



**IDEAS FOR
CELEBRATING THE
10TH WORLD
MEETING OF
FAMILIES IN
PARISHES**

JUNE 19-26, 2022



ARCHDIOCESE
of
KINGSTON

10th World Meeting of Families (WMOF)

Theme: "Family Love: a vocation and path to Holiness"

WHO

Local Churches comprised of families throughout the world.

WHAT

The goal is that each diocese will place families at the centre of pastoral attention, carrying out activities that reflect the theme of the WMOF. It will be a kind of "Family Week" in unity with families and dioceses around the world.

WHEN

The WMOF will be held June 22nd - 26th, 2022. We are encouraging our parishes to celebrate June 19th - 26th to accommodate families' summer schedules.

WHERE

As parishes are the spiritual home for our families, the Archdiocese is asking pastors to support family-focused pastoral care and celebrations in their churches during the WMOF week.

WHY

Among other things, the World Meeting is part of the current synodal journey of the Church and can prove a valuable experience of "participation, communion and mission" of families.

In our local context, this can be used as a opportunity to gather together, re-engage with families, and rebuild community as we come out of the global pandemic. Celebrations and events can be a tangible sign to our families that we love and support them.

This is an opportunity to be with and hear our families.

NOTE: This toolkit has been adapted from the "Pastoral Kit to prepare for the X World Meeting of Families in particular churches." All the pastoral resources to prepare for the WMOF are available on its site: <https://www.romefamily2022.com/en/wmof-diocesi/>.

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Suggested Schedule of Activities for Parishes

**Sunday
June 19**

The WMOF is launched in the parishes with a Eucharistic Celebration and an introduction to family challenges, reflections, and events. Each family may be presented with a letter of welcome and encouragement from their pastor.

**Monday
June 20 -
Friday
June 24**

Families are encouraged to participate in a daily challenge that brings all members together in communion, participation, and mission. Families are also encouraged to pray and reflect together using WMOF catecheses or other archdiocesan / parish resources.

**Saturday
June 25**

Families are invited to their local parish. The day could be dedicated to recreation, celebration, and fellowship. A parish may elect to host a family day picnic or BBQ.

**Sunday
June 26**

A Eucharistic celebration marks the conclusion of the WMOF in local parishes. Parishes may elect to celebrate with a picnic or BBQ. Families receive the mandate from their local pastor and/or WMOF image and prayer.

A note on scheduling: The WMOF launches in Rome on Wednesday, June 22nd. Many of our families have commitments that would prevent a kickoff event at their parish during the week. Therefore, we suggest that local parishes celebrate WMOF as a full week bookended by Masses focused on the family. During the week, families can participate in their homes through family challenges and reflections intended to cultivate and strengthen the Domestic Church. A parish may further elect to combine weekend activities into one day after the Sunday Mass on June 26th, or spread out activities over the whole weekend. A parish should develop a schedule that responds to the needs of their community.

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Suggested Family Challenges

The WMOF in Rome will consist of several conferences centered on the theme of Family Love: a Vocation and Path to Holiness. Though families are welcome to follow along at home via livestream and discuss the content, we feel our families would be better served by focusing on strengthening their family life with practical challenges that can be done in the home during the week.

**Sunday
June 19**

- Attend Sunday Mass as a whole family
- Eat dinner together for the whole week

**Monday
June 20**

- Gather a collection, make a donation, or plan to volunteer for a cause your whole family is passionate about

**Tuesday
June 21**

- Unplug from your devices and have a family game night



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Suggested Family Challenges Continued



**Wednesday
June 22**

- Go for a walk, play in the park, or try a new sport outside after dinner

**Thursday
June 23**

- Invite a family member or friend who is alone to have dinner with you tonight

**Friday
June 24**

- Turn the living room into a theatre by hosting a family movie night with snacks

**Saturday
June 25**

- Get out of your comfort zones as a family and try something you have never done before

**Sunday
June 26**

- Each family member takes turns affirming one another; identify each others' gifts and talents

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Suggested Family Reflections

In addition to challenging our families to be in communion with one another, we would like you to encourage them to participate in their call to holiness through communal prayer and reflection.

For some of our families, the idea of praying together may be new and challenging, especially if they have been away from Church during the pandemic. In lieu of more structured prayer such as family rosary, we propose encouraging families to reflect on a topic pertaining to the theme of the WMOF each night during or after a family dinner. For instance, there are seven WMOF catecheses that can be read and discussed.

The Archdiocese will promote reflections the week of WMOF for families to follow along at home via the Archdiocesan social media outlets. We will also release these reflections in advance to parishes should they elect to share them via their social media and/or print and electronic bulletins.

Your parish may elect to write and share its own reflections.

Initiatives and resources for the Amoris Laetita Family Year may also be used and adapted for WMOF reflections:

<http://www.laityfamilylife.va/content/laityfamilylife/en/amoris-laetitia.html>

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Suggestions for Moments of Celebration

- Kick off the WMOF with a Eucharistic Celebration, time of prayer, or community pilgrimage with procession.
- Foster moments of encounter with Christ through praise and worship, communal prayer, or Eucharistic adoration.
- Offer opportunities for fellowship and participation through talks, workshops, or discussions based on one or more of the WMOF conference topics.
- Display and/or distribute the image of WMOF. Plan a meditation or reflection based on Fr. Mark Rupnik's explanation of the image found at the bottom of the WMOF diocesan resource page:
<https://www.romefamily2022.com/en/wmof-diocesi/>.
- Plan a family day at your parish within current pandemic guidelines. Host games, share a meal, and be together as a parish family.

However you choose to celebrate the WMOF in your parish, ensure families are at the front and center!



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Closing Eucharistic Celebration

- One of the Eucharistic Celebrations on Sunday, June 26, may be dedicated to closing the WMOF within your parish.
- Encourage the presence of the entire family at mass (from babies to grandparents).
- Where possible and in compliance with pandemic regulations, the procession of the offerings can be carried by families. In addition to wine and bread, symbols representing family love could be brought to the altar.
- The collection from the day's Masses can be designated to supporting families in need or some kind of pastoral family project.
- The prayers of the faithful **may** be read by different members of the family (parents, children, grandparents).
- At the end of the Mass, the official image of Fr. Mark Rupnik and the WMOF prayer could be distributed to families.
- Pastors may want to give families a mandate (a message of "sending and evangelizing,"), to be read at the end of mass. Families may also be given a printed copy as a concrete sign and reminder of their vocation as a family.

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Ideas for the Prayers of the Faithful

General Themes

- For the Church, People of God
- For the Pope, priests, deacons
- For engaged couples
- For the more vulnerable families (division, illness, and grief)
- For the disabled
- For children
- New life
- Holiness in the family
- For our leaders

Some suggestions

For the Church, so that throughout the world she may be able to proclaim and bear strong witness to the beauty of God's plan for the family and to value it as a gift and a vocation.

For Pope Francis, for every priest and deacon, so that, together with families, they can build up the Church as a "big family," preserving in it unity and fraternal communion.

For engaged couples, so that they may meet families in our community capable of bearing witness to them of the joy of love, experienced by virtue of Christ's presence in Christian marriages.

For families who are going through great painful difficulties, that they may find concrete support in our community and never lose hope in You.

For those who endure the fatigue of illness or the pain of grief, may our community families learn to support each other and know how to open up to give help and support to those in need.



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Ideas for the Prayers of the Faithful Continued

So that our community will always be able to find new ways in order that every person with disabilities may feel welcomed and find a prominent role within the Church.

We pray to you, Lord, that every child in the world may have a family that welcomes him or her, makes him or her feel loved and gives him or her whatever is necessary to help him or her grow up happy and capable of love.

We pray to you, Lord, for children who suffer from family breakups or who have been deprived of a family, that they may encounter a welcoming gaze encouraging them in life and teaching them hope.

We entrust all mothers to you, Lord, so that they may welcome and guard with care and courage every child that is born in their womb.

We pray to you, Lord, that every family may feel called but also guided and supported by You on the path to holiness.

We pray that in every country the leaders will make decisions capable of concretely supporting families, especially the poorest and most disadvantaged.



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Homily Ideas for Closing Mass

13th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1 Kgs 19:16, 19-21; Psalms 15; Gal 5:1,13-18; Lk 9:51-62

The Gospel passage we have just read invites us to take the thoughts we have been reflecting on the vocation of our families in recent days quite seriously. Like Jesus, we are called to make a "firm decision" to embark on a new journey. The words we have heard and the testimonies we have shared can be the nourishment and support for a journey that can only be renewed after living such an intense experience together.

Pope Francis said: "We need spouses alongside the pastors, to walk with other families, to help those who are weaker, to announce that, even in difficulties, Christ is present in the Sacrament of Marriage to give tenderness, patience and hope to all, in every situation of life". Our being family - spouses, daughters and sons, grandchildren, grandmothers and grandfathers, sisters and brothers - is in fact a resource for our Church communities. Having learned to love one another - in the school that has been our families - helps us to share our love with those around us and to be witnesses to those who struggle the most.

Like every Church reality, the family is also called not to live in self-referentiality, but to undertake a path of going out. In today's Gospel, Jesus seems to have very harsh words and puts following Him even before the duty of burying one's parents. He wants to tell us that even our most precious possession will wither if it is not rooted in Him and in a dynamic of going out and announcing His presence.



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Homily Ideas for Closing Mass Continued

13th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1 Kgs 19:16, 19-21; Psalms 15; Gal 5:1,13-18; Lk 9:51-62

Let us not keep the treasure of our love hidden! Let us share it with those who live next door to us and are most in need. Let every Christian family look for a family in difficulty, a lonely elderly person, a child in need of support- among their neighbors, in their neighborhood, among their children's schoolmates, etc. Let us take care of them in a maternal and paternal way, tenderly and concretely: let us make them part of our family. In this way we will open the doors of our hearts and let the love we have received permeate the world around us.

Pope Francis wanted to describe his perspective of a world renewed by the announcement of the Gospel using a familiar image: Fratelli Tutti. Indeed, the world needs to rediscover a new fraternity, and the family is where each person can learn to live this feeling. But we also strongly feel the need for fatherhood and motherhood, that is, the need for Christians to take upon themselves the responsibility for societies that seem increasingly shattered, as do parents with their children.



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Ideas for Mandate

- Consider assigning your parish community a mandate: "a sending out and evangelizing" message.
- For instance, sending out the husbands as disciples of Jesus is an indication of the royal priesthood of families by virtue of Baptism, reinvigorated in marriage.
- Indicate to families the particular tasks that is entrusted to them, within the pastoral journey of their community.
- A mandate should be shared at the conclusion of the days of the WMOF Meeting. It can be printed out and read at mass or printed on the Fr. Rupnik image with the WMOF prayer, and given to families.
- The Holy Father will give the mandate to families in Rome at the Angelus on Sunday, June 27, which can be followed via live streaming.

**"He summoned the twelve and began to send them out two by two."
(MK 6:7)**

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Tips for engaging families

Not everyone will be ready or comfortable to return to parish life after two years of pandemic lockdowns and restrictions. For others, they may have fallen out of the rhythm of parish life and do not know events, ministries and celebrations are beginning again. Some individuals may be attending your parish in-person for the first time after finding your pandemic live-stream mass. Whatever the circumstances, families should be told that they are missed and that the parish community is ready to welcome them when they are ready to return home.

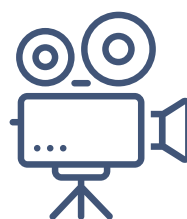
Below are some tips to help get the message out to families that your parish is open, welcoming, and ready to rebuild community. Don't be afraid to get creative!

Social Media



Use our prepared graphics to build awareness about WMOF / event for families and add your parish information on your social media / website / Flocknotes

Videos



Create a welcome video that invites people to your parish

Parish Website



Thoroughly review your website to ensure all content is up to date, important information is easy to find, and content is engaging

Bulletins



Create a special "Welcome Back" edition of the parish print or e-bulletin; highlight parish ministries and WMOF events

Personal Invite



Pastors / volunteers can call parishioners that have been away and active parishioners can invite their families, neighbours and friends to join in events

Advertise



In local paper / radio / community spaces

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Tips for engaging families continued

Schools



Reach out to parish schools to spread the word

Retirement Homes



Reach out to retirement homes activities coordinators to extend an invitation to residents and their families

Honour milestones



Recognize "graduates" or "celebrating the school year's end", "kicking off Summer", "milestone anniversaries" to engage interest and participation

Ministry Networks



Engage parish ministries to spread the word and be involved in events

(Knights of Columbus, Catholic Women's League, Youth Ministry, parish council, etc)

Invitations



Send special e-mail invitations to parishioners (Evite or graphic invitation)

Flyers



Deliver flyers door to door or hang printed posters at your parish

Signage



Post direction and welcome signs at the church so people feel comfortable and know how to follow proper pandemic procedures

Hospitality



Remind staff, ushers, and greeters to be friendly, warm, and prepared to answer questions about the parish - Remember to smile!

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World Meeting of Families 2022 Image by Fr. Mark Rupnik

Fr. Mark Rupnik's explanation of the image can be found at the bottom of the WMOF diocesan resource page:

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Official Prayer for the X World Meeting of Families:

Family Love: a Vocation and a Path to Holiness

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.