will succeed to the office of Presidency at the conclusion of the next Annual General Meeting. However, if by the time of that next Annual General Meeting the elected Vice President is unavailable to serve in the office of Presidency, no fewer than two nominations shall be made for the office of Presidency by the Committee on Nominations.~~
- ~~3. The President, Vice President shall hold office for one year; the Secretary, Treasurer and the elected Consultors shall hold office for three years. Terms of office shall end at the close of the Annual General Meeting at which new officers are elected. The terms of the Secretary and Treasurer shall end in different years so that both do not go out of office in the same year.~~
- ~~4. Insofar as it shall be possible, the Consultors shall be from different regions.~~
- ~~5. Nominations for the elective offices shall be communicated to all Active members by the Committee on Nominations not less than one month before the Annual General Meeting. Active members present at the Annual General Meeting have the right to nominate candidates for each office from the floor. In every case, the nomination is subject to the consent of the nominee.~~
- ~~6. For all offices no fewer than two nominations shall be made by the Committee on Nominations.~~
- ~~7. It shall be a necessary qualification of any nominee, whether named by the Committee on Nominations or from the floor, that the nominee be an Active member of the Society.~~
- ~~8. The electoral body of the Society shall be all Active members who are present at the General Meeting at which the voting takes place. Voting by proxy is prohibited.~~
- ~~9. The election shall be by secret ballot according to the rules set down in the By-Laws.~~
- ~~10. Elected officers shall assume their office at the close of the Annual General Meeting at which the respective officers are elected. If an office is actually vacated, the one newly elected shall assume that office immediately upon election.~~
- ~~11. If either the Treasurer or the Secretary becomes unable to fulfill the term of office, the President, after consultation with the Vice President and Past President, will appoint an interim Treasurer or Secretary who will hold office until the next Annual General Meeting, at which time there will be an election to fill the unexpired term of office, if any.~~

Art. IX (Elections) is addressed and majorly revised in new Art. IX.

All information regarding Officers (nominations, terms, etc.) are now found in revised Art. VII (Board of Directors).

For President, see Art. VII §2.

For Vice-President, see Art. VII §3.

For Secretary, see Art. VII §4.

For Treasurer, see Art VII §5.

Article IX — Elections

1. Elected Positions

- a. The election of the Board of Directors and Nominating Committee shall take place during the Annual Business Meeting.
- b. Each nominee must be an Active member of the Society and meet the eligibility requirements found in this Constitution and the Bylaws.
- c. Each term shall begin at the close of the Annual Business Meeting at which the election results are announced.
- d. Vacancies in any elected position shall be filled in the manner prescribed by this Constitution and Bylaws.

2. Nominating Committee

- a. The Active members shall elect a Nominating Committee at the Annual Business Meeting which shall be responsible for identifying, vetting, and proposing candidates to the members for election to the Board of Directors and Nominating Committee.
- b. The Nominating Committee shall consist of seven Active members, who as a group should be broadly representative of the Society's membership.
- c. The term shall be for two years or until a successor is elected.
- d. Elections shall occur every two years and, barring special circumstances, are not to occur in the same year as elections for the President and Vice President.
- e. Elections for the Nominating Committee shall be by plurality vote whereby the seven candidates who receive the most votes are elected.
- f. The candidate who receives the highest number of votes shall convoke the first meeting at which the members of the Nominating Committee elect their Chair.
- g. In the event of a vacancy, the members of the Nominating Committee shall elect a new Chair.
- h. The Chair is responsible for communicating with the Board of Directors.
- i. Members of the Nominating Committee are ineligible to be nominated as candidates for the Board of Directors.
- j. The composition and procedures of this Committee shall be further determined by the Bylaws.

3. Nominations Process

- a. Within two months after the close of the Annual Business Meeting, the Nominating Committee shall give Active members two weeks to recommend possible candidates for the next election.
- b. At least eight months prior to the Annual Business Meeting, the Nominating Committee shall communicate to the members its list of nominees which should be broadly representative of the Society's membership while taking into consideration the existing makeup of the Board of Directors.
- c. After the Nominating Committee communicates its list of nominees to the members, Active members shall have two weeks to formally nominate additional candidates for open positions.
- d. The Nominating Committee shall make sure that any additional proposed candidates meet the eligibility requirements and that they accept the nomination.

- e. No one may accept nominations for more than one open office. If the acceptance of a nomination leaves another office vacant, the Nominating Committee provides candidates for any vacancies.
 - f. At least four months prior to the Annual Business Meeting, the Nominating Committee shall communicate to the members the final list of nominees.
 - g. In case of necessity, such as when a nominee is no longer able or qualified to be elected, the Nominating Committee shall convene to nominate another candidate.
 - h. Nominations may not be made from the floor during the Annual Business Meeting.
4. Elections Process
- a. At the Annual Business Meeting, the Chair of the Nominating Committee or his/her designee shall present the nominee(s).
 - b. Voting is done by secret ballot and is not allowed by proxy.
 - c. A majority of the votes cast for candidates for Board of Directors shall determine an election.
 - d. If only one nominee is presented for election, that nominee shall succeed to the office.
 - e. If no candidate receives a majority of votes, the Bylaws shall be consulted.

ARTICLE X — Committees

Commission Note

Reorganized and expanded. The committee provisions have been substantially revised. The article expands the list of standing committees, reorganizes committee functions, adds provisions for special committees and task forces, and creates a general framework for committee appointments, vacancies, and removals. Derived principally from former Article X (*Committees*).

Article X — Committees

1. For the Nominating Committee, see Article IX — Elections.
- ~~1. There shall be four standing committees of the Society as follows:~~
2. Standing Committees
 - a. The following are the standing committees of the Society, the function of which is defined below and further described in the Bylaws:
 - i. Convention Planning Committee
 - ii. Development Committee
 - iii. Membership Committee
 - iv. Project Development Committee
 - v. Publications Committee
 - vi. Resolutions Committee
 - vii. Resource and Asset Management Committee
 - ~~a. Committee on Nominations;~~
 - ~~b. Committee on Resolutions;~~
 - ~~c. Resource and Asset Management;~~
 - ~~d. Committee on Professional Responsibility.~~
- ~~2. The Committee of Resource and Asset Management shall consist of the Vice President, the Treasurer, and a senior consultant and two additional members appointed by the President. The Treasurer shall act as Chair of this committee.~~
- ~~3. The Committee on Professional Responsibility shall consist of the three senior consultants of the Board of Governors.~~
- ~~4. The Committee on Nominations and the Committee on Resolutions shall consist of three voting members appointed by the President. Consultative members may be appointed at the discretion of the President.~~
 - ~~a. The term of office of committee members shall be for three years but shall be so arranged that each year the term of one member of each committee will expire with the close of the Annual General Meeting; the new member of each committee shall be appointed by the new President within thirty days after the close of the Annual Meeting.~~
 - ~~b. The member of each committee who is senior by appointment shall act as chairperson of each respective committee.~~
 - ~~c. In the event of death or resignation of a committee member, the President shall appoint a new member to complete the unexpired portion of the term of office.~~

#2 addressed
in Art. X §1, i.

#4 is addressed
and revised in
Art. IX §2.

Committee
appointments
and terms are
addressed in
Art. X §3.

- d. ~~In addition to its members, the Committee on Nominations shall have the Past President as a non-voting member and secretary.~~
5. ~~The functions of the Committee on Nominations shall be:_____~~
- a. ~~To submit to the active members, at least one month prior to the date of election, the names of nominees as provided for in Article IX of this Constitution.~~
- b. ~~To formulate and recommend to the Board of Governors plans for maintaining and increasing the membership of the Society.~~
6. ~~The functions of the Committee on Resolutions shall be:_____~~
- a. ~~To solicit, develop, and draft proposed resolutions which will express the concerns of the Canon Law Society of America;~~
- b. ~~To consult with the membership at large and, in particular, with the Board of Governors, the standing and *ad hoc* committees of the Society and the organizers of the convention;~~
- c. ~~To formulate proposed resolutions on given points in response to requests of the members of the Society;~~
- d. ~~To compose differences in the formulation of similar proposals and to revise all proposals so that the meaning of each is clear;~~
- e. ~~To encourage resolutions which authentically express in a positive way the activities and concerns of the Society.~~
7. ~~The functions of the Committee on Resource and Asset Management shall be:~~
- a. ~~to develop a comprehensive budget for all the activities of the Society and report on the funding available for projects;~~
- b. ~~to submit the proposed budget for the coming fiscal year to the Board of Governors for approval at its spring meeting;~~
- c. ~~to conserve, invest and disburse the monies of the Scholarship Fund in accord with the criteria established by the Society;~~
- d. ~~to advise the Treasurer on all matters pertaining to the Society's investments.~~
8. ~~The functions of the Committee on Professional Responsibility shall be:~~
- a. ~~Regarding complaints:~~
1. ~~To receive complaints of any party aggrieved with respect to provisions of the Code of Professional Responsibility of the CLSA;~~
2. ~~To make an initial finding that the complaint is not frivolous but is serious in character;~~
3. ~~To refer the matter to one of the hearing officers;~~
- b. ~~To issue advisory opinions on the application of the Code of Professional Responsibility, and;~~
- c. ~~To advise on all other questions concerning the professional responsibility of canonists (Canon Nine, Section d. (i) of the PR Code).~~
9. ~~Standing Committees may be assigned other duties at the discretion of the President.~~
10. ~~The President shall have discretionary power to appoint such other special committees as the general welfare of the Society shall demand.~~

In general, committee descriptions are simplified with their rights and responsibilities being moved to the Bylaws. (See for example #6)

#7 revised in Art. X §1, i.

#9 moved to Art. X §1, j.

#10 moved to Art. X §2, a.

- b. The Convention Planning Committee's function is to recommend to the Board of Directors speakers, topics for major addresses, seminars, and other presentations, to make arrangements for those, and to oversee the planning of all convention liturgies and prayer services.

- c. The Development Committee's function is to seek outside sources of funding for the Society. The Treasurer is to be a member of this committee.
 - d. The Membership Committee's function is to develop proposals for maintaining and increasing membership as well as encouraging membership participation. The Vice President is to be a member of this committee.
 - e. The Project Development Committee's function is to develop ideas for projects to be worked-on by members to advance the purposes of the Society.
 - f. The Publications Committee's function is to encourage publications and monitor the progress of those endeavors. It shall consist of a minimum of four Active members including the Vice President. The Director of Operations shall serve on the committee *ex officio*.
 - g. The Resolutions Committee's function is to solicit, develop, and draft proposed resolutions which advance the purposes of the Society. It shall consist of a minimum of three Active members.
 - h. The Resource and Asset Management Committee's function is to review and advise on all financial matters of the Society. This shall include but not be limited to safeguarding organizational assets, developing a comprehensive budget for the Society, and overseeing investments in accordance with the criteria established by the Society. It shall consist of a minimum of three people including the Vice President and the Treasurer, who shall serve as Chair of this committee.
 - i. Standing committees may be assigned other duties at the discretion of the President.
 - j. Rights and responsibilities for standing committees are detailed in the Bylaws.
2. Special Committees and Task Forces
- a. Members and Standing Committees may recommend ideas for projects to the Board of Directors.
 - b. The President shall have discretionary power to appoint such other special committees and task forces as are needed for the general welfare of the Society, after consultation with the Board of Directors.
 - c. Rights and responsibilities for special committees and task forces are detailed in their mandate.
 - d. Special Committees and Task Forces end at the expiration of their mandate.
3. Committee Appointments
- a. Members may recommend themselves or other members for service on any committee.
 - b. Chairs and members of standing and special committees are appointed by the President after consultation with the Board of Directors. The President may appoint those who are not members of the Society as advisors to committees.
 - c. The terms of office for chairs and members shall be three years and may be renewable for two consecutive terms. New members of each committee shall be appointed by the President within thirty days after the close of the Annual Business Meeting.
 - d. For communication purposes, a liaison from the Board of Directors shall be appointed by the President to each standing and special committee except for the Nominating Committee.
 - e. Committee Chairs and members are expected to participate in meetings and work toward productivity for the benefit of the Society.

- f. The President may remove any committee Chair, member, or liaison in the following ways:
 - i. After consultation with the Board of Directors due to grave negligence in performing one's duties.
 - ii. After three unexcused absences from meetings.
- g. In the event of a vacancy of a committee Chair, member, or liaison, the President shall appoint a qualified person to fill that position.
- h. Appointments to and removals from task forces follow the same norms as appointments to committees.

ARTICLE XI — Administration of Goods

Commission Note

New and partially relocated. This article replaces the former Appropriations article with a broader framework for ordinary and extraordinary administration of goods. The fiscal year provision formerly located in the Dues article has been relocated here. Derived in part from former Article IV §3 (*Dues*) and replacing former Article XI (*Appropriations*).

Article XI — Appropriations

1. ~~An extraordinary appropriation from the funds of the Society's treasury to any individual, group, legal body, or cause shall be granted only after the following procedure:~~
 - a. ~~The proposal for such appropriation or grant may be initiated either by the Board of Governors or by an active member;~~
 - b. ~~If initiated by the Board of Governors and approved by them, the proposed appropriation will then be submitted to a vote of the membership at the next Annual General Meeting; the consent of the majority of active members present and voting shall be required for passing;~~
 - c. ~~If initiated by an individual active member, that member shall submit his proposal in writing to the President. If it is approved by a majority of the members of the Board of Governors present and voting at their next meeting, the proposed appropriation shall be submitted to a vote of the membership at the next Annual General Meeting; the consent of the majority of the active members mentioned in no. 1b of this Article shall be required for passage. However, if the Board of Governors does not approve the proposed appropriation, this shall be reported at the next Annual General Meeting; the Board's decision may be rejected, and the proposed appropriation approved, by a two-thirds majority of the active members present and voting at that meeting.~~

Art.XI
(Appropriations)
is addressed and
revised in new
Art. XI
(Administration
of Goods)

Article XI — Administration of Goods

1. The fiscal year of the Society shall begin on the first day of July of each year and shall end on the 30th day of June of the following year.
2. Acts of Ordinary Administration are those actions carried out in accordance with the fiscal policies and procedures approved by the Board of Directors.
3. Acts of Extraordinary Administration must be approved by the Board of Directors.
4. Acts of Extraordinary Administration are those that:
 - a. Could adversely affect the financial stability or viability of the Society
 - b. Involve matters that could expose the Society to significant civil liability
 - c. Involve matters that are subject to the Conflict of Interest Policy of the Society
 - d. Involve any expenditure exceeding the amount defined in the Bylaws
5. The Board of Directors shall ensure that there shall be regular financial audits as indicated in the Bylaws.
6. The Bylaws shall determine the procedures for the ordinary and extraordinary Administration of Goods.

#1 moved from
Art. V §3.

ARTICLE XII — Civil Matters

Commission Note

New. This article establishes constitutional provisions concerning civil matters, including Articles of Incorporation and Directors and Officers insurance. No corresponding article existed in the former Constitution.

Article XII - Civil Matters

1. The Board of Directors shall ensure that the Articles of Incorporation and all other required documentation are properly filed with the appropriate civil jurisdiction.
2. It is the duty of the Board of Directors to periodically review the Articles of Incorporation and, when needed, propose amendments for approval by the membership.
3. The Society shall maintain appropriate Directors and Officers Insurance for the Board of Directors and staff of the Society.

ARTICLE XIII — Amendments

Commission Note

Relocated and expanded. The constitutional amendment provisions have been moved from former Article XII to Article XIII and revised for consistency with the revised terminology and structure. New provisions concerning amendment of the Bylaws and the Office Procedural Handbook have been added. Relocated from former Article XII (*Amendments*).

Article ~~XII~~ XIII — Amendments

1. This Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds ~~majority~~ vote of the ~~a~~Active and Senior members present and voting, provided:
 - a. That the proposal to amend the Constitution has been filed by an ~~a~~Active or Senior member with the Secretary of the Board of Directors at least three months prior to the Annual ~~General~~ Business Meeting of the Society at which that member intends ~~his~~ the proposal to be submitted;
 - b. That notice of the proposed amendment has been sent to each ~~a~~Active member of the Society ~~at the last known mailing address~~ by physical or electronic mailing ~~not~~ no less than one month in advance of that ~~Annual-General~~ Business Meeting ~~mentioned in no. 1a of this Article.~~ at which the proposal will be voted on
2. ~~Amendment of this~~ Amendments to the Constitution shall become effective at the close of the ~~general-meeting~~ Business Meeting at which the amendment was adopted, ~~unless a~~ different effective date has been specified in the amendment.

AS FIRST ADOPTED ON NOVEMBER 12, 1939 AND AMENDED ON
OCTOBER 22, 1980, OCTOBER 10, 1984, OCTOBER 12, 1988,
OCTOBER 11, 1989, OCTOBER 16, 1991, OCTOBER 14, 1992,
OCTOBER 12, 1994, OCTOBER 18, 1995, OCTOBER 09, 1996,
OCTOBER 14, 1997, OCTOBER 11, 2006, OCTOBER 15, 2008,
OCTOBER 16, 2013, OCTOBER 18, 2017, OCTOBER 13, 2020,
OCTOBER 13, 2021,
OCTOBER 14, 2026.

The Canon Law Society of America is a non-profit corporation under the laws of the District of Columbia. The Board of ~~Governors~~ Directors of the Society is the Board of Directors of the Corporation, and members of the corporation are the members of the Society. For further details, contact the Administrative Office.

IMPLEMENTATION OF NEW PROPOSED CONSTITUTION

Annual Business Meeting in October 2026:

- Revised Constitution approved by membership
- “Candidate A” becomes elected Vice-President
- Msgr Bob Oliver becomes new President at close of Business Meeting
- Dr. Diane Barr becomes Past-President
- Following Annual Business Meeting:
 - 1 year *vacatio legis* for newly revised Constitution
 - BOG creates Bylaws Task Force and Task Force for implementing the newly revised Constitution

Annual Business Meeting in October 2027:

- Membership approves the Bylaws
- Membership elects “Candidate B” as Vice-President for single year term
- Membership elects Nominating Committee
- “Candidate A” becomes President at close of Business Meeting
- Msgr. Bob Oliver does NOT continue on as Past-President
- New revised Constitution takes effect at end of Business Meeting
- Following Annual Business Meeting:
 - Nominating Committee follows process to put together a list of nominees
 - NB: Nominating Committee could put forward “Candidate B” as a candidate for President

Annual Business Meeting in October 2028:

- Membership elects new President and Vice-President to two-year term

Annual Business Meeting in October 2029:

- Membership elects new Nominating Committee

Annual Business Meeting in October 2030:

- Membership elects new President and Vice-President

CONSTITUTIONAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee: Nominations Committee

Constituted: Constitution, Articles IX and X

Mandate: The mandate of the committee is as follows:

1. To submit to the active members, at least one month prior to the date of election, the names of nominees as provided for in Article IX of the Constitution.
2. To formulate and recommend to the Board of Governors plans for maintaining and increasing membership in the Society (Article X.5b)

Members: Rev. Gregory T. Luyet, chair, Little Rock, Arkansas (2026)
Mr. Tim Olson, Fargo North Dakota (2027)
Rev. Alberto Vargas, Saginaw, Michigan (2028)
Rev. Patrick Cooney, CLSA Past President, Board Liaison

Consultants: Dr. Bill Daniel, consultant (2026)
Ms. Shannon Fossett, consultant (2026)
Mr. Aldean Hendrickson, consultant (2026)

This Year's Goal: 1. To provide a slate of candidates for the offices of Vice-President/President Elect, Secretary, and two Consultants.
2. To assist the BOG in identifying potential members of CLSA Committees.

Long-Term Goals: Fulfill mandate as outlined in the CLSA Constitution and By-laws

REPORT

The Nominations Committee and consultants surfaced names to serve as possible members of various CLSA committees. The list and confidential memo were sent to the BOG. With the nominees having been selected and the list of potential committee members completed, the next major task of the Nominations Committee will be presenting and conducting the election at the 2026 CLSA Convention in St. Louis.

Committee: Professional Responsibility

Constituted: Constitution, Article X (as last amended in 1995), and the Code of Professional Responsibilities, which was adopted in 1983 (for an experimental period of three years), revised in 1987, with a Statement Concerning Professional Courtesies adopted for an experimental period of three years in October 1993, which was revised and adopted in 1996; the current version of the CLSA Revised Code of Professional Responsibility was adopted in October 2016 (Introduction).

Mandate:

1. Regarding complaints:
 - To receive complaints from any party aggrieved with respect to provisions of the Code of Professional Responsibility of the CLSA;
 - To make an initial finding that the complaint is not frivolous but is serious in character;
 - By majority vote, to refer the matter to one of the Hearing Officers;
2. To issue advisory opinions and decisions on the application of the Code of Professional Responsibility; (and)
3. To advise on all other questions concerning the professional responsibility of canonists.

Members: Very Rev. Jamin Scott David (2026); Chair, Senior Consultor
Mr. Benjamin Roodhouse (2027); Ex-Officio, Consultor
Dr. Jeannine Marino (2026), Ex-Officio, Consultor
Dr. Andrea Ponzone (2026), Hearing Officer
Rev. Msgr. Stephen Doktorczyk (2028), Hearing Officer

REPORT

On 23 October 2025, Ms. Kathleen Butler, General Secretary, received a letter dated 20 October 2025 alleging serious violations of the Code of Professional Responsibility by a member of the Canon Law Society of America. In presenting this Bill of Complaint, this canonist noted that he was fully prepared to cooperate with the Committee on Professional Responsibility and that the complaint was being filed on behalf of a priest. The allegations contained took place within three years of the alleged violation of the Code of Professional Responsibility. According to the complaint, prior efforts were made to resolve disputes by alternate means.

On 30 October 2025, the General Secretary informed the accused of the complaint and referred the accusation to Father David as Chair of the Committee on Professional Responsibility. Father David, in turn, convened the committee virtually on 07 November 2025 to make an initial finding regarding the claim's veracity and whether it appeared to be frivolous in nature, thus constituting a violation of the Code of Professional Responsibility.

The committee reviewed the Bill of Complaint and determined that it appeared to be frivolous in nature. The very nature of the complaint was outside of the competency of the Committee on Professional Responsibility to investigate, and under no circumstance would it have been possible to ascertain whether the alleged violations of the Code of Professional Responsibility took place.

The complainant was notified of this decision by letter on 13 November 2025, and, according to the Procedure for Adjudicating Alleged Violations of the Code of Professional Responsibility, he was informed that he had 15 useful days to appeal this decision to the Board of Governors. The accused was also informed of CLSA's reception of the complaint, its contents, and the decision of the committee.

On 13 November 2025, an appeal was made to the Board of Governors (BOG) by the complainant. On 08 December 2025, the BOG reviewed the complaint. The decision of the committee was upheld by the Board for the same reasons originally provided in the letter to the complainant. The complainant and accused were informed of CLSA's reception of the appeal and its final disposition.

In response to the BOG's decision, by letter, the complainant would again write Dr. Barr as President of the CLSA expressing his displeasure regarding the decision after the case's conclusion.

Since this complaint was received and reviewed, there have been no further meetings of the Committee on Professional Responsibility as there have been no new complaints filed.

Committee: Resolutions

Constituted: Constitution, Article X 2009

Mandate: The mandate of the committee is as follows:

1. To solicit, develop, and draft proposed resolutions that will express the concerns of the Canon Law Society of America;
2. To consult with the membership at large and, in particular, with the Board of Governors, the standing and *ad hoc* committees of the Society, and the organizers of the annual convention;
3. To formulate proposed resolutions on given points in response to the requests of the members of the Society;
4. To compose differences in the formulation of similar proposals and to revise all proposals so that the meaning of each is clear; (and)
5. To encourage resolutions that authentically express in a positive way the activities and concerns of the Society.

Members: Dr. Sofia Markovich, Washington, DC (2026), Chair
Rev. Langes Silva, Salt Lake City, Utah (2026)
Very Rev. David Esquiliano, Sioux City, Iowa (2027)
Mr. Aldean Hendrickson, New Ulm, Minnesota (2028)
Dr. Siobhan Verbeek (2026), Board Liaison

This Year's Goal: Explore new and creative ways to engage members in developing resolutions.

REPORT

During the year, the Resolutions Committee accomplished four key goals:

- (1) The committee held three virtual meetings to develop a practical plan for engaging members in the creation of future resolutions. They also discussed the logistical details and protocols for submitting resolutions at the convention. The next and fourth committee meeting is scheduled for September 2026.
- (2) The committee encouraged members to submit their resolutions through CLSA newsletters.
- (3) The committee provided members with information on the resolutions' submission guidelines and required forms.
- (4) The committee met with the Constitution Revision Commission to discuss coordination between the committees at the convention regarding any resolutions that may pertain to the new Constitution.

The Resolutions Committee reminds members that, although no resolutions were submitted by the July deadline, they can still propose new resolutions for consideration during the 2026 Annual Convention. Members may submit proposals at the Resolutions Hearing Meeting on Tuesday, October 13, and at the Annual Business Meeting on Wednesday, October 14. All submission guidelines and required forms are available on the CLSA website.

Committee: Resource & Asset Management (RAM)

Constituted: Constitutional (See Article X)

Mandate: It is the function of the Committee on Resource & Asset Management to:

1. Develop a comprehensive budget for all the activities of the Society and report on the funding available for projects;
2. To submit the proposed budget for the coming fiscal year to the Board of Governors for approval at its spring meeting;
3. To conserve, invest, and disperse the monies of the Scholarship Fund in accord with the criteria established by the Society; (and)
4. To advise the Treasurer on all matters pertaining to the Society's investments (Article X, 7).

Members: Rev. Chris Palladino (2028), *Chair, Treasurer*
Very Rev. Jeffrey Cabral (2028)
Dr. David Long (2027)
Very Reverend Jamin Scott David (2026), *Ex-Officio, Consultant, past-Treasurer*
Rev. Msgr. Robert Oliver (2026), *Ex-Officio, Vice President*

REPORT

The Committee on Resource and Asset Management (RAM) met for the first time on March 13, 2026, to discuss the ongoing budget preparations and had a productive meeting. Weeks of budget preparation with the Treasurer and General Secretary resulted in minimal adjustments to the FY27 budget due to proper planning by the past Treasurer. We discussed the lowering expectations for publication income with increased confidence of membership renewals and new members. Tabled were upcoming conversations about credit card processing fees; the Commentary; and stable convention sites.

The committee reconvened April 14, 2026, prior to the April BOG meeting to review the budget and those in attendances voted to approve moving the FY27 budget to the BOG for consideration and approval. There has been little need to convene since the April budget review; however, we will convene in late September – early October to discuss the items listed above in anticipation of the Treasurer's report at the Annual Business Meeting in October 2026.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee: Clergy

Constituted: 2009

Mandate:

1. To initiate as needed any projects pertinent to the study of canon law pertaining to the life and ministry of bishops, priests and deacons or the implementation thereof, including, but not limited to, the following:
 - canonical issues related to the sexual abuse of minors,
 - clergy personnel issues and resources,
 - advocacy for clergy in penal cases;
2. To oversee projects referred to the committee by the BOG;
3. To oversee its subcommittees working on projects concerning clergy; and
4. To collaborate with national organizations and other groups dealing with clergy issues.

Members: Rev. Sean Bransfield (Chairperson) (Archdiocese of Philadelphia)
Most Rev. Edward Lohse (Diocese of Kalamazoo)
Rev. John Dickinson (Diocese of Portland, ME)
Rev. Robert Hyde (Diocese of Syracuse)
Mr. Michael Mazza (Wisconsin)
Rev. Peter O'Donnell (Diocese of Salina)
Rev. Jeffrey Tudgay (Diocese of Scranton)
Mr. Benjamin Roodhouse (Diocese of Jefferson City)-BOG Liaison

REPORT

As was noted in last year's annual convention report, it was decided by the members of the committee that our scope should be limited to one project at a time so that our committee's efforts could remain concentrated and thus, hopefully, become more effective and fruitful for all.

As was also noted in last year's convention report, the topic of "unassignable priests" became our committee's focus. In time, it was decided that the optimal way to address this topic would be by way of a convention seminar. This led to our committee offering at this year's convention a seminar presentation entitled "Assigning 'Unassignable Priests': Some Case Studies." The work of our committee the entirety of this past year centered around preparing for this seminar, and we met on an almost monthly basis throughout the year.

In terms of the content of the seminar, its main focus was the presentation of four case studies or "stories" that attempted to describe different types of scenarios that may or may not lead to a priest being deemed "unassignable," and these case studies envisioned scenarios where no "clear-cut" canonical solution existed (because, for example, no delict existed or prescription had run its course, etc.), yet real problematic issues remained concerning how a bishop could justly and reasonably address the difficult and nuanced situations he was encountering. During the seminar, the presentation of each case study involved a relating of the case facts, an analysis of the canonical/legal issues contained within the facts and finally, a listing of possible solutions. Our hope was to present a few viable solutions for each case study, but we also wanted to present

different solutions for each of the case studies, rather than simply offering one or two “boilerplate” solutions for each scenario presented.

The work of presenting this seminar remained throughout the process a “team approach,” as the content was produced collaboratively and the presentation itself involved various members of our Committee being the presenters of the various case studies. The overall “plan” for the seminar presentation was to begin with a relatively brief introduction concerning the scope of the overall issues involved, followed by the offering of canonical clarification concerning terminology often used more colloquially when discussing the topic of “unassignable priests.” Then, after the presentation of the four case studies, feedback was sought from the attendees during the “Q and A” session.

As is the normal practice involving convention seminars, a more formal paper that will attempt to be reflective of the seminar presentation as a whole will appear in the annual convention *Proceedings* book that will be subsequently published by the CLSA. It is foreseen that discussion had during the “Q and A” portion of our seminar presentation will be incorporated into this final paper.

Following the convention, our committee will work together to finalize this paper so as to prepare for its publication in the *Proceedings* book. Once this task has been finalized, our committee will begin to consider what its next project will be so as to continue its service to the CLSA.

Committee: Convention Planning

Constituted: 1971

Mandate: It is the function of the Committee on Convention Planning:

1. To receive from the Board of Governors the approved general theme of the next convention as well as any suggestions from the Committee on Research and Development for the development of the theme;
2. To recommend to the BOG, in accord with the general theme, topics for major addresses, seminars or other presentations at future conventions, as well as a list of potential speakers and the honoraria for such speakers;
3. Following BOG approval, to arrange for the speakers, addresses and seminars for the annual convention;
4. To oversee the planning of all convention liturgies and prayer services in cooperation with its subcommittee for Convention Liturgies; (and)
5. To review the evaluations of the most recent Convention and assist the Convention Chairperson in planning future arrangements, as needed.

Members: Dr. Chad Glendinning, Chair (2029)
Rev. Mr. Gerry Jorgensen (2026)
Rev. Msgr. Stephen Pedone (2026)
Dr. David Castronovo (2028)
Rev. James Conn, SJ (2028)
Dr. Lynda Robitaille (2028)
Ms. Bray Skaggs (2028)
Very Rev. Patrick Cooney, OSB (*ex officio*, Past President)
Mrs. Donna Miller (*ex officio*, Executive Coordinator)
Ms. Kathleen Butler (*ex officio*, General Secretary)
Rev. Msgr. Robert Oliver, Vice President/President-Elect, Board Liaison

REPORT

Meetings

The committee met virtually on five occasions over the course of the year: December 3, 2025; January 14, 2026; February 11, 2026; April 10, 2026; and May 15, 2026. These meetings focused principally on finalizing adjustments to the slate of speakers for the 2026 Convention and on developing recommendations for the 2027 Convention. Considerable attention was given to identifying timely and relevant topics, as well as prospective speakers whose expertise would contribute to a balanced, engaging, and substantive convention program.

As part of its review of the 2025 Convention, the committee also considered participant evaluations from that convention, together with suggestions from previous years. Particular attention was given to topics proposed by CLSA members, with a view to ensuring that future programming remains responsive to the interests, needs, and emerging concerns of the membership.

Committee Composition and Membership

Following the 2025 Convention, the committee welcomed four new members, each appointed to a three-year term: Dr. David Castronovo (2028), Rev. James Conn, SJ (2028), Dr. Lynda Robitaille (2028), and Ms. Bray Skaggs (2028).

In June 2026, Rev. Conn concluded his service as chair while continuing as a valued member of the committee. The CLSA President, Dr. Diane Barr, subsequently appointed Dr. Chad Glendinning to a three-year term as chair.

The committee extends its sincere appreciation to those whose terms expire in 2026, including Rev. Mr. Gerry Jorgensen and Rev. Msgr. Stephen Pedone, for their dedicated service and contributions to the work of the committee. We also express our gratitude to Mrs. Donna Miller for her valuable contributions to the committee and to the CLSA more broadly during her tenure as Executive Coordinator, which concluded with her departure from that position.

2027 Convention Theme and Topics

The theme selected for the 2027 Convention in Ft. Worth is “Good Stewards of the Gifts of the Church.” Guided by this theme, the committee has developed a program intended to address both the professional responsibilities and the broader ecclesial service of canonists and others who assist in the governance and administration of the Church.

In developing the program, the committee sought to provide a range of presentations that combine canonical formation with attention to the practical realities encountered by those serving dioceses, tribunals, religious institutes, and other ecclesiastical institutions. The proposed program reflects the committee’s desire to offer participants opportunities to deepen their canonical knowledge, engage emerging issues, and strengthen the skills necessary for effective and responsible service within the Church.

Although the program remains subject to refinement as speakers and presentations are confirmed, proposed and confirmed topics include:

- The Bishop’s Pastoral Management of a Diocese
- Best Practices in Diocesan Financial Management
- Historic and Artistic Aspects of Evaluating Patrimony
- Designation of Patrimony in Public Juridic Persons
- Possible Changes to Book V
- Role and Best Practices of the Defender of the Bond
- East/West Administration of the Sacrament
- Best Practices for Record Retention in a Digital Age
- Data Privacy and Church Responsibility
- Catholic Identity in Schools Sponsored by Religious Institutes
- Role of Justice in Safeguarding the Dignity of Minors and Vulnerable Adults
- Issues Related Marriage Nullity Processes in the United States
- Role of the Promoter of Justice
- Legislative Developments in Light of the Synod

The committee welcomes suggestions from CLSA members regarding topics for future conventions, as well as recommendations for prospective speakers. Such suggestions are an important part of the committee’s planning process and assist in ensuring that convention programming remains responsive to the interests, needs, and emerging concerns of the membership. Suggestions may be directed to the chair or to any member of the committee.

Committee: Eastern Churches

Constituted: 2018

Mandate: It is the function of the Committee on Eastern Churches:

1. To foster the study of the law of the Eastern Catholic and Eastern non-Catholic Churches through seminars at CLSA conventions and symposia and in publications and translations.
2. To serve as a resource to respond to inquiries regarding pastoral questions involving Eastern Christians.
3. To serve as a resource to other CLSA Committees when initiatives call for consideration of Eastern Catholic issues.
4. To promote the involvement of canonists proficient in Eastern canon law in the Society.
5. To promote the unity of Churches in all publications and discussions.

Members: Monsignor Stephen S. Doktorczyk, Washington, DC, Chair (2028)
Dr. Margaret Chalmers, Birmingham, AL (2027)
Mr. Sean Doyle, North Wales, PA (2027)
Rev. Richard Bona, Cleveland, OH (2026)
Rev. James Goodwin, Fargo, ND (2026)
Very Rev. William (Chris) Palladino, Washington, DC, BOG liaison

REPORT

The Committee on Eastern Churches had its first remote meeting in mid-January 2026 and has convened another couple of times in a desire to consider areas in which it might make a practical contribution to the work of the Society and to the canonical life of the Eastern Catholic Churches in the United States. In April, the Chair solicited suggestions from Chorbishop John Faris. He offered two ideas, both of which resonate with the members.

The first is the development of a proposal to the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops concerning greater standardization of sacramental and canonical forms and registers. Such a project could include certificates for baptism, Chrismation/Confirmation, marriage, and ordination, as well as forms for prenuptial investigations, incardination, and the corresponding sacramental registers. Particular attention could be given to the consistent recording of ecclesial ascription as an integral element of the relevant records, rather than leaving this information to marginal notations or miscellaneous remarks.

The second idea is the preparation of a practical *vademecum* concerning marriages involving an Eastern Christian perhaps organized in a frequently asked questions format, to assist bishops, chancery personnel, pastors, tribunal staff, and others involved in marriage preparation.

The committee believes that both of these projects would provide a valuable service. That said, its members recognize that undertaking either initiative at this time would require a decent commitment of time and resources that the committee is not presently in a position to provide. The committee therefore does not anticipate taking on a major new project at this time. Two members will complete their terms in October 2026, after which time we will reconsider the possibility of moving forward with one or both of the projects. Moreover, the committee members would be pleased to collaborate with others in the Society who may wish to pursue either of these projects, or who may already have undertaken work in one of these areas. The committee would welcome the opportunity to contribute its experience and perspective where helpful and to support such efforts as circumstances permit.

Committee: Laity

Constituted: 2009

Mandate: The mandate of the committee is as follows:

1. To initiate as needed any projects pertinent to the study of canon law pertaining to the life and ministry of lay persons or the implementation thereof, including, but not limited to, the following:
 - a. Lay ecclesial ministry;
 - b. Collaboration with clergy;
2. To oversee projects referred to the committee by the Board of Governors;
3. To oversee its subcommittees working on projects concerning the laity, (and)
4. To collaborate with national organizations and other groups dealing with the role of the laity in the Church.

Members: Deacon Andrew Haskins, chair, Halfmoon, New York (2027)
Ms. Claire Breaux, Baton Rouge, Louisiana (2026)
Ms. Nicole Delaney, Phoenix, Arizona (2027)
Dr. Marie Hilliard, Washington, DC (2027)
Ms. Annalise Fiore, Saint Johns, Florida (2028)
Rev. Wellington Oliveira, Boston, Massachusetts (2028)
Ms. Laura Ruiz, San Antonio, Texas (2028)
Mr. Benjamin Roodhouse, Board Liaison

REPORT

The Laity Committee met multiple times throughout the year via teleconference to work on the two main projects the BOG has entrusted to the committee.

The first project was the definition and implementation of a Canonist Mentoring Program (CMP). Prior to last year's conference, the committee had completed the CMP Handbook, which was favorably reviewed by the BOG, and implementation of the program was put on hold pending the appointment of a director of the program by the Board. In November, Ms. Anna Marie Chamblee accepted the role of Director of Mentoring, and in December and January the Laity Committee transitioned the responsibility of implementing the program to her. Additional work on this program is not planned at this time, with the committee remaining available to support the Director of Mentoring on an as-needed basis.

The second project for the Laity Committee is identifying and implementing resources for addressing canonist wellness, with recommendations for making these resources available to CLSA members. The committee has been developing ideas for resources that could be of assistance to canonists struggling with burnout and second-hand trauma, through convention presentations, webinars or podcasts, and/or information shared on the CLSA website. Development of a possible resource webpage as a component of the members-only section of the CLSA website is continuing, but the work of creating a podcast is currently on hold due to resource constraints.

Finally, at the request of the BOG the Laity Committee replied to the USCCB National Pastoral on the Laity Consultation Process on behalf of the CLSA. The reply was compiled by committee members and submitted in early November as requested.

Canon Law Society of America

Deceased Members

October 1, 2025 – September 30, 2026



The Right Reverend Exarch

Joseph Haggar

Providence, Rhode Island

+March 23, 2025

The Reverend

Robert Grosch

Great Falls, Montana

+September 30, 2025

The Reverend

John E. Lynch, CSP

Hyattsville, Maryland

+November 15, 2025

The Monsignor

Jerald A. Doyle

Stamford, Connecticut

+November 17, 2025

The Reverend

Daren J. Zehnle, KCHS

Quincy, Illinois

+November 27, 2025

The Reverend Monsignor

Nevin Klinger

Bethlehem, Pennsylvania

+December 6, 2025

The Reverend Monsignor

Romulo Vergara

Redwood City, California

+December 10, 2025

The Reverend

Fred Brucker

Grand Rapids, Michigan

+December 27, 2025

Sister

Patricia McGreevy, OSB

Erie, Pennsylvania

+December 27, 2025

The Reverend Monsignor

Salvatore Manganello

Buffalo, New York

+March 10, 2026

The Monsignor

Kenneth E. Boccafola

Rockville Centre, New York

+May 9, 2026

The Reverend

Rev. Richard L. Piontkowski, Jr.

Grand Island, Nebraska

+August 20, 2026

May our colleagues and all the faithful departed rest in peace.

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acknowledges its*

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St. Luke Institute

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Canon Law Society of America
(as of September 24, 2026)***

Carlos David Aguilar Lomas Student, SPU, Ottawa	Rev. John P Beal III Diocese of Erie	Alba Breton Diocese of Orlando, FL
Ben Altenhofen Archdiocese of Seattle	David Bearse Diocese of Portland	Br. Joseph Britt, CFX Archivist, Xaverian Brothers
Rev. Arthur Anderson, OFM Albuquerque, NM	Rev. Luke Beckett Ampleforth Abbey	Rev. Joseph Brom, SJC Canons Regular of St. John Cantius
Michael Andrews Diocese of Lansing	John Bell Allen, Texas	Rev. Ken Broussard Diocese of Lafayette
Fr. Sebastian Andro Brooklyn, NY	Rev. Joseph Bellerive Diocese of Orlando	Dr. Linda Budney Archdiocese of Washington DC
Rev. William Anton Lubbock, Texas	Rev. Iden Bello Laredo, TX	Rev. Andrew Bulso Diocese of Nashville
Rev. Msgr. Charles Antonicelli Washington, DC	Very Rev. Charles Benoit Archdiocese of New Orleans	Rev. Michael Burbeck Diocese of Raleigh
Rev. Benjamin Armentrout Diocese of KC-SJ	Rev. Brad Berhorst Diocese of Jefferson City	Rev. James Buttner Diocese of Syracuse
Rev. Joseph Arsenault, SSA Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas	Jose Bernal University of Navarre	Rev. Jeffrey Cabral Fall River, MA
Rev. Francis Asagba Brooklyn, NY	Rev. Vincent Bertrand Diocese of Springfield-Cape Girardeau	Rev. Msgr. Steven Callahan Diocese of San Diego
Rev. Mark Augustine Archdiocese of Chicago	Norm Betland Diocese of Crookston	Luis Capacetti Diocese of Raleigh
Rev. Kevin L. Badeaux Beaumont, TX	Barbara Bettwy Diocese of Harrisburg	Dcn. Brian Caperton Archdiocese of Cincinnati
Rev. Chrysostom Baer, O.Praem. St. Michael's Abbey	Rev. Nicholas Blackwell, O.Carm. USCCB	Mr. Gregory Caridi Diocese of Dallas
Mr. John Balk Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis	Mary Gen Blittschau Diocese of Evansville	Rev. Leagon Carlin Diocese of Ogdensburg
Rev. William Banowsky Oklahoma City	Rev. Nathanael Block Diocese of Gallup	Rev. J. David Carter Diocese of Knoxville
Rev. Msgr. Pius Barinaadaa Kii Archdiocese of Nigeria	Sr. Mary Boda, OSB Ferdinand, Indiana	Ms. Theresa Casta Diocese of St. Catharines, ON
Dr. Diane Barr Archdiocese of Baltimore	Rev. Richard Bona Cleveland	Very Rev. Javier Castrejon Diocese of Raleigh
Andrew Bartell Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas	Rev. Michael Bradley Chicago, Illinois	Rev. Martin Celuch Diocese of Youngstown
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	Claire Breaux Diocese of Baton Rouge	Michelle Charmante Archdiocese of Seattle

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Diocese of Springfield-Cape
Girardeau

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Catholic Diocese of Dallas

Very Rev. James Clark
Diocese of Memphis

Very Rev. Paul Clark
Canon Law Society of Australia &
New Zealand

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Diocese of Owensboro

Rev. James Conn, SJ
Washington, DC

Rev. Patrick Cooney, OSB
Diocese of Owensboro

Rev. Christopher Costigan
Diocese of Rockville Centre

Very Rev. Paul Counce
Diocese of Baton Rouge

Amanda Crawford
Diocese of Little Rock

Rev. Thomas Cronkleton
Diocese of Cheyenne

Rev. Eric Culler
Swanton

Rev. Paul Czarnota
Archdiocese of Detroit

Rev. Msgr. Brendan Daly
New Zealand

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Diocese of Owensboro

Jamin David
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Very Rev. James de Anda
Archdiocese of Omaha

Very Rev. Georges de Laire
Manchester, NH

Rev. Augustine DeArmond, OP
Dominican Province of St. Martin
de Porres

Nicole Delaney
Phoenix

Rev. Brian Dellaert
Archdiocese of Dubuque

Rev. John Dickinson
Diocese of Portland

Nazariy Dmyterko
Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Eparchy
of Stamford

Rev. Msgr. Stephen Doktorczyk
Washington, DC

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Matthew Donahue
Tribunal of the Diocese of
Knoxville

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Rev. Siegfried Dosdos
Diocese of Honolulu

Rev. Msgr. Frederick Easton
Archdiocese of Indianapolis

Heather Eichholz
Archdiocese of Oklahoma City

Very Rev. Timothy Ekaitis
Diocese of Marquette

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Petoskey, Michigan

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Rev. Michael Estaris
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Diocese of Peoria, IL

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Diocese of Manchester, NH

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Diocese of Portland

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Houston, TX

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Diocese of Phoenix

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Diocese of Tyler

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Michigan

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Orlando, FL

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Los Angeles

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Archdiocese of Chicago

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Order of Friars Minor Capuchin

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Diocese of Orlando, FL

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Diocese of Fargo

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Diocese of Pensacola-Tallahassee

Rev. Kenneth Onyeabor
Diocese of Orlando, FL

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Archdiocese of Atlanta

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Archdiocese in Baltimore

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Archdiocese of San Francisco

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Archdiocese for Military Services

Alexis Park
Diocese of Youngstown, OH

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Diocese of Phoenix Tribunal

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Diocese of Dallas

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Diocese of San Bernardino,
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Archdiocese of Saint Paul &
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St. Louis/Washington, DC

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