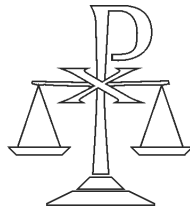


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Catholic Lawyers Society, Inc.

One Woodward Avenue, 10TH Floor
Detroit, Michigan 48226-3412

(313) 965-2915
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September 1, 2000

Re: Catholic Lawyers Society

Dear Fellow Catholic Lawyer:

Dear CLS Member:

I want to welcome and thank the new members of the CLS for their interest and enthusiasm and the renewing members for their continued support of the CLS. We hope to encourage involvement of the members by offering more opportunities for lawyers to explore the integration of their faith with their profession. Now that the summer is nearly over and another successful CLS picnic is behind us, we look forward to the fall. The next few months are very full of spiritual and social opportunities to examine the role of faith in our lives and to discern God's message to each of us. Some of these opportunities are presented by the CLS, and other opportunities are presented by the Archdiocese or organizations with similar goals and purposes. I hope the length of this message and the sheer quantity of the opportunities does not discourage you from reading to the end.

September

September 14 - 17, Eucharistic Congress at St John's Center in Plymouth. We encourage everyone to attend some portion of this wonderful Jubilee year celebration of the Eucharist hosted by the Archdiocese of Detroit. Each day presents special opportunities with Saturday [16th] being focussed on children and young adults and Sunday [17th] being the open liturgy for families and groups. Please read the information that will be available through the parishes and *The Michigan Catholic* about this unique event.

September 18 Gabriel Richard Historical Society Golf Outing will take place for the preservation of Ste. Anne de Detroit Church. The cost of the outing is \$200 per person, and it will be held at Links at Pinewood Golf Course. Sponsorships are also available. Please contact me or call 313-963-1888 for additional information.

September 28 Red Mass at SS. Peter & Paul Church in Detroit at noon celebrated by Cardinal Maida. This is historically the symbolic opening of the courts for the fall session

and is a tangible reminder of our obligation of service to others mandated by our faith and our profession. The ceremony closes with the administration of the Lawyer's Oath so that the message is not lost on the participants. This is always a good time to evaluate and reinvigorate our commitment to our role as legal professionals in society.

October

October 7, 6th Annual Dominican High School and Academy Fundraiser at Dominican High School, 9740 McKinney in Detroit. This is the last all-girls, Catholic high school in Detroit, and it has been maintaining an unbroken tradition of excellence in the face of enormous odds. The CLS has been assisting the Adrian Dominicans in raising the necessary financial resources to stay open, but it has become increasingly difficult. The last three graduating classes have had 100% placement in college programs, so the quality of the education has remained high despite the money pressures. The tickets for the event are the same \$100 price as in the past, but this year offers a great deal in addition to the CLS reception. The ticket price also includes a sit-down dinner and a special performance of "Late Night Catechism" tailored to Dominican High School. There are many ways to support this event through sponsorships and program advertisements if you are not able to attend the evening of October 7. The program ads range in price from \$50 for a business card-size up to \$200 for a full page; likewise, the sponsorships range from \$250 to \$5000 and include various numbers of tickets. [Some of the sponsors supporting this event this year include General Motors Corporation, Merrill Lynch and Bon Secours Cottage Health System.] Please contact me or Kathleen Conway at Dominican [313-882-8500] if you are interested in attending or providing some financial support.

October 18 Mass for Commerce at SS. Peter & Paul Church in Detroit at noon celebrated by Cardinal Maida. This will be the 7th Annual Mass for Commerce which is organized by committed members of the Detroit business community. The Mass is an opportunity to "celebrate the renaissance of Detroit's business and spiritual life."

October 20-22 Men's Retreat at Manresa located at 1390 Quarton Road [Woodward and Quarton] in Bloomfield Hills. The retreat begins with the evening meal on Friday and ends before lunch on Sunday; during the interim, the participants spend the time reflecting, praying and conversing with God. The format of the silent retreat involves brief conferences presented by the retreat director separated by times of prayer and meditation on the grounds of Manresa Jesuit Retreat House with the Sacrament of Reconciliation available on Saturday afternoon. There is no "cost" for the retreat; all payments are voluntary contributions of as much or as little as you want. While there is no cost, the value is inestimable. Many CLS members have attended one or more of these retreats in the past, and all who have attended have come away renewed and refreshed - at least spiritually. If you would like more information, please feel free to call me, or call Manresa [248-644-4933] to reserve your place. In the interest of full disclosure, that is the weekend of the Michigan v. Michigan State game. Regardless, I look forward to seeing many new faces at the retreat this year. Just as a further reminder, the Professional Women's Retreat is scheduled to take place March 23-25, 2001.

November

November 5 or 12 will be the Family Retreat. We have had this event for the past two years, and it has been growing in popularity. It provides us with an opportunity to gather with

our families to share our faith outside the structure of the Mass. Once we finalize the date and the program, we will provide that information to you.

Recurring events

Every Wednesday at 12:45 p.m. at SS Peter & Paul Church in Detroit members of the CLS gather to pray the Rosary for the special intentions of the CLS. Please feel free to join with those members by entering the Church through the courtyard off of Larned.

As the fall progresses, other events and opportunities will likely be placed on the schedule as I become aware of them. There are activities already scheduled for Advent and next year, but I think this letter contains enough information. We are planning to continue the Brown Bag discussions that were held at UDM Law School last year; we are also trying to schedule an ecumenical discussion on Jewish-Catholic relations and issues which will be jointly sponsored by other affinity bar associations. There are also Christian service projects in which we participated last year that we would like to repeat this year. Please let me know if there is an activity or event that would be of interest to the CLS members (especially if you are willing to coordinate the event).

I look forward to seeing you at some or all of the upcoming activities described in this letter. To paraphrase the prayer to St. Thomas More, may we all practice our profession for the greater glory of God and in the pursuit of His justice.

Very truly yours,

John M. Sier, President
Catholic Lawyers Society