



Sharing More Elevator Statements about CFM

As mentioned in last month's newsletter, we will continue sharing elevator statements to help articulate the vision and mission of the Christian Family Movement. Our goal is to help you, as members, be prepared to effectively share your experience in a brief and compelling manner when the opportunity arises.

CFM is national network of parish/ neighborhood small groups of families focused on:

(i) helping families develop community/ connections,
(ii) providing for sharing & accompaniment as Christians & Christian Families, &
(iii) doing true action for change – not just hearers of the word, but doers as well.
The Christian Family Movement promotes Christian marriage and family life and helps people to live the faith in everyday life. We work together to build a better world through actions of love, service, education, and example.

CFM is an organization with an eminently positive aim: to restore Christian ideals in family life, and a remarkably thorough purpose - to work on the environment in which families live, in order to make it easier for these families to be missionary disciples of Jesus Christ.

Families are important. Strengthen the family and you will strengthen the Church and society. CFM works on the environment in which families live, so it is easier for them to be all they were created to be. CFM has a proven method of helping families develop authentic relationships with other families, providing ongoing friendship and accompaniment through a small group setting. CFM helps people make friends, make disciples, and make a difference, all with a family focus.



Family Love - a Vocation and a Path to Holiness
[Family Love - a Vocation and a Path to Holiness on Vimeo](#)

On April 9, 2022, National CFM board members John and Lauri Przybysz and Mary Ann Thelen attended the virtual "Hour Together in Mission" with CFM members around the world. Bishop Laszlo Biro of Hungary was the featured speaker on "Family Love, A Vocation and Path to Holiness." Represented were countries from North America, as well as Malawi, Spain, Brazil, Singapore, Mexico, India, Peru, and Hungary. The meeting was translated into Spanish and English. After his short talk, the CFM leaders were given thought-provoking questions for discussion. Special prayers were requested for peace in Ukraine and for our brothers and sisters in Sri Lanka, who are experiencing extreme financial crisis. We encourage you to watch Bishop Biro's presentation here <https://vimeo.com/698586128> or just click the link above. You will be inspired and receive practical wisdom as well as questions for discussion between spouses. Watch it yourself, with your spouse, or with your CFM group as a potential Easter observance to grow in your vocation.



Now Is A Good Time to:



- Review your past CFM year. What worked well? What can you improve upon next year?
- Plan for summer family events. Invite new families!
- Grow CFM. Everyone is looking for fellowship and friendship after quarantining! Use CFM's Promotion and Expansion Toolkit available through our national office or in the Resources for Leaders in the members-only section of our website. Resources include CFM graphics, sample bulletin and pulpit announcements, and much more.
- Recruit one of your current members to help lead your group and help with expansion.
- Start your calendar for the fall.



[World Meeting of Families](#)
[2022 Rome - #WMOF22](#)
[\(romefamily2022.com\)](#)

World Meeting of Families

"There are different roles in a family, but one identity unites us all: we are all children! No one chooses to be born. Each of us owes his or her existence and life to a mother and a father. We cannot give life to ourselves; we can only receive it and cherish it".

*Heavenly Father,
 We come before You to praise You
 and to thank You for the great gift of the family.
 We pray to You for all families
 consecrated by the Sacrament of Matrimony.
 May they rediscover each day
 the grace they have received,
 and as small domestic Churches,
 may they know how to witness to Your presence
 and to the love with which Christ loves the Church.
 We pray to You for all families faced with difficulty and suffering
 caused by illness or circumstances of which only You know.
 Sustain them and make them aware
 of the path to holiness upon which You call them,
 so that they might experience Your infinite mercy
 and find new ways to grow in love.
 We pray to You for children and young people:
 may they encounter You and respond joyfully
 to the vocation You have in mind for them;
 We pray for parents and grandparents: may they be aware
 that they are signs of the fatherhood and motherhood of God
 in caring for the children who, in body and spirit, You entrust
 to them; and for the experience of fraternity
 that the family can give to the world
 Lord, grant that each family
 might live their specific vocation to holiness in the Church
 as a call to become missionary disciples,
 in the service of life and peace,
 in communion with our priests, religious,
 and all vocations in the Church.
 Bless the World Meeting of Families. Amen.*

[WMOF in your diocese - #WMOF22 \(romefamily2022.com\)](#)

CFM in the World Wide Web—Part 2

So, did you google or click on the links about Christian Family Movement (CFM) from the April ACT? Here are some more links for you to check out:

[Christian Family Movement – NACFLM](#)

[Notre Dame Archives Inventory: CFM \(nd.edu\)](#)

[International Confederation of Christian Family Movements \(laityfamilylife.va\)](#)

[CFM / Christian Family Movement \(cfmeurope.eu\)](#)



Marriage Moments and Parenting Pointers by Susan Vogt



This year Mother's Day and Good Shepherd Sunday both fall on May 8. So, what do sheep and mothers have to do with marriage? Perhaps it's about taking care of another. Of course, neither of you are sheep or a child, but seek out a fun way to care for your beloved everyday.

"As I have loved you, so you also should love one another." (John 13:34) Easy to say. Hard to do. Remember that Jesus' love for humanity brought him to the crucifixion. Ponder what each of you might sacrifice for the other this week.

"These are the ones who have survived the time of great distress." (Rev. 7:14) During these past years of pandemic, you and your children have probably experienced significant changes and stress. Our whole world has. Share what has been hardest but also something positive you've learned from the experience.

May 26 is Ascension Thursday. Talk to your child about lifting up their spirit to God – in prayer, by doing a favor for someone... Maybe fly a kite or watch some birds together to connect with Jesus' Ascension.

For more ideas and tools for becoming better marriage partners and parents, please visit www.SusanVogt.net.

Getting to Know You: Pam Kuzel

Pam is the new Member Services Administrator for the CFM National office, newly relocated in Dexter, MI as of January 1, 2022. She and her husband, Matt, are members of St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church in Ann Arbor, MI. They have been married almost 44 years and have three grown sons - Greg, Jeff and Chris, two "daughters" Kara and Anna and a 4-year-old grandson, Jackson.



Pam and Matt joined CFM in 2008 to grow and strengthen their relationship with their family and friends in a faith-filled environment that nurtures such growth. Matt is an electrical engineer and Pam is a retired registered nurse. She was the office manager at St. Thomas Parish, holds a certificate in Spiritual Direction from Heart of Christ/Avila Institute, and is finishing her first level certificate teaching the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd. Both Pam and Matt feel the CFM mission statement definitely supports and promotes growth in their relationship with God, to each other through their marriage and family life, as well as promoting these values by living the values of the Beatitudes daily.