

We celebrate and honor the lives of iconic CFM leaders  
who recently passed away.

(Click on their names to read their obituaries.)

[Irene Tomonto](#)

and her son [Robert "Bob" Tomonto](#)



Bob Sr. and Irene, served as the 3rd CFM National President Couple (1977-1981), who guided the movement with vision and dedication—from local boards in New York to national leadership in Miami. They helped develop family-centered programs, contributed to the U.S. bishops' first national plan for family ministry, and organized landmark events including Family 77 (with National Marriage Encounter and the World Council of Churches) and the 1979 White House Conference on Families.

Their devotion extended to writing, spirituality, and mentoring their children, with son Bob Jr. and wife Anne later serving as the 11th CFM National President Couple, and daughters Kristin and Patrice contributing through CFM book authorships and creative projects for teens. The family's multigenerational commitment was recognized with the **CFM Spanning Generations Award** in January 2025.

The Tomontos' legacy of faith, leadership, and love continues to inspire CFM families. As a survey of CFM couples noted, 75% described their marriages as "more than normally happy"—a fitting reflection of their life together.

Thank you, **Tomonto family** for your enduring support of CFM. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to the Christian Family Movement, P.O. Box 44083, Pittsburgh, PA 15205



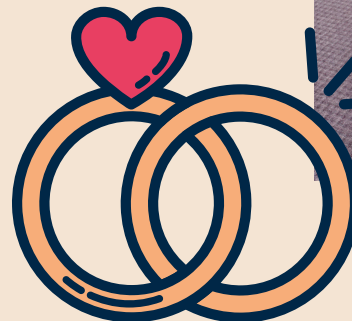
December 6, 1975 - December 6, 2025



Renewal  
of Vows



Granddaughters  
wearing Sandy's  
wedding dress  
(right) and dress  
Sandy wore on  
first date with  
Rick (left).



Lent is a sacred opportunity for CFM families to let our faith radiate outward into the world, more intentionally, through prayer, sacrifice, and especially through acts of charity and compassion.

We invite YOU to share creative and meaningful ideas on how we can observe Lent together. How can we serve the lonely, support struggling families, uplift our parish, or extend mercy to those in need? What simple but powerful practices can help our children understand that love is something we do, not just something we feel?

Lent is not only about giving something up; it is about giving love away. Let's build a collection of compassionate actions that reflect Christ's heart and strengthen our CFM community.

## A FEW WORDS FROM OUR Newest Board Couple



Tom and Kathy Rothermich became part of the CFM National Board in 2025 and attended their first board meeting in January in snowy and cold Columbus, Ohio.

"We enjoyed spending time with the other board members and were impressed by their service to CFM and making it a special organization dedicated to helping families grow closer together in faith.

It was eye-opening to see what happens behind the scenes- developing and publishing program books, managing a budget, advertising CFM, and, most importantly, charting a path for the future of CFM.

Spending time with the board reinforced our own desires to spread CFM to other parishes and dioceses."

# Reminder

CFM National Office has a new address:  
P.O. Box 44083, Pittsburgh, PA 15205

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Online CFM Groups are meeting on March 10 & 12

All are invited!

Email the office for more information.

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Contact the office at [office@cfm.org](mailto:office@cfm.org) if you are in need of your 2025 year-end tax receipt.

## National CFM Winter Board Meeting Columbus, Ohio | January 30-February 1, 2026

The CFM National Board gathered in Columbus, Ohio, for its Winter Board Meeting held at St. Matthew's Catholic Church. In addition to the committee sessions and whole-group meetings, the board focused on strengthening formation, outreach, and future initiatives for the movement.

A special highlight of the weekend was the opportunity to meet parishioners and introduce CFM's mission of building Christ-centered families through small faith-sharing groups. The board hopes this visit will inspire St. Matthew's families to begin their own CFM groups soon.

Board members also enjoyed a curator-led trip to St. Joseph's Cathedral, the historic Gothic Revival cathedral serving as the seat of the Diocese of Columbus, and visited the nearby Museum of Catholic Art and History, which preserves and showcases Catholic art, liturgical items, and historical artifacts that tell the story of the Church and her saints.



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