



**Guidelines in preparation
for the 2022 World Meeting of Families**

To the diocesan bishops, priests and lay faithful in charge of family ministry
of the dioceses, parishes and ecclesial movements.

The Dicastery for the Laity, Family and Life and the Diocese of Rome are organizing the 10th World Meeting of Families, which will take place June 22-26, 2022.

As the Holy Father underlined in his recent video-message presenting the event, the Meeting will take place following a never-before-seen and multi-centric format. While **Rome** will in fact remain the main designated location, each diocese will be able to be the center of a local meeting for families and communities, thus allowing everyone to feel like protagonists.

The meeting will therefore take place concurrently:

1. **in dioceses and/or parishes** based on the initiative of bishops, priests and families. There may be opportunities for families to reflect, share and celebrate with pastors;
2. **in Rome**, on the other hand, only for a pre-established number of international delegates chosen by the bishops' conferences, movements and family associations. The number of delegates has been communicated to the president of the bishops' conference, as well as to the leaders of the international movements.

Below are some *guidelines and suggestions* that the Dicastery and the Diocese of Rome have developed in the hope of being of assistance to the particular Churches in organizing the Meeting locally. At the following link you can download a video presentation of the guidelines

<https://youtu.be/FBM BX73ALA>

1. How can diocese prepare to celebrate the WMOF together with the Holy Father?

- ✓ In organizing this event, we suggest that each diocese set up a **pastoral team dedicated to this purpose**, sufficiently numerous and not limited to only one couple.
- ✓ This will be an opportunity to *welcome*, where possible, **proposals presented by couples**, who know the local realities of families.
- ✓ Use of the **WMOF theme**: "Family Love: a vocation and a path to Holiness".
- ✓ Use of the **WMOF symbols** that are already available: logo, hymn, image, prayer and all the materials that will be made available by the Dicastery in the coming months. Translate them if necessary.
- ✓ Consider using the seven **WMOF preparatory Catechesis** in groups of couples, in the parish or in families.
- ✓ In addition to this material, it is possible to use all the **tools** produced by the Dicastery during the **Amoris Laetitia Family Year**: 10 videos with the Pope and the families of the world; Rosary for engaged couples, Rosary for families; the "Walking with Families" Cards, the Decalogue of the family, etc.

Useful links:

The WMOF official website

www.romefamily2022.com

Initiatives/resources of the Amoris Laetitia Year:

<http://www.laityfamilylife.va/content/laityfamilylife/it/amoris-laetitia/iniziativa-e-risorse.html>

2. Is it possible to organize the WMOF together with other dioceses or to realize it in connection to a shrine?

- ✓ Certainly. Even in cases in which the bishop considers his diocese to be small or prefers to organize the WMOF together with other dioceses nearby, at the level of the Ecclesiastical Province or even at the national level, the spirit proposed by the Holy Father of the "multi-centric and widespread" WMOF should be preserved.
- ✓ Shrines can also be suitable venues for large events that go beyond the limits of a diocese. It is only necessary to make arrangements with the Ordinary of the diocese where the shrine is located and with the bishops of neighboring dioceses.

3. What could the WMOF program to be celebrated in the dioceses be like?

- ✓ The goal is that, from June 22 to 26, 2022, each diocese places **families at the center 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.
- ✓ The fundamental criteria are **the freedom and creativity of each diocese**. It is not a matter of repeating exactly what is done in Rome, and it is not necessary to follow the entire program that is being offered in Rome.

- ✓ Depending on the time difference with the celebrations in Rome, the diocese can organize live streaming for the Holy Father's speeches, for some conferences of the Pastoral Congress, or even watching the videos on Youtube at a different time than in Rome.
- ✓ Local conferences may be organized, assigned to speakers (preferably couples) designated by the bishop or parish priest, on topics similar to those proposed in Rome.

4. How could the WMOF days be organized in the dioceses and parishes?

Still in a spirit of freedom and creativity of the dioceses:

- ✓ **Wednesday, June 22:** The WMOF could be launched in the parishes, with a **Mass** and, at the end, with the presentation of a sign as well as, for example, a letter to each family on behalf of the bishop.
- ✓ **Thursday, June 23, Friday, June 24:** Evening meetings could be planned in parishes or, in small groups, in homes. Couples could watch a video of one of the day's conferences and then have some time in sharing together.
- ✓ **Saturday, June 25:** Families could be invited to the diocese (or another location, combining several dioceses) or to a place such as a shrine. It would be a day dedicated to the family with conferences, testimonies, group work, sharing and moments of celebration.
- ✓ **Sunday, June 26:** A **Eucharistic celebration** presided over by the diocesan bishop with the families of the diocese could be planned (in the cathedral or another suitable place). **The families could receive the mandate** that originates from the WMOF, as will be done by the Pope during the Angelus of that day. Time difference permitting, the Pope's Angelus could be followed live or rebroadcasted, before or after Holy Mass. Should this not be possible, it would be the bishop who would give the mandate to the families.

5. What means of support will be provided for implementing the WMOF in the dioceses?

- ✓ A **sample program**, as a suggestion that can be adapted differently to each local reality.
- ✓ A **pastoral guide** indicating the themes of the conferences with suggested ways to carry them out.
- ✓ A **liturgical guide** with suggestions for the celebration of the Eucharist of the WMOF in the dioceses.
- ✓ Some **suggestions for the mandate to families** at the end of the WMOF.

6. Where and when will these means of support become available?

Starting at the end of December 2021, they will be available on the WMOF website (<https://www.romefamily2022.com/it/programma/>).

7. What is the possible role of the ecclesial movements and family associations in the realization of the Meeting in the dioceses?

Based on their individual charism, family movements and associations can make themselves available to their bishops for the organization of the diocesan meeting in order to collaborate in getting families involved and making pastoral proposals.

8. What are the topics that will be addressed in Rome on Thursday, Friday and Saturday in the Pastoral Congress?

- **I Conference: *Domestic Church and synodality***

- *I Panel: Spouses and priests together to build up the Church*

- Two complementary and co-responsible vocations
- Families and pastors together in mission
- Creating community among families

- *II Panel: Young people and elderly together for tomorrow's Church*

- The grandparents' role
- Young people and elderly along the synodal path
- The elderly in the pastoral ministry of the Church

- **II Conference: Family love: wonderful and fragile**

- *I Panel: Family love when in trial*

- Betrayal and forgiveness
- Difficulties in the early years of marriage
- Abandonment

- *II Panel: Supporting fatherhood and motherhood*

- We need mothers and fathers
- Adoption and foster care, a Christian choice
- Welcoming new life, always

- **III Conference: Identity and mission of the Christian family**

- *I Panel: Being Christians in the digital age*

- Centering the family in Christ
- Transmitting faith to young people today
- Social media: an "environment" for our children?

- *II Panel: Vocation and mission in existential peripheries*

- Amongst migrants
- In case of addiction
- When there is violence in the family

- **IV Conference: The matrimonial catechumenate**

- *I Panel: The Formation of guides and educators: laity, presbyters and seminarians*

- Educating young people on sexuality and affectivity
- Formation of pastors and seminarians
- Permanent accompaniment of spouses

- *II Panel: Family communion, a style of ecclesial communion*

- Family communion and ecclesial communion
- Reciprocity between man and woman in the Church in the different states of life
- Fatherhood, motherhood and brotherhood in the Church

- **V Conference: The Family, a way of holiness**

- *I Panel: Paths of holiness*

- Discernment in daily family life
- Spiritual accompaniment for new unions
- When a spouse has no faith

- *II Panel: Spouses and families: holiness in daily life*