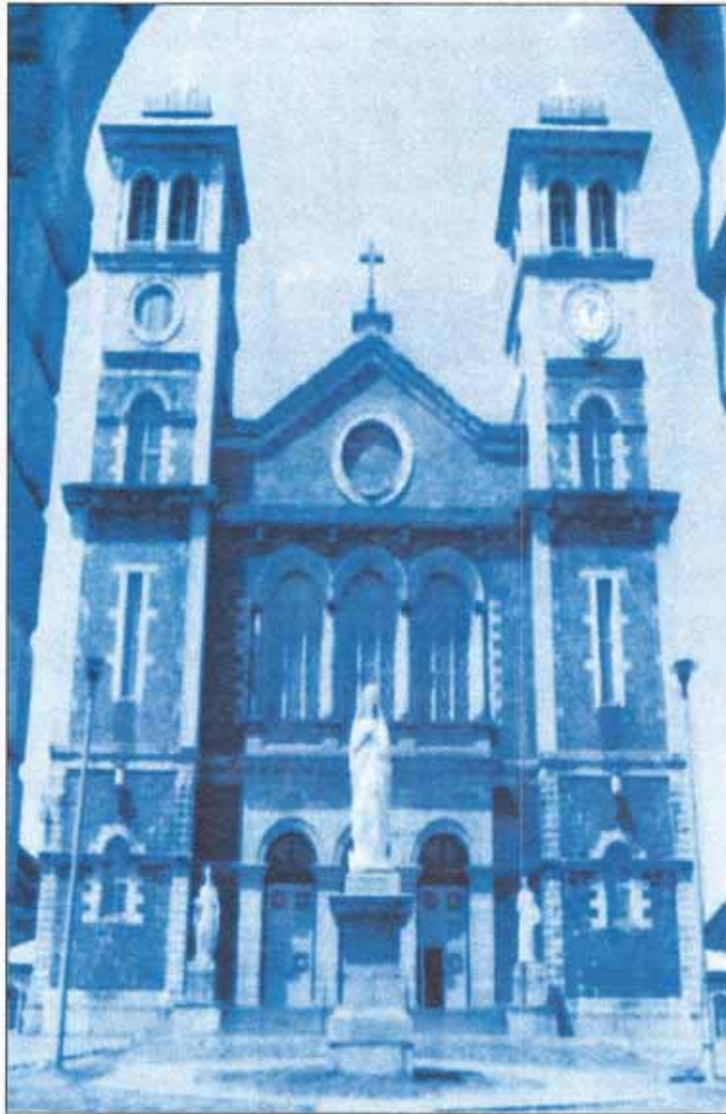


**THE CANADIAN CANON LAW SOCIETY**

# **NEWSLETTER**



**SERVING THE CANADIAN CHURCH**

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# 1996 Convention Reviews

## Quebec City, Canada

REPORT ON THE 31<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE CANADIAN CANON LAW SOCIETY

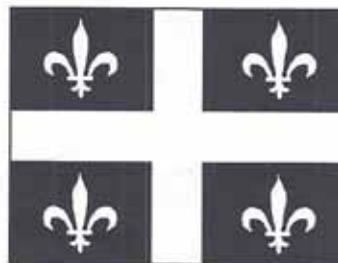
The thirty-first annual convention of the Canadian Canon Law Society had a blustery start in historic Quebec City, Quebec. As the wind howled outside, canon lawyers from across the country and around the world were being warmly welcomed by Rev. Jacques Pelletier, President of the CCLS, and by Mr. Michel Latulippe, head of the local organizing committee. The Most Reverend Archbishop Maurice Couture, Archbishop of Quebec, was unable to attend due to the Annual Plenary Assembly of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops being held in Halifax, but sent his best wishes through a letter read to the assembly by Fr. Pelletier.

In the ballroom of the Loews Le Concorde Hotel, approximately one hundred and eighty people gathered to hear the opening speech delivered by Sr. Lorraine Caza, c.n.d., entitled, "The Essential Elements of Consecrated Life According to the Apostolic Exhortation *Vita consecrata* on Consecrated Life". A sumptuous reception followed, hosted by the Archdiocese of Quebec. This was an excellent opportunity for participants to begin their socializing and "catching up" with friends and colleagues.

As anyone who has attended a convention already knows, the next two days were filled with various workshops, their subject matter covering tribunal ministry, financial administration and sacramental concerns other than marriage.

Several important business matters were attended to at the Annual General Meeting, held on Wednesday morning. Of most significance was the re-naming of the Canon Law Award of Merit to the Jean Thorn Canon Law Award of Merit. The idea of honouring our first president was presented to the membership, who voted unanimously for the change. There was no recipient of the

Award of Merit this year. In other news, three new board members were elected to replace outgoing members. Those leaving after their two-year terms were Rev. Denis Vaillancourt as francophone Consultor, and Dr. Nira Sangal as anglophone Vice-President. Their replacements were respectively, Mr. Sylvain Maurais and Ms. Margaret A. Jong. Ms. Lucy Gorman McCoy, who has been our hard-working Secretary-Treasurer, is leaving after four years in the position. She has been replaced by Sr. Marjory Gallagher, s.c.



Social highlights included the President's dinner on Tuesday evening. Traditionally, presidents of foreign canon law societies are invited to spend time with our president, executive board and workshop presenters. This year, Sr. Lynn Jarrell, O.S.U., President of the Canon Law Society of America, and Rev. Aidan McGrath, O.F.M., President of the Canon Law Society of Great Britain and Ireland, attended our convention representing their respective memberships. Both were gracious guests and entertaining company.

Another social event was a sound and light show entitled "Act of Faith", presented at the Notre Dame de Quebec Basilica. On Wednesday afternoon, despite the rain and chilling wind, approximately 120 participants made their way to the Basilica to see this breathtaking dramatization of the 500-year history of the

**Canon Law  
Award  
named after  
Jean Thorn**