



**European Forum of National Laity Committees
Forum Européen des Comités Nationaux des Laïcs
Europäisches Forum der Nationalen Laienkomitees**

**INVITATION TO THE ELF STUDY ASSEMBLY
and STATUTORY MEETING 2024**

Dear Friends,

I take pleasure in inviting you, in compliance with our statutes, to the Study Assembly and Statutory meeting to take place from **13th June to the 16th June in Rome.**

The venue for the Assembly is Casa Maria Immacolata, Via Ezio 28, 00192 Roma, a 20 minutes walk from St. Peters. You can view the venue at www.casamariaimmacolata.it
email: info@casamariaimmacolata.it Tele: (0039) 06 32 16 696



1) The theme of our Study Assembly will be:

“FAITH, BEAUTY and SYNODALITY”

The keynote speakers and facilitators for our Study Assembly will be

Emmanuel Van Lierde, philosopher and theologian, **Yvonne Dohna Schlobitten** an Associate Professor at the Pontifical Gregorian University and **Bert Daelemans** a Belgian Jesuit, theologian and architect.

(Please see attached notes on our speakers)

2) Preparation for the study Assembly:

If you are/have been involved in the writing of a response to the Synthesis Report “A Synodal Church in Mission” **please send a copy to the ELF secretary** (john.smartt45@gmail.com), and bring copy to the Study Assembly. If you have a copy of your Bishops Conference report to Rome on the document, please send in a copy. (The deadline issued by the Synod Secretariat for receiving these report is the end of May.)

The steering committee will then select the main points from each country’s report(s) and summarise them in a document to be shared with the Synod Secretariat, CCEE and other contacts at the Vatican. This ELF document will then be shared in June at the Study Assembly.

3) Translation:

We would like to remind you that the main language of the conference will be English. Where possible discussion groups will be conducted in English, French, German, Spanish, Italian - and

you are asked to state your preferred language for these discussion groups on the attached registration form.

It would also be helpful if within your delegation you have someone who is able to translate from English into another European language that you make this known on the registration form as well.

Delegates are encouraged to use the Google Translate or other Apps on mobile phones using earphones to help with translation during the assembly.

4) Outline of Programme

On Thursday 13th June, registration of delegates will take place in the Casa Maria Immaculate conference room from 1600 for a 1700 start.

Details of the venue and how to travel from the airport to this venue see attached.

On Sunday 16th June the Study Assembly will finish at 11.30, to allow those who wish to go to St. Peter's Square for the Papal Blessing at midday. No lunch is served on Sundays at the venue but there are plenty of restaurants in the area.

A detailed programme will be provided to the registrant later.

5 Elections:

The Full Assembly Meeting of the ELF will take place during the Study Assembly and will involve elections to the steering committee. I am prepared to stand for a further term of office as President as is John Mossop as treasurer and John Smartt as Secretary, Lillian Kristensen and Pavol Kossey are also willing to serve for a further term. Each country should think seriously about proposing possible candidates taking into account the diversity of our organisation in representing the laity from 18 countries with different cultures and from different regions of Europe. If you are willing to put your name forward please send into the secretary an outline of your candidature, before the 10th May.

6. Cost and Registration Forms

The subsidised conference price for participants will be €400 for three nights with full board, paid in advance through bank transfer to ELFe.V by the latest 10th May. No variations (discounts etc) to these fees are possible, but if a country has financial difficulties with regard to paying the fee for the Study Assembly they should get in touch with the Treasurer before the end of April. The Casa Maria Immacolata **cannot offer accommodation to those wishing to stay extra days.** If you want to stay in Rome for extra nights you have to arrange this on your own. There are other hotels close by (see Travel Directions sheet attached)

Bank details for payment of participation fee (only). Please don't forget to clearly indicate your **Name** and **Country** in the payment. IBAN: DE52 3706 0193 0057 1150 17

BIC/SWIFT: GENODED1PAX

Europäisches Laienforum e.V, Pax Bank Eg, Christophstrasse 35, 506 70 Köln, Deutschland.

TO REGISTER YOUR PLACE

PLEASE DOWNLOAD THE ATTACHED REGISTRATION FORM (Word document)

FILL IN YOUR DETAILS AND SAVE THIS COMPLETED FILE

THEN ATTACH IT TO AN EMAIL, LABELLED "ELF REGISTRATION"

AND SEND TO:

john.smartt45@gmail.com AND johnpmossop@outlook.com before the **15th April** 2024.

If you do not receive an acknowledgement of your booking / registration form within 10 days please inform us.

Wishing you all a meaningful and inspiring Holy Week and good Easter celebrations

On behalf of the ELF
Josian Caproens
President