

Blast from the Past

WE NEED YOUR HELP IDENTIFYING THESE CFM PEOPLE FROM THE PAST! As we prepare for our 75th anniversary celebration we are going through some of the pictures in our CFM archives. Can you contact the national office and help us to put names to these faces? We would also appreciate it if you would send us pictures of your current groups and activities. Please email your responses and photos to office@cfm.org. Thank you!



CFM turns 75 - a Diamond Jubilee!

Please put these dates on your calendar and join us for our 75th Anniversary Celebration , **August 3-4, 2024** at the Mundelein Seminary in Illinois. All are invited, so start planning now! For inquiries, photo submissions and other information, please email us at: 75thAnniversary@cfm.org. or mail to: Christian Family Movement National Office, P.O. Box 266, Dexter, Mi 48130.



**Making Friends,
Making Disciples,
Making a
Difference**

CFM in Action

CFM group members in Ann Arbor, MI participate in the Cross Catholic Outreach Box of Joy

In this simple service project, families fill shoe boxes with toys, clothing, hygiene items and schools supplies to be distributed by Cross Catholic Outreach to developing countries like Haiti and Guatemala. A Box of Joy represents Christ's love and may be the only Christmas gift children in developing countries are blessed to receive.



**All Souls' Day:
Reflections, tradi-
tions and prayers**
[All Souls' Day: Re-
flections, tradi-
tions and prayers -
Catholic News
Service](#)

On Nov. 1, All Saints' Day, we

remember those who have died "in God's grace and friendship and are perfectly purified" and have attained heaven. On All Souls', we pray for those whose venial sin has caught them in purgatory. During a time when death has moved to the forethoughts of our mind, praying tenderly for those we have lost this year and in years past brings us closer to our Lord.

In an ancient Christian tradition called "memento mori," translated as remember you will die, we may reflect on a call to live well.

"Dear God, we are connected to each other in your wondrous cloud of witnesses. We have seen glimmers of your glory & know that you love us & desire for us to be united with you. We pray for the loved ones who have died. May their penitence be short, that they may come into the fullness of your grace. Let your light shine upon them. May you grant them eternal rest. Amen."

Attitude of Gratitude: 10 Reasons to Be Thankful

FR. ED BROOM, OMV

[Attitude of Gratitude: 10 Reasons to Be Thankful](http://catholicexchange.com)
(catholicexchange.com)

May this humble and brief reflection serve as a springboard to bolster and strengthen your own personal prayer life! "Give thanks to the Lord for He is good; for His mercy endures forever." (Ps 136:1)

1. The Gift of Life

Let us constantly thank God for our life, and use all the gifts that flow from our life to praise and glorify God and save souls! May we be more grateful for our gift of life and to be a zealous defender of life from the moment of conception until natural death.

2. Eyes to Contemplate the Beauty of God's Creation

When was the last time you thanked God for the gift of your eyes, and the wonderful gift of sight, so as to contemplate the beauty of His creation? Imagine that you are a blind person; if you are willing, spend one day with your eyes blind-folded, such that you can see no person, nor any gift of nature.

3. Supernatural Life

For the intimate relationship that starts with the Sacrament of Baptism, and the many other spiritual gifts we receive, we lift up our hearts in humble gratitude. Let us strive to live out our Baptismal commitment!

4. Family, Friends, and Social Relationships

Let us spend time thanking God abundantly for the many persons that He has so generously placed on our path as a bridge to Himself.

5. Health

Let us thank God for the years of health that He bestowed upon us, the years of health that we were able to enjoy, and our health at present.

6. The Most Holy Eucharist

We thank the Good Lord Jesus for having instituted the most sublime Gift of the most Holy Eucharist at the Last Supper, (the First Mass). The word Eucharist actually means Thanksgiving! "Give thanks to the Lord for He is good; His mercy endures forever." (Ps 136:1)

7. Heaven Awaits Us

Of enormous importance is the firm faith and belief that our life on earth is ephemeral. Life can be tough, but our joy and happiness in heaven is right around the corner, and it is eternal!

8. His Infinite Mercy

As a result of Original Sin, we are all weak and prone to easily fall into sin. In the Parable of the Prodigal Son, God's loving arms and merciful Heart are always open ready to receive us. We just have to say "I'm sorry" and express our sorrow in the context of the Sacrament of Confession.

9. Friends Who Lend a Hand

We are not living as orphans, as abandoned children, nor are we bereft of help in time of need. Not only is God our Heavenly Father, but we also have a cloud of witnesses in Heaven who are praying for us, encouraging us, and cheering us on to victory. Of course these are the angels and the saints.

10. Mary Our Mother: Our Life, Sweetness, and Hope

Our attitude of gratitude would be incomplete if we did not thank God for having given us Mary most holy. Mary is the Mother of God; she is the Mother of the Church, but also, Mary is the Mother of every one of us. She is also, as we pray in the Hail Holy Queen, Our life, our sweetness, and our hope.

Marriage Moments and Parenting Pointers by Susan Vogt

"That the dead will rise...for to God all are alive." (Luke 20: 38) Thinking of your own or your beloved's death can be scary and depressing – but nobody gets out of this life alive! Take a sacred moment to share with each other your fears and hopes for your own deaths.



During the week of Thanksgiving, take a moment to share with each other one thing that makes you thankful for your beloved and your marriage.

November is Adoption month. Have you ever considered adopting or becoming a foster parent? This may not be your call but you might still mentor a child who needs a little more attention. Remember, Jesus was a foster child.

CFM Program Guide 2022

From Page 48/49

"The Church is a communion, a relationship in Christ. The Christian family is the smallest cell of that Body of Christ. The extended church community is a family of families. This understanding is more than piety--it is sound ecclesiology, solid anthropology...it is reality. Family life is where the "rubber hits the road" for most Christians. It is here where the universal call to holiness, in all its real, earthy, humanness and ordinariness, is first issued. It is here where we learn the way of discipleship. Family is where progress in the spiritual life can find its raw material." **Deacon Keith Fournier**

