

Canon Law Society of America

SEPTEMBER 2022

A QUARTERLY eNEWSLETTER FROM THE SOCIETY

PRESIDENTIAL REFLECTIONS

Lynda Robitaille, JCD



I'm writing this reflection just as the early-bird registration for the **convention has ended, and I am pleased** that over 300 people have already registered! I look forward to learning, networking, and socializing with you at the convention. If you have not yet registered, there is still time. Our speakers are ready to welcome you to informative and interactive sessions.

I've had some moments over the summer to reflect on this last year as CLSA President, an opportunity for which I am truly grateful. Around every learning curve, there was another learning curve, and our Board and staff rose to the occasion each time, with their usual thoughtful debate and genuine desire to see our Society grow. I appreciate that very much.

You may recall that our administrative assistant, Micaela Advent, resigned in mid-June. Since that time, our General Secretary, Kathleen Butler, and Executive Coordinator, Donna Miller, have taken on extra duties. It has been a busy few months with membership dues and convention registrations being paid. The Board appreciates their hard work and commitment to the Society.

This past spring we were able to award both licentiate and doctoral scholarships. Thank you to everyone who donated to the scholarship appeal, most especially to the canonists of the Midwest and Eastern Regions who donated in memory of their deceased members.

As you may have seen, we decided not to reprint the 3rd edition of the *Code of Canon Law, Latin-English Edition*. This decision was taken because some of the canons therein are now out of date, and we prefer

to wait until we have permission to publish a completely up-to-date version. We hope that a new licensing agreement between the USCCB and the CLSA will soon be signed so we can move forward with the 4th edition.

We are in the process of hiring a project manager/general editor for the commentary project on the Code of Canon Law. Authors' commentaries will be coming in over the coming months, and we hope to publish in late 2023/early 2024.

Mr. John Schlageter, of The JKT Group completed an institutional audit of the workings of the Board and of the CLSA office staff in time for our August Board meeting. The Board discussed it, along with the 2007 Future Initiatives Project, and we decided to propose a resolution to begin a strategic-planning process to ensure the future direction of the Society. Because of the timing of the Board meeting, the resolution will not be ready until the convention.

This year's convention will see historic elections, for both a President who will take office as President at the convention, and a Vice-President/President-Elect whose term will also begin at the convention. All four of these candidates will attend the pre-convention Board meeting as is the norm. In addition, the candidates for President have participated in virtual Board meetings as well as our August Board in-person meeting, in order to be ready to assume office in October. I am committed to working with the new officers to ensure a smooth transition for the coming year.

Please read through this e-newsletter for more information about the convention.

I look forward to welcoming you to Cleveland in a few short weeks.

2022 CLSA Convention

Processes Today: Evolution and Reality

The Renaissance Cleveland Hotel ♦ October 10-13, 2022 ♦ Cleveland, OH

2022 Voting Eligibility

Active members who wish to vote in the Board of Governors election and on resolutions at the 2022 Annual Business Meeting must remit annual dues no later than Friday, September 30, 2022. If you are unsure about your current dues status, or if you need to make a payment immediately, please phone the administrative office at (202) 832-2350 or visit <https://clsa.org/>.

As a reminder, if you are a recent graduate of a school of canon law, you must contact the administrative office to update your membership. If you are still a student member, and you registered for the convention with your student credentials, you will not be eligible to vote. Thank you!

Meet the Candidates

CLSA Convention Health and Safety Protocols

CLSA takes the health and safety of our convention attendees seriously. Although we are blessed that the COVID-19 pandemic has lessened in severity, we still want to make sure that our attendees are as safe as possible. CLSA will not require masks, although you are welcome to wear your own masks as your comfort level dictates.

Hotel Transportation

Visit our website for information about ground transportation from the Cleveland Hopkins International Airport, including a link and discount code for reserving the [Super Shuttle](#) service.

HOTEL RESERVATIONS

If you encounter a problem reserving a hotel room before September 16 (or have already encountered one), please email Kathleen at generalsecretary@clsa.org. We have gotten reports that attendees were advised the hotel was sold out or there were no rooms left in our block. We have been working with the hotel to correct this misinformation.

Thank You to Sponsors and Exhibitors

The CLSA is grateful to sponsors, especially Canon Law Professionals, who is sponsoring part of our Opening Reception on Monday evening, and Covenant Eyes, who is sponsoring the Keynote Address.

Please make time to visit with the organizations that have registered as exhibitors this year:

Canon Law Professionals
Covenant Eyes
Opus Bono Sacerdotii
St. Paul University
The Catholic University of America
Tribunal Technologies

If you want to sponsor an event or exhibit at the convention, you can find all the information and exhibitor forms on the [convention page](#) of our website. The deadline for all information is September 15.

TRAVEL LIKE A LOCAL: AIRPORT TRANSPORTATION



Getting to the Renaissance: easy and cost-effective!

The Cleveland RTA Red Line offers direct light-rail service from Cleveland Hopkins International Airport to Tower City, which is the same building as the Renaissance Hotel. Trains run three times/hour, and it takes less than 30 minutes to get downtown. Tickets are just \$2.50 (\$1.25 for seniors!). The station is on the lower level of the terminal. To reach it, take the elevators or escalators near the center of the ticketing and baggage claim levels and follow the sign.

From the Desk of the Executive Coordinator

Donna Miller, JD, JCL



Greetings to all during these waning days of summer. I want to begin my column for this issue of our newsletter with a pressing matter, in the form of an apology. By now you should have received your copy of the 2021

Proceedings from our San Diego convention held last October. Each member of the CLSA was mailed a copy at the address that you registered in our database.

Shortly after the mailing was sent out in June, I was alerted to the fact that the text submitted by one of our 2022 convention presenters—Reverend James Bradley—was missing from the issue. I immediately investigated and discovered that I mistakenly had omitted Reverend Bradley’s text from an export file, and, throughout the rest of the editing and formatting process, I failed to note the absence of his text.

Reverend Bradley has been very gracious and understanding in the wake of this unfortunate situation. Although it cannot repair the disappointment caused by my oversight, we have pledged to publish Reverend Bradley’s talk in the 2022 issue of *Proceedings*, along with an explanation of its omission from its deserved publication in the 2021 issue.

I make this public apology to Reverend Bradley, and, although it may be little consolation, assure him that, in the wake of this unfortunate mistake, we have implemented new protocols in our publication process to ensure that this never happens to another of our convention presenters in the future.

Thank You to Translators

I want to extend a heart-felt round of thanks to the members (and one non-member) who answered my early July call for help in translating the 2021 *Excerpta Argumentorum* from *Decisiones seu Sententiae*. They worked with lightning speed, and we were able to submit our translations to the Rota in late July. We are still waiting to hear back, and, if approved in time, we will publish them in this year’s edition of *Roman Replies and CLSA Advisory Opinions*. Stay tuned!

Fourth Printing of the Code of Canon Law

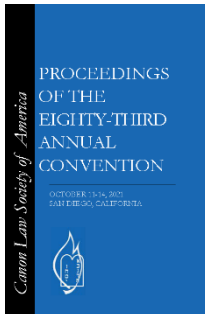
Throughout the summer, we have continued to work toward the release of the Fourth Printing of the *Code of Canon Law: Latin-English Edition*. This volume will contain all changes to the code made since summer of 2020, including *Pascite gregem Dei* and the new Book VI, *Spiritus Domini, Competentias quasdam discernere, Recognitum Librum VI, and Praedicate evangelium*. In the meantime, we continued to sell the copies of the Third Printing that we had printed in late 2021. However, as our supply of the Third Printing dwindled, after much deliberation, the decision was made not to print more copies. Thus, until we receive notice that the Fourth Printing is approved by the USCCB and can move ahead to the production stage, we are unable to sell the Code of Canon Law. Please note that *we do not know how long this process will take*. Thus, we ask that you not call the office to inquire about when the new edition will be released. We promise to update our website and social media and to send out notification emails to our members when we are ready to take orders for the new edition.

Clergy Procedural Handbook

We are making progress on the revision of the *Clergy Procedural Handbook*. Most of the authors who committed to writing for the handbook have submitted their texts. The editors (Rev. Peter Mottola, Tim Olson, and I) met in person on September 1 and 2 to begin editing the manuscripts and decide upon other production aspects. Once compiled and formatted, the compilation will go to the peer reviewers. We will keep you updated as this important publication moves toward completion.

Convention 2022

Finally, I ask you to prayerfully consider attending our upcoming 84th convention in Cleveland. It will be a wonderful time to meet and share with each other in person. We all need the support of others who labor in similar ministries. We value each of you and will be very happy to welcome you to Cleveland. Whether you have never come to a convention or never missed one, we hope to see you there!



Interested in more updates from the CLSA?
“Like” us on Facebook or
“Follow” us on Twitter!
www.facebook.com/CLSAmerica
www.twitter.com/canonlawsociety

From the Desk of the General Secretary

Kathleen Butler



Happy September, everyone! I feel like summer flew by when I wasn't looking. However, there's a lot to look forward to in the weeks ahead!

I'm delighted to tell that you we have hired Mark Francisco as our new Membership Coordinator. He replaces Micaela Advent, who was our Administrative Assistant. He doesn't start until the middle of this month, but he will be a welcome (and needed!) addition to our team.

Countdown to Convention

Speaking of days flying by, it's nearly convention time! I hope you're planning to join us. Our downtown hotel, the Renaissance, is conveniently located on the light-rail line (RTA) from the airport. The Tower City Center stop is actually connected to our hotel. Prefer a shuttle? We have secured a discount for you on the [Super Shuttle](#). Use discount code KHC6Y when you reserve your ride.

I think you will like the local area. Take a quick 10-minute stroll up the street and tour the nearly 175-year-old Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist with its stunning architecture and iconography. His Excellency, the Most Reverend Edward Malesic, Bishop of Cleveland, will welcome you on Monday afternoon and preside at the Liturgy on Wednesday evening.



Also an easy walk from the Renaissance is historic Fourth Street, a pedestrian-friendly zone of restaurants and shops. The red line RTA will take you to the Cleveland Museum of Art or even to Playhouse Square, home to many great restaurants as well as the famous "Cleveland chandelier." For you music fans, the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame is also nearby.

But don't forget about why you're in Cleveland! If you haven't registered for the convention yet, I encourage you to do so. The Board and Planning Committee have put together an [outstanding line-up](#) of presentations.

Be sure to [book your hotel](#) by **September 16** in order to take advantage of our CLSA room rate before the cut-off date.

Liturgies and Letters of Suitability

Our liturgy planning team needs volunteers. Lectors, eucharistic ministers, and, availability permitting, deacons are needed for our Masses, Sunday-Thursday. Laity are encouraged to volunteer as lectors; clerics are encouraged to volunteer as eucharistic ministers. Please contact Rev. Joseph Arsenault, SSA, at jarsenault@archkck.org if you are interested in serving God and the Society in this way.

The Diocese of Cleveland asks that clergy members submit their letter of suitability through [this online form](#). Alternately, letters can be mailed to: Secretary and Vicar for Clergy and Religious, 1404 East Ninth Street, 6th floor, Cleveland, OH 44114. If you have any questions, please call 216-696-6525 ext. 2930.

Voting at the Convention

Remember that your dues must be paid in order to vote, so if you haven't paid your 2022-2023 dues, now is the time to do so. At this year's Business Meeting, CLSA members will elect both a President and a President-Elect as well as a Treasurer and two consultants. If you haven't already viewed their credentials and videos, you can [find them here](#).

In accordance with our Constitution, this is the year the Treasurer is tasked to present the results of our dues analysis. At the Business Meeting, members whose dues are current will be able to vote on this resolution. You can see it on page 6.

CLSA Website

I know I talk about our website all the time, so this will no different. In the past several months, I've had the good fortune to speak to members who needed help accessing their member information to renew their dues. I like to stay on the phone with them to make sure everything is working, and then I can give them a guided tour. Specifically, I like to point out the resources at their fingertips in the Member Center—the archived webinars and podcasts, the research database and variety of documents available to them. The astonishment and gratitude I've heard as we clicked around makes me sit a little taller in my chair.

General Secretary (cont.)

How did I not know this was here? This is so much better than the last website!” Another member poked around the research database and said to me, “Well, I know what I’m doing this weekend!”

If you haven’t been to [our website](#) lately, I invite you stop by. If you see something you like, tell me. If you don’t see something, tell me that, too. We have a wish list of items and functionality, and your input is very welcome.

Also, please call us if you can’t access your account or forgot your username or password. It is not at all an inconvenience to us -- and if you don’t have time for a whole guided tour, I promise I’ll understand.

CLSA Scholarships

In the last newsletter, we introduced this year’s scholarship recipients, and a few of them will be in Cleveland. You are integral to CLSA’s generosity. Your donations make it possible to help train new canonists. If you didn’t donate during our annual Lenten appeal, you can [donate anytime](#) (on our easy-to-navigate website!).

And Finally...

I’ll close with a sincere thank-you to everyone who renewed their CLSA membership; we appreciate your support very much. I look forward to welcoming you to Cleveland in a few short weeks!



DID YOU KNOW? The Cleveland Chandelier is 20 feet tall and contains 4,200 crystals?

Have you downloaded the Guidebook app yet?

Access it from your mobile device or your desktop!

You will once again have up-to-the-minute information in the palm of your hand. You can see the sessions and presenters’ information, handouts, candidate biographies, hotel information and maps, exhibitors and more. No need to shuffle through all your papers looking for a room assignment; Guidebook makes it easy for you to find the information you need!

Plus, all the evaluations as well as committee and BOG recommendation forms are on Guidebook this year. Even if you are not able to attend the convention, you can access our convention Guidebook either from the app or from your desktop by [clicking here](#).

There is one important change this year. In order to protect everyone’s privacy, we have added a password to access our Guidebook. When prompted for the passphrase, use **cleveland**.

CLSA Convention 2022 has gone mobile!

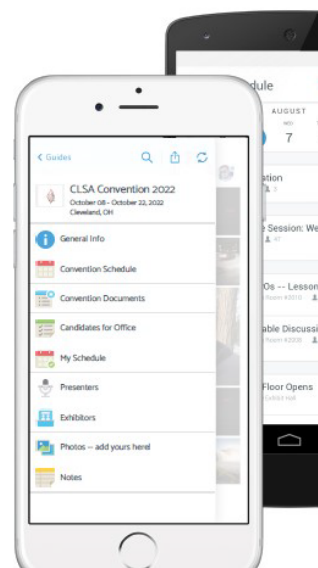
Download the free app now.

<https://guidebook.com/g/clsa2022/>

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

To access the guide, use the passphrase: **cleveland**

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



RESOLUTION PROPOSAL

84th Annual Business Meeting of the Canon Law Society of America
Wednesday, October 12, 2022

If you have questions about this resolution, please [contact Linda Budney](#), Chair of the Resolutions Committee.

PROPOSED BY: Board of Governors

TITLE: Dues Increase Resolution

STATEMENT OF RATIONALE:

WHEREAS, the *Constitution*, “Article IV – Dues,” number 1 states:

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.

WHEREAS, the *Constitution*, “Article IV – Dues,” number 2 states:

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 discussion of these findings with the Board of Governors; and if necessary, propose to the Board of Governors any adjustments that may be required to ensure solvency and to provide high-quality services to the membership.

WHEREAS the last review and increase of dues occurred in 2016, during which time the Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA) between 2016 and 2022 increased by 13.9%, and the Consumer Price Index (consumer purchasing power) between 2016 and 2022 increased by 23.2%, and

WHEREAS the Treasurer, the General Secretary, the Society accountant, and members of the Committee on Resource and Asset Management discussed the issues of budgeted expenses exceeding income for fiscal years 2022 and 2023, the latter balanced by realized gains on the investment portfolios, and

WHEREAS the Board of Governors at its April 2022 meeting addressed the need to review and increase membership dues, and

WHEREAS the Society struggles to break even on the annual convention, the Office maintained by the Society is run economically while the cost of doing business and maintaining the salaries of the Executive Coordinator, the General Secretary, Membership Coordinator, and contracting accounting services continue to increase, and

WHEREAS the membership supports the need to maintain high-quality services to fulfill the Society’s established purposes,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Board of Governors proposes a \$100.00 increase to the active and associate yearly membership dues, raising the rate from \$250.00 to \$350.00 per year; and a \$50.00 increase for student yearly membership dues, raising the rate from \$125.00 to \$175.00 per year.

IMPLEMENTATION BY MEANS OF: The General Secretary shall direct any efforts needed to implement the change in the dues structure and shall modify any CLSA documents that specify the amount of the annual dues.

ANTICIPATED COST: None

WELCOME NEW CLSA MEMBERS!

Please join us in welcoming the following new members who have joined the Society between June 2022 and August 2022. If you wish to join the Society or you know someone who would be interested in becoming a member, please visit the "[Member Types](#)" page on our web

Rev. Dominik Urban Bavaria, Germany	Mrs. Mollie Kulig Coventry Township, OH	Ms. Isabel Menjura Orlando, FL	Rev. Joseph Gifford St. Paul, MN
Paranaque City, Philippines	Rev. Michael Estaris Willows, CA	Rev. Rami Razzouk Millbrae, CA	Rev. John Paul Heiser, OSB Washington, DC
Msgr. Robert Oliver Weston, MA	Rev. Zack Rodriguez Austin, TX	Rev. Ronald Eid Fairlawn, OH	Mrs. Judith Myerski Scranton, PA
Fr. Christopher Costigan New York, NY	Rev. Casey Weber Memphis, TN	Very Rev. Vasyl Polyak Tarentum, PA	Ms. Mary Gabrielli Avon, OH
Rev. Colin Mulhall Grand Rapids, MI	Rev. Efrain Bautista Bonita, CA	Rev. Dany Shaba El Cajon, CA	Rev. Felipe Gonzalez Land O Lakes, FL
Mr. Adam Storey Des Moines, IA	Mr. Jacob George Washington, DC	Rev. Douglas Krebs Bismarck, ND	Mr. Jason Kurth Des Moines, IA
Rev. Guadalupe Vargas Hanford, CA	Rev. Pierre Konja West Bloomfield, MI	Rev. Michael Richard Lafayette, LA	Most Rev. Daniel Garcia Monterey, CA
Bishop Larry Kulick, Jr. Greensburg, PA	Rev. David Violi Bluffton, IN	Rev. Matthew Johnston Metairie, LA	Ms. Mattie Shumate Birmingham, AL
Rev. David Frederici Fall River, MA	Rev. Alan Polczynski Greensburg, PA	Mr. Joseph Johnson Quezon City, Philippines	Rev. Vincent Juan Truckee, CA
Ms. Kimberly Baez New York, NY	Rev. Joseph Domfeh Bedford, NY	Rev. Shane Hewson Broken Arrow, OK	Ms. Theodora Ferrant Toronto, ON
Msgr. Fredrik Hansen Baltimore, MD	Rev. Lawrence John Dalhart, TX	Rev. Duy Nguyen Tulsa, OK	

In Memoriam

Scholarship Donations

Rev. Robert J. Kaslyn, SJ
Rev. Msgr. James Innocenzi
Rev. Msgr. Girard M. Sherba, JCD

Can't access your account? Forgot your password or user name?

Give us a call!

202-832-2350



COMING THIS OCTOBER IN CLEVELAND!

PROFESSIONAL
DEVELOPMENT FOR
CANONICAL & PERSONNEL
QUESTIONS ON
MARRIED PRIESTS

*The Canon Law Society of America
invites you to attend a workshop*

Best Practices Regarding Married Priests

October 9-10, 2022

Renaissance Hotel Cleveland, Ohio

PRESENTERS

Reverend Jon Chalmers

*Pastor, Prince of Peace Catholic Church,
Birmingham, Alabama*

Dr. Margaret Chalmers, JD, JCD

*Moderator of the Tribunal, Diocese of
Birmingham, Alabama*

Chorbishop John Faris, JCOD

*Adjunct Professor, The Catholic University
of America*

Reverend Alexander Laschuk, JCD

Judicial Vicar, Archdiocese of Toronto

With Eastern Churches in the United States and Canada returning to their ancient practice of ordaining married men, and the Ordinariate and Pastoral Provision’s ordaining of former-Protestant married ministers, Catholic dioceses and eparchies are increasingly navigating the unique issues surrounding forming, ordaining, and supporting married men.

This interactive workshop will discuss best practices regarding the formation, compensation, transfer, marriage and annulment issues, child protection, and family life issues of ordaining and supporting married priests.

Sponsored by the Canon Law Society of America

in conjunction with the 84th CLSA Annual Convention



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2022

- 7:30 a.m. Liturgy
- 8 a.m. Check-in
- Continental breakfast
- 9 a.m. Workshop begins
- Lunch on your own*
- 5 p.m. Workshop breaks for the day
- 6 p.m. Cocktail Reception

MONDAY, OCTOBER 10

- 7:30 a.m. Liturgy
- 8 a.m. Continental breakfast
- 9 a.m. Workshop begins
- Noon Workshop concludes

COST.....\$425

Your registration fee includes all meeting materials, a continental breakfast both days, and Sunday’s cocktail reception.

RESERVE YOUR ROOM AT THE RENAISSANCE CLEVELAND HOTEL

24 Public Square, Cleveland, OH 44113

Reserve at our group rate of \$169/night under the name “**Canon Law Society of America.**” Call 216-696-5600 or by click this link: bit.ly/3z19fht.

LEARN MORE & REGISTER ONLINE AT CLSA.ORG!