



CATHOLIC
LAWYERS' SOCIETY

32nd Anniversary Dinner & Dance

Journey Through The Americas

17th October 2026

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(USKUP AGUNG KUALA LUMPUR)

528, Jalan Bukit Nanas, 50250 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

Tel: 603-2078 8828 / 2078 5089 / 2072 6606

Fax: 603-2031 3815

Email: archbishop@archkl.org

Website: www.archkl.org

Warmest greetings to the Executive Committee, and all members of the Catholic Lawyers' Society of Kuala Lumpur on the occasion of your 32nd Annual Dinner and Dance.

Over the past year, you have continued to exemplify leadership rooted in both competence and conscience. From organising vital educational forums on constitutional safeguards, to steadfastly advocating for mutual respect and harmony in our wider society, and through your participation in the recent MPC2026 in Sibul, your voice and commitment remain a treasured presence in our community.

This evening offers a welcome opportunity to step away from the demands of briefs and courtrooms, to relax and enjoy one another's company. Beyond the legal expertise you bring to your profession, I am deeply grateful for the spirit in which you serve: upholding justice, defending the vulnerable, and helping to build a more just and harmonious society.

Your work as lawyers is a noble vocation, and the fellowship you share as a community is a source of strength and encouragement. May tonight bring you laughter, meaningful conversations, and the joy of celebrating the bonds you have built together.

Thank you for your dedication and faithful witness. May God continue to guide you in your work, grant you wisdom and compassion in all that you do, and bless you and your families abundantly.

"To do what is right and just is more acceptable to the Lord than sacrifice." Proverbs 21:3

With every blessing,

+Most Reverend Julian Leow Beng Kim, DD
Archbishop of Kuala Lumpur

MESSAGE FROM OUR ECCLESIASTICAL ASSISTANT



"Quis custodiet ipsos custodes?"

Mr. President, Mr. Kevin Rozario, Members of the Bar, distinguished guests, dear Brothers and Sisters of the Catholic Lawyers Society, I, your former colleague bid you Shalom, good evening and peace be with you all.

1. I am delighted that you have chosen the theme, "Journey through the Americas." It would suggest that you may be taking the pace of a trotting horse. After all, we need to enjoy the view, to smell the roses, as it were, and to enjoy the journey.
2. However, certain events have transpired this year which indicates that the pace may have picked up considerably.
3. Catholics in Malaysia were still appreciating MPC when we were rudely awakened out of our gentle contemplation. A lewd joke was cracked about a priest and a nun at a meeting. And the response was decisive, swift and unequivocal. Many expressed outrage. But the Malaysian Catholic Lawyers responded with the usual alacrity.
4. To the question therefore, the CLS gave answer, "Who is there to guard the guards?" I humbly submit that It is they.
5. As much as their talks about Constitutional Safeguards were delivered with great eloquence, we often forget that they too are our safeguard against anyone or any institution which seeks to denigrate or belittle the Church.
6. On behalf of the Church, I wish to express our heartfelt gratitude at your promptness, decisiveness and earnestness in being our safeguard. May God bless you all abundantly.
7. Enjoy the Dinner & Dance everybody!!

Rev. Gregory Chan

MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT



On behalf of the Catholic Lawyers' Society Kuala Lumpur (CLS), it is my great pleasure as President in welcoming you to our 32nd Annual Dinner and Dance.

Tonight, we have chosen a rather exciting theme--- **"Journey Through the Americas."**

It is a theme that immediately brings to mind travel, discovery, different cultures, great landscapes, new experiences and of course, good food and fellowship. But tonight, I would like to suggest that there is another meaning to the word journey. A journey is not simply about where we are going. It is also about where we have come from, who has travelled with us, what we have learnt along the way, and what we hope to leave behind to those who follow. And in many ways, that is also the story of the Catholic Lawyers Society.

CLS began its journey on 23 March 1992, when twelve pioneering Catholic Lawyers came together with a vision of establishing our Society. A pro-tem committee was set up, and CLS was duly registered as a society on 7 October 1994. More than three decades later, we are still here. We have seen changes in the legal profession, changes in our society, changes in technology and changes in the challenges facing the church and our communities.

Yet the fundamental purpose of CLS remain relevant, that is to bring our Catholic faith into the way we understand law, justice, professional responsibility and service to society. That is what makes CLS different. We are lawyers, certainly. But we are also Catholics, and the two should never be completely separated. Our faith should influence how we practice our profession. The law gives us rules, but our faith asks us to look beyond the rules to the human person.

Pope Benedict XVI reminds us that justice and charity are inseparable. That is an important message for Catholic Lawyers. We must pursue justice, but we must never forget compassion. We must defend rights but we must never forget human dignity.

Over the years, CLS has tried to live out this responsibility in practical ways. We have organized talks, forums and discussions on matters of social justice. We have engaged with questions concerning our Constitution and the safeguards afforded to religious communities and we have participated in discussions within our churches and during priestly recollections.

So, what does “**Journey Through the Americas**” have to do with all of this? The Americas are vast. They encompass many countries, cultures, languages, history and traditions. There are differences everywhere. Yet people continue to travel, to meet, to learn from one another and to build communities.

We are a society made up of people with different personalities, different legal practices, different generations and sometimes very different opinions. But we share something fundamental, Our journey therefore is not about everyone travelling at exactly the same speed or taking exactly the same route. It is about ensuring that we are ultimately travelling in the same direction. And that direction must be towards truth, justice, charity and service.

My fellow members, Pope Francis often reminded us that we are called to build bridges rather than walls. We as lawyers build bridges between law and justice, between faith and professional life, between the church and society, and between different communities. In this respect, we accept the invitation of our Patron, the **Most Reverend Julian Leow Beng Kim, DD Archbishop of Kuala Lumpur** that we be courageous in our commitment in telling our story of justice and mercy in our society.

My sincere gratitude to our **Ecclesiastical Assistant, Reverend Father Gregory Chan** for his guidance, counsel and prayers and not forgetting his sense of humor.

In closing, I would like to leave you with 3 words: Faith, Justice and Service.

Faith, because it is the foundation of who we are.

Justice, because it is at the heart of our profession.

And service, because our knowledge and talents are gifts that are meant to be shared.

If we remain faithful to these 3 principles, I believe CLS will continue to have a meaningful role- not only within the Catholic community, but within the wider Malaysian society.

May our Journey Through the Americas tonight be filled with friendship, laughter and wonderful memories.

Thank You and God Bless.

Kevin De Rozario
President
Catholic Lawyers' Society, Kuala Lumpur
2026/2027

MESSAGE FROM OUR ORGANISING CHAIR



Welcome, everyone, to the 32nd Annual Dinner & Dance of the Catholic Lawyers' Society. It has been my greatest pleasure, together with the Dinner & Dance Sub-committee, in organising this year's D&D as we believe it to be one of the Society's most memorable and anticipated events.

In organising this D&D, our committee has had to think and act quickly to ensure that everything goes well. I can assure you that this has not been too difficult for us – being lawyers, it is one of the things we know how to do well.

It is in the nature of our profession to be swift and timely – I would go further to say that every lawyer embodies the term “fast and furious” in their own way. Even now, in our midst, there may be some of you worrying about deadlines or upcoming trials and hearings. While we are known for our promptness, we also tend to miss out on the little things that are equally deserving of our attention.

So, as we “Journey through the Americas”, let us also journey around the room and take our time to see one another and enjoy each other's presence; to make new friends, catch up with old friends and to fully appreciate God's call to each one of us to this noble profession.

Thank you and God bless.

Maria Faustina
Organising Chair
2026 Dinner & Dance Sub Committee

DINNER & DANCE 2025



DINNER & DANCE 2025



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RED MASS 2026



RED MASS 2026





On behalf of everyone at CLS we
Thank You for attending
Votive Mass of the Holy
Spirit (THE RED Mass)

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RED MASS 2026

IN MEMORIAM



LEONARD TEOH HOOI LEONG
(1940 – 2026)

3rd President of the Catholic Lawyers' Society, Kuala Lumpur (1999 – 2001)

*I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race,
I have kept the faith.*

2 Timothy 4:7

2025/2026 EVENTS



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RETREAT 2026





RETREAT 2026



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