## **ACT Newsletter** September 2023



Be doers of the word & not hearers only. - James 1:22

The CFM national board of directors held its semiannual board meeting in Mundelein, Illinois August 3-6. All were grateful to Bishop George J. Rassas for hosting and to the staff at Mundelein Seminary for the tour of

Anniversary Celebration. Everyone was impressed and

University of Saint Mary of the Lake (usml.edu)

in awe of the beauty and serenity of the place.

#### CFM National Summer 2023 Board Meeting in Mundelein, IL



The board also thanks the staff at Marytown for its gracious accommodations and the tour of the National Shrine of St. Maximillian Kolbe at Marytown, located less than a mile from Mundelein seminary.



National Shrine of St. Maximilian Kolbe - Libertyville, IL (kolbeshrine.org)

Inspired by the environment and experiences, the national board accomplished the weekend's long list of tasks and goals including a fruitful Zoom meeting with the CFM 75th Anniversary Advisory Board on Friday evening. With great confidence, the CFM National Board welcomes you to a wonderful experience at Mundelein/Marytown in 2024 for our 75th anniversary.





ICCFM announced that with the help of CFM Malawi, they will work to spread the movement to other countries in Africa. Currently Africa is the only continent where the movement is only in one country: Malawi. The next ICCFM World Assembly will be in the Philippines in 2026 and in Malawi in 2029.

Please join ICCFM for its 57th Anniversary Thanksgiving Mass via Zoom on September 7, 2023.

### **Developments in ICCFM**

New President and Vice President Couples were elected to the International Confederation of Christian Family Movements (ICCFM) at the World Assembly held in Hungary on July 3, 2023. Sergio and Dora Trevino from Mexico will serve as Presidents and John and Lauri Przybysz of Maryland, USA will serve as Vice Presidents. Father Enrique Luis Barragán Pérez, O.S.J. from Mexico will serve as the new chaplain.



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### Understanding our Logo and Story



# Christian Family The CFM logo uses Movement

a traditional symbol for the Holy

Trinity, three interlocking circles. The initials of the Christian Family Movement "CFM" are formed from these interlocking circles. This symbol serves as a powerful icon pointing to the key mystery of the Christian Faith (the Holy Trinity), as well as the call for the family to be an image of the love and unity, found perfectly within the Triune God.

Since the earliest Biblical times our Creator made covenants with families and communities to advance the society that He envisioned. The foundation and cornerstone of that society was - and remains - the family. Today, as then, the fundamental social unit, inscribed in human nature, is the natural family. "The family must become what it is," proclaimed Saint John Paul II in his Familiaris Consortio. In other words, the family must develop its full potential according to God's plan, for its own inner life as a community of persons based on marriage, for its service of life, for its wider role in society and for its life of faith within the Church.

For 7 decades CFM has been promoting Christ-centered marriage & family life consistent with these directions. The movement has its roots in the early years of World War II, when a group got concerned with the state of the world and the Church became convinced that lay apostolic action was necessary for the renewal of society and Catholicism. CFM offers couples & families a unique method for reflection and sharing which encourages honest discussion. This creates space for organic family-to-family learning through which members find wisdom in each other's experiences and insights. It is a time-tested framework, with accessible content available to pastors and parish family ministry leaders, as well as directly to individuals in their CFM groups.



In Memoriam



Michael Mitchell - Valley Roadrunner (valleycenter.com)





James "Jack" J. Kloss, Owned Construction Company - MyVeronaNJ



### 337 days till our **CFM 75th Anniversary** Celebration

In less than a year, CFM will be celebrating its 75th vear of existence. Please visit 75th Anniversary -CFM-USA for more information so you can plan your August 2024 vacation with CFM!



You may also check CFM on Facebook.



## **Getting to Know You Heather Honkomp Digital Communications Manager**

Christian Family Movement (CFM) is pleased to announce the addition of Heather Honkomp as the Digital Communications Manager. Heather and her husband, Jeff, are members of Saint Joseph Parish of Winterset, Iowa. They

have two grown children, Madison and Jacob, plus their new son-in-law, Justin. Heather and Jeff are active in their parish as Eucharistic Ministers and Lectors as well as sponsor couple for marriage preparation. Heather is the Altar and Rosary Social Committee Chairperson for the parish. She was also the Director of Religious Education for the parish for six years where she was trained and implemented Catechesis of the Good Shepherd. Heather is a graduate of Iowa State University where she met Jeff. They have been married for 29 years. She has been with the United States Department of Agriculture (Rural Development Internal Compliance) for 32 years. Heather & Jeff are active in their community where Heather has been an Extension Council member, a 4-H leader, and is currently providing the social media management for the Fair board, where Jeff is the president.

Heather, Jeff, and their children first became acquainted with CFM approximately eight years ago. Board members, Rick and Sandy Hoenig, invited them to join a CFM group for families within their parish. Now they are participating in a CFM group of "empty nesters". CFM has been a wonderful way to enrich their faith. It offers another opportunity to grow in faith within their family and with their community.

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