



# Catholic Professionals of Illinois

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***"Faith and Reason: The Vocation of a Catholic Law Professor"***  
**with John Breen**  
**Saturday, October 27th at 7:00 PM**  
**St. Isaac Jogues Catholic Church, 306 W. 4th Street, Hinsdale, IL**



Catholic Professionals of Illinois is a group of men and women who proactively seek to influence the culture through their various and respective professions, while working in the world, witnessing the authentic spirit and love of Christ, and serving as mentors to the next generation of leaders.

John M. Breen serves as the Georgia Reithal Professor of Law at Loyola University Chicago School of Law. As an undergraduate, Professor Breen studied the "Great Books" while majoring in Program of Liberal Studies at the University of Notre Dame. He graduated from Notre Dame in 1985 with *highest honors* and as a member of Phi Beta Kappa. He then attended Harvard Law School where he was a member of the Board of Student Advisors, teaching research and writing to first year law students.

Following his graduation from Harvard in 1988, Professor Breen clerked for Judge Boyce F. Martin, Jr., of the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit. He then practiced law at Sidley & Austin in Chicago where he specialized in commercial litigation. Professor Breen left Sidley & Austin to pursue a teaching career in 1994. He served as an associate visiting professor of law at the Detroit College of Law at Michigan State University from 1994-1996. He was invited to join the faculty at Loyola University Chicago School of Law in 1996.

At Loyola, Professor Breen teaches or has taught courses in Contracts, Professional Responsibility, Sales, Negotiable Instruments, Jurisprudence, and Catholic Social Thought. His scholarly writings have addressed a wide variety of topics including commercial law, statutory interpretation, abortion, law and religion, Catholic social thought and the law, legal ethics, and legal education. His publications have appeared in a number of different journals including the *Harvard Journal of Law & Public Policy*, the *Connecticut Law Review*, and the *American Journal of Legal History*. With Professor Lee Strang of the University of Toledo College of Law, he is currently at work on a book on the history of Catholic legal education in the United States.

From 2000-2003, Professor Breen served as the Reporter to the Illinois Supreme Court Committee on Professional Responsibility. From 1999-2004, he was a contributor to the Illinois portion of the American Legal Ethics Library hosted by Cornell Law School's Legal Information Institute. He has served as an expert witness in a number of cases involving questions of attorney conduct and professional responsibility. Professor Breen is a founding member and past president of the Arab American Bar Association of Illinois, and currently serves on AABAR's board of directors. Since 2012 he has served on the board of directors of the Catholic Conference of Illinois, advising the Catholic bishops of Illinois on matters of public policy.

*"Let Christians follow the example of Christ who worked as a craftsman; let them be proud of the opportunity to carry out their earthly activity in such a way as to integrate human, domestic, professional, scientific and technical enterprises with religious values, under whose supreme direction all things are ordered to the glory of God."* - Second Vatican Council