

Circular CII/91 - D29/91  
May 1991

AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC BISHOPS CONFERENCE

APRIL 1991

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MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT ST PAUL'S NATIONAL SEMINARY, KENSINGTON, N.S.W. FROM TUESDAY 23 APRIL TO TUESDAY 30 APRIL 1991.

ATTENDANCE: The following were present:

His Eminence Cardinal E. Clancy, Archbishop of Sydney, President  
 Most Rev F. Rush, Archbishop of Brisbane  
 Most Rev F. Carroll, Archbishop of Canberra and Goulburn  
 Most Rev L. Faulkner, Archbishop of Adelaide  
 Most Rev T. Little, Archbishop of Melbourne  
 Most Rev E. D'Arcy, Archbishop of Hobart  
 Most Rev J. Jobst, Bishop of Broome  
 Most Rev D. Warren, Bishop of Wilcannia-Forbes  
 Most Rev R. Mulkearns, Bishop of Ballarat  
 Most Rev E. Kelly, Bishop of Toowoomba  
 Most Rev J. Satterthwaite, Bishop of Lismore  
 Most Rev P. Quinn, Bishop of Bunbury  
 Most Rev E. Perkins, Auxiliary, Melbourne  
 Most Rev D. Cremin, Auxiliary, Sydney  
 Most Rev W. Murray, Bishop of Wollongong  
 Most Rev R. Healy, Archdiocesan Administrator, Perth  
 Most Rev J. O'Connell, Auxiliary, Melbourne  
 Most Rev L. Clarke, Bishop of Maitland  
 Most Rev P. Dougherty, Bishop of Bathurst  
 Most Rev P. Murphy, Bishop of Broken Bay  
 Most Rev N. Daly, Bishop of Sandhurst  
 Most Rev B. Heather, Bishop of Parramatta  
 Most Rev F. De Campo, Bishop of Port Pirie  
 Most Rev J. Heaps, Auxiliary, Sydney  
 Most Rev E. Cuskelly, Auxiliary, Brisbane  
 Most Rev W. Brennan, Bishop of Wagga Wagga  
 Most Rev G. Robinson, Auxiliary, Sydney  
 Most Rev R. Benjamin, Bishop of Townsville  
 Most Rev B. Hickey, Bishop of Geraldton  
 Most Rev G. Mayne, Military Ordinary, Australia  
 Most Rev J. Bathersby, Bishop of Cairns  
 Most Rev P. Power, Auxiliary, Canberra and Goulburn  
 Most Rev P. Connors, Auxiliary, Melbourne  
 Most Rev G. Pell, Auxiliary, Melbourne  
 Most Rev J. Coffey, Bishop of Sale  
 Most Rev K. Manning, Bishop-elect of Armidale

### OBSERVERS:

Delegates from the Australian Conference of Leaders of Religious Institutes:

Brother Alexis Turton FMS;  
 and Sister Angela Ryan CSB.

## 2 APOLOGIES:

An apology was received from:

**Most Rev I. Prasko**

Most Rev H. Kennedy, (his proxy was Bishop Daly)

Most Rev J. Gerry

Most Rev E. Collins

**Most Rev G. Riashi**

Most Rev J. Hitti

Most Rev P. Murphy, for part of the meeting (his proxy was Bishop Bathersby)

Most Rev L. Faulkner, for part of the meeting (his proxy was Bishop De

Campo)

Most Rev E. D'Arcy, for part of the meeting

Most Rev R. Benjamin, for part of the meeting

## 3 MASS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

This Mass was concelebrated in the Chapel of the Sacred Heart Monastery, Kensington, N.S.W. at 7.00 am on Friday 26 April 1991. His Eminence, Cardinal Clancy, the Conference President, was the principal celebrant.

## 4 OPENING OF THE MEETING

The meeting began after recitation of "Prayer During The Day" at 9.15 am on Friday 26 April 1991.

The President, Cardinal Clancy, welcomed in this session the Apostolic Pro-Nuncio, Archbishop F. Brambilla, the Observers and the Press Officer, Miss M. Newport.

## 5 MESSAGE TO THE HOLY FATHER

The Conference sent this Message to His Holiness John Paul II:

"THE BISHOPS OF AUSTRALIA, ASSEMBLED IN SYDNEY, SEND FRATERNAL GREETINGS TO THE HOLY FATHER, AFFIRM SOLIDARITY WITH HIM, PLEDGE LOYALTY AND DEVOTION.

THEY EXPRESS GRATITUDE FOR HIS CALL TO THE CATHOLIC FAMILY FOR THE CONTINUING PROMOTION OF AND GENEROUS SUPPORT FOR VOCATIONS TO THE PRIESTHOOD AND TO THE CONSECRATED LIFE.

DURING THE CENTENARY OF THE MEMORABLE LETTER OF HIS ILLUSTRIOUS PREDECESSOR, POPE LEO XIII, "RERUM NOVARUM", THE BISHOPS UNDERTAKE TO RESPOND TO THE HOLY FATHER'S APPEAL FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CHURCH'S SOCIAL TEACHINGS.

HUMBLY ASKING FOR THE HOLY FATHER'S APOSTOLIC BLESSING".

The Most Rev Archbishop Angelo Sodano, the Pro-Secretary of State replied:

"THE HOLY FATHER WAS PLEASED TO RECEIVE THE DEVOTED MESSAGE OF ECCLESIAL COMMUNION SENT HIM BY THE AUSTRALIAN BISHOPS MEETING IN PLENARY SESSION IN SYDNEY. OFFERING FERVENT PRAYERS THAT YOUR DELIBERATIONS WILL BE GUIDED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT AND WILL CONFIRM THE CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA IN HER JOYFUL WITNESS TO CHRIST THE RISEN SAVIOUR HIS HOLINESS COMMENDS YOU AND YOUR BROTHER BISHOPS TO THE LOVING INTERCESSION OF MARY MOTHER OF THE CHURCH. AS A PLEDGE OF HEAVENLY FAVOURS HE CORDIALLY IMPARTS THE REQUESTED APOSTOLIC BLESSING".

**6 MESSAGE TO SICK AND RETIRED BISHOPS**

The Bishops voted to send greetings to these bishops and recorded during the course of the Meeting that Archbishop J. Carroll was celebrating his Diamond Jubilee of Priesthood in 1991, and that Archbishop I. Khalife and Bishop H. Kennedy had retired.

**7 VISIT OF THE APOSTOLIC PRO-NUNCIO**

His Excellency, the Most Rev. Franco Brambilla addressed the Bishops during the Opening Session of the Meeting.

**8 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

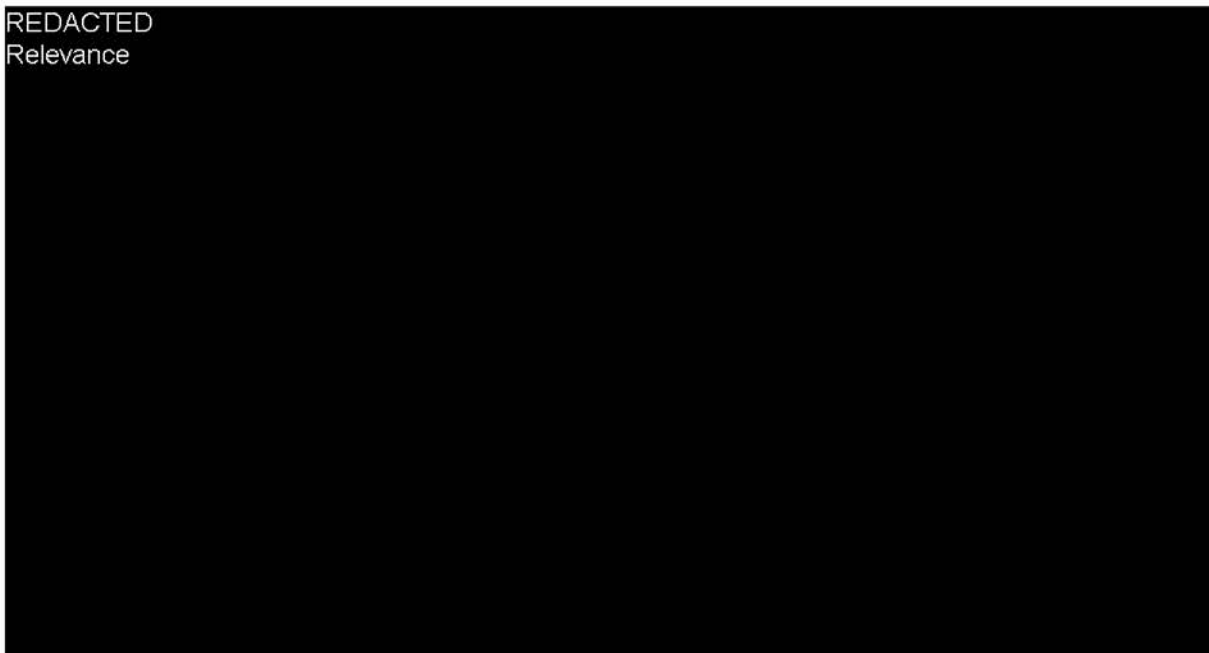
The Minutes of the December 1990 Meeting had been distributed to all members of the Conference. In the inaugural session the following motion was submitted:

MOTION: That the Minutes of the December 1990 Australian Catholic Bishops Conference Meeting be taken as read and be confirmed.

**CARRIED**

REDACTED  
Relevance

27 REDACTED  
Relevance



**Special Issues Sub-Committee**

Bishops Mulkearns reported for this Sub-Committee.

28 PASTORAL DISCUSSION ON THE PROTOCOL FOR DEALING WITH ALLEGATIONS OF CRIMINAL BEHAVIOUR AND THE SPECIAL LIABILITY INSURANCE POLICY TO BE OFFERED BY CATHOLIC CHURCH INSURANCES LTD

This discussion was held on Monday 29 April 1991 with the following personnel present:

Rev Father David Cappo	Pastoral Director - St Francis Xavier Seminary, Adelaide,
	& Chairman, N.C.A.F.A.
Rev Father John Usher	Director - Centacare, Sydney
Rev Father Brian Lucas	Chancellor - Archdiocese of Sydney
Rev Father Jim Spence	Vicar for Justice - Marriage Tribunal, Brisbane
Rev Father Liam Hoare	Servant General - Servants of the Paraclete, Jemez Springs, New Mexico, USA
Mr Richard d'Apice Dr	Solicitor - Sydney
Mr Alex Blaszczynski	Psychologist - Sydney
	General Manager - Catholic Church Insurances
	Underwriting Manager for Australia, Catholic Church Insurances

MOTION: 1 That the "Protocol for dealing with allegations of Criminal Behaviour" as amended in April 1991 be accepted by Conference and implemented in all cases to which it applies. An annual review of the Protocol will be undertaken in the light of experience and, subject to approval by Catholic Church Insurances, the document may be amended where desirable.

CARRIED

MOTION: 2 That the proposal presented by Catholic Church Insurances Ltd for "Special Issues Liability Insurance" in so far as it concerns Diocesan Bishops be accepted by Conference and implemented as soon as possible.

CARRIED

REDACTED  
Relevance



The following pages have been  
intentionally excluded:

**1647-1652, 1655-1702 inclusive**