

MONTHLY MEMO
September 2023

**EMERGING FUTURES COLLABORATIVE MEETING WITH
MEMBERS OF THE DICASTERY (DICALSAL)**



Mary-Clare Holland op second from left; Anne Lane pbvm third from left.

On Monday September 18, 2023, at 9am in Rome, EFCL had an appointment with staff of the Dicastery (DICALSAL Dicastery for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life) to discuss the situation of religious institutes coming to completion in Australia.

EFCL is extremely appreciative of the efforts of Peter Jones osa, President of CRA, who secured this meeting on our behalf and to Mary-Clare Holland op, former Vice-President of CRA, who accompanied Anne Lane pbvm, Chair of the Emerging Futures Board, to the meeting.

We had hoped that this meeting would be the first of future meetings with Dicastery staff, giving us the opportunity to provide ongoing information about our circumstances in Australia. While the fact of ageing and diminishing numbers is a global reality, in Australia we face a number of other challenges due to our location, the small and scattered population and the ways in which religious institutes have faced up to the needs of ministries and property over the last thirty years.

Anne emailed from Rome as they began their journey home: “Mary-Clare and I were delighted with our meeting with DICLSAL this morning. There were five members present some of whom had clearly read the material carefully. The meeting was clearly valued by them as much as by us. EFCL has been requested to meet with them each year to keep the dialogue going.

We appreciate the prayers of so many that led to this outcome. We felt the presence of the spirit in the room.”

The Dicastery officials present during the meeting and shown the photograph are Father Pier Luigi Nava smm – Undersecretary; Sister Carmen Ros Nortés nsc – Undersecretary; Father Leonello Leidi cp– Office Head; Dr Daniela Leggio – Office Head and Father Richard Welch, cssr – Dicastery Official.

Anne and Mary-Clare will write a report for us to post on our website, but you can tune in to hear them talk about their visit and how hopeful and encouraging it was during the **TUESDAY NOVEMBER 7 EFCL Zoom event**.

We invite you to begin registering now for this event. You can register easily at Humanitix using the following link <https://events.humanitix.com/efcl-national-zoom-event> or you can send an email to nitasha.prasad@efcl.org.au with *November* in the subject line and Nitasha will register you. We look forward to seeing many of you in November: we have an interesting Zoom planned!

We are also ramping up for another major event at EFCL, our Annual General Meeting (AGM) on Friday 13 October. Our eight Member Representatives, Board Members and key staff will come together for a series of meetings finishing with the AGM in the afternoon then followed by a group dinner. We are thrilled to once again welcome Dr. Elizabeth Dowling rsm who will lead us in a group formation session. We will of course report on the outcomes and we will publish our 2022-23 Annual Report after this day.

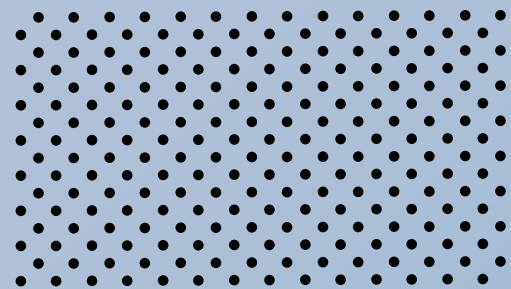
By the time you read this, Linda and Brad will be in St. Louis (USA) for the Resource Center for Religious Institutes (RCRI) Annual Conference. This year the theme of the conference is *Communications in a Synodal Church – Opportunities and Challenges*. Brad is very much looking forward to attending his first conference of this type and you should look out on our website for a report of the conference once Linda and Brad return.

Internally we have welcomed a new addition to the EFCL Team, Mario Fricot. Mario joins us as the Financial Accountant working on a permanent part-time basis. Mario is a CPA qualified accountant with over 20 years’ experience working with some of Australia’s leading companies in both the commercial and not for profit sectors. Mario was educated by the De La Salle Brothers at St. John’s Lakemba and Benilde High Bankstown and very much believes in the ministry and work of EFCL. We look forward to Mario making a positive impact at EFCL.

While welcoming Mario, we will also say goodbye to George Mackenzie on Friday 27 October. George has done a wonderful job for EFCL over the past year during a period of significant and rapid growth. While we are disappointed to see George leave, the role has grown and requires an additional time commitment at a time that George is looking to scale back. We wish George nothing but our sincerest best wishes in his next endeavours.

Don’t forget to register for the November 7 Zoom!

Brad Hannagan, CEO
Sharon Price rsm, Transition Manager
25 September 2023



EFCL ZOOM EVENT

JOIN US FOR AN EFCL UPDATE
TUESDAY NOVEMBER 7

▶▶▶ This Zoom meeting will provide an opportunity to get an in-person update about EFCL's growth and development in 2023. Anne Lane (Chair of the Board) and Mary-Clare Hollandop (former Vice-President of CRA and service partner) will speak about their recent visit to the Dicastery in Rome. We will share some news about international speakers that we expect to see in Australia next year and opportunities for access. We will also be explaining our emerging key concepts that have surfaced as we work with our service partner congregations and developments around the provision of canonical delegate and consultor functions.

EVERYONE
WELCOME

11.30AM-1.00PM TAS/VIC/NSW

10.30AM-12.00PM QLD

11.00AM-12.30PM SA

8.30AM-10.00AM WA

1.30PM-3.00PM NZ

To register for the Zoom event, go to <https://events.humanitix.com/efcl-national-zoom-event>

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