Dear Friends,

It’s been a productive 2022-2023 academic year for St. John’s Center for Law and Religion, and we’re pleased to share some of the highlights and achievements with you:

MEDIA PRODUCTIONS
Podcast
Center Sounds, the Center’s podcast series on cases in law and religion related to its mission, continued to grow its listener base. Episodes cover a range of topics, including Supreme Court decisions, noteworthy church-and-state conflicts, and scholarship by the podcast’s co-hosts, Center Co-Directors Marc DeGirolami and Mark Movsesian. You’ll find Legal Spirits on Apple, Android, Spotify, and other podcast platforms.

Blog
The Center’s blog, the Law and Religion Forum, regularly draws media attention and has been cited in major law reviews. As in past years, this year’s posts included book notices for new scholarship in the field, commentary from the Center’s co-directors, and a weekly Around the Web roundup of the latest law and religion news.

CENTER NEWS
Law and Religion Colloquium
The Center hosted its Sixth Biennial Law and Religion Colloquium in Fall 2022. The first of its kind at St. John’s, the colloquium invited distinguished scholars and campus to teach a seminar on cutting-edge issues in law and religion. The seminar’s participants included: Richard Sander (CIA) and Professors Jelis Avlon (Catholic University), Nathan Chapman (University of Georgia), Nelson Tebbe (Catholic University), and Anna Su (University of Toronto).

Reading Society
The Center’s Reading Society continues to bring law students, alumni, and friends together to discuss law and religion in works of fiction and non-fiction. The Society’s Students of November, hosting author Tara Isabelle Burton. She discussed her recent book, Strange Rites, a religious New Gospel for a Godless World, on the rise of unaffiliated adherents in America.

Public Events
In February, the Center hosted a panel discussion, “Law and Religion at the Supreme Court: New Directions,” with Hon. Richard Sander (CIA) and Hon. Rachel Kravitz (SDNY), as well as Professors DeGirolami and Movsesian. In March, the Center co-hosted a symposium, “The Rise of the Nones and the Impact on American Law,” along with St. John’s Law Review. Speakers included Professors Steven Collis (Bech-Loughlin Center for Religious Studies and Law), Nelson Tebbe (Catholic University), and Professors Alicea (CA2) and Chapman (University of Texas) and Professors Joel Alicea (Catholic University); Nathan Chapman (University of Georgia); Nicole Garnett (University of Notre Dame); Fr. Pat Reidy (Yale University); Nelson Tebbe (Catholic University), and Anna Su (University of Toronto).

Student Fellows
Each year, the Center selects St. John’s Law students to serve as student fellows and assist with its programs. This year’s fellows were Fotini Mamos ‘23, Patrick McKelvey ‘24, Ryan Pugh ‘24, and Brendan Spagnuolo ‘23. We’re grateful for their hard work, including their contributions to the Law and Religion Forum and Legal Spirits.

CO-DIRECTOR NEWS

Forthcoming work in constitutional law reviews, "The Rise of the Nones and the Impact on American Law," will appear, respectively, in the St. John’s Law Review.

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THANK YOU!
Thank you for being part of the Center community. We have much more planned for next year, so please follow us on social media and keep an eye on our website for updates.

www.stjohns.edu/law