

Editorial

Dear Readers,

The Editorial Board of the Journal *Scientia Canonica* publishes issue 6, volume 3, referring to the year 2020, completing three years of uninterrupted publication and demonstrating a commitment to maintain the project initiated in 2017 with two issues per year. This edition contains four sessions.

The first session has five articles. The second session, Jurisprudence of the Tribunal of the Roman Rota, features a speech by Pope Francis and a judgment in Latin and Portuguese. The third session offers a forum on the post-synodal Apostolic Exhortation *Querida Amazonia*. The fourth session publishes a review.

The first article, *The concept of human dignity in the Social Doctrine of the Catholic Church and in law: similarities and differences*, by Adão de Souza Pires and Lafayette Pozzoli, is a research based on the Church's social documents for a conceptualisation of the dignity of the human person and for the affirmation of the right to life, the foundation of other rights.

Some possibilities of collaboration of the laity in the munus regendi according to the rule of law, is the second article of this edition, by Cristiano Parpinelli da Silva, a research on the guiding principles for an effective cooperation of the laity, developing the concept of *potestas collegiali* with the effective collaboration of the laity in some functions and ministries, for example in the office of diocesan treasurer and judge in a collegial court.

The third article, *The activity of the College of Cardinals in support of the Pope* by Anna Sammassimo, translated into English by Edvige Pucciarelli, is a theme that is currently being presented, but finds its roots in the debate during the Second Vatican Council on the creation of the Synod of Bishops and their contacts with the College of Cardinals. Subsequently, the theme of the article has its reference in the Apostolic Constitution *Pastor Bonus* and in the moments presented by the “consultative group” formed by Pope Francis.

Some canonical and pastoral considerations on the offences of defamation and calumny in the Church, written in Spanish, by Francisco Campos Martínez, the fourth article of the session, is a canonical reflection, starting with Canon 220 in parallel with other canons, showing the consequences of defamation and calumny on the personality of the victim due to suffering. In fact, it is the responsibility of the ecclesiastical authority to determine the reparation of the damage to honour and good reputation, which must be implemented by effective and appropriate means.

The fifth article, in Italian, is a research by Manlio Miele *on synodality in the ecclesiology of Pope Francis*. The author starts from the conceptual distinction between representativeness and representation, showing the interaction of synods with the College of Cardinals.

In the jurisprudence session of the Tribunal of the Roman Rota, we present an address by Pope Francis, delivered on 21 February 2020, to the participants of the Pontifical Council for Legislative Texts, addressing a topical issue of Canon Law. Then, in the same session, we publish the judgment of 2 March 2020, on appeal to the Tribunal of the Roman Rota - Coram R. P. D. Felipe Heredia Esteban, Ponente, David Salvatori and Alexander W. Bunge - pursuant to can. 1680, § 2. The Latin text was prepared for publication in the *Journal Scientia Canonica* by Vincenzo Fasano and the Portuguese translation was done by Leonardo Rosa Ramos.

The current edition presents a Forum with ten contributions on the Post-Synodal Apostolic Exhortation *Querida Amazonia*, published on 2 February 2020, in two directions: the usefulness of a Faculty of Canon Law in Amazonia and the development of consecrated life in this region. The Forum was organized by Prof. Denilson Geraldo with students from the Santa Catarina Higher Institute of Canon Law, based on a number of publications. The objective of the Forum was to deepen some themes of the Synod that took place in Rome from 6 to 27 October 2019, which concluded with the Document *Amazonia: new paths for the Church and for an integral ecology*.

Finally, Horacio Day presents a review of the book by Inés Lloréns, *La “diakonia” de la forma del matrimonio. La forma canónica al servicio de la realidad matrimonial*, published by EUNSA, in the city of Pamplona, in the year 2020, of 470 pages.

Therefore, the Higher Institute of Canon Law Santa Catarina concludes yet another issue of the Journal *Scientia Canonica*, contributing to the diffusion of Canon Law in Brazil, in dialogue with other sciences, and aiming at the internationality of academic studies by publishing works in Portuguese, Italian, English, Spanish and Latin.

Denilson Geraldo
Editor