



ACT Newsletter

May 2019

“Be doers of the word and not hearers only.” James 1:22

Pray for Peace and Safety



CHRISTIAN
FAMILY
MOVEMENTS
OF ASIA

MEMBER: International Confederation of Christian Family Movements



In this Easter season, we are saddened by the loss of so many faithful Christians in Sri Lanka bombings. **One of the victims of the attacks was a CFM leader, Nimal.** Past World Presidents, **Elma and Nop Muangkroot**, told us, "CFM Thailand feels very sad about the Sri Lankan attacks because we got to know Nimal and his wife Chandima very well at the CFM Asia Continental Convention last November. Some of us even went to the hotel where Nimal worked because he and Chandima showed us around. Both of them were the moderators and MC's of the whole Convention, so they were with us all the time, always smiling, always ready to help us." We don't know the names of the CFMers [in these photos from the 50th anniversary](#), but we expect that our brother Nimal is among the young fathers. Holy Martyrs, pray for us.

United in Prayer



[Click to Pray](#). Download the app to pray along with the Universal Church.

SHARE YOUR ACT

Please share your story and a photo with ACT. Your Actions are an essential part of the Movement. Please tell what you do to put your faith in action. Pictures help tell the story, so please send photos.

[Visit "Share Your Act" here & tell your story.](#)

Happy Mothers' Day!

We thank God for all our moms. You were our first teachers of the Joy of Love. Let us work for a world that helps every mother care for her children.



CFM Leaders Testify

From a Pennsylvania CFMer: "After a year-long application process, I've been accepted into the first stage of formation for the Permanent Diaconate with the Diocese. Over the next year, I'll be participating in weekly formation activities to help me further discern whether God is calling me to be a Permanent Deacon. If all goes well, I'll enter full formation for the following 4 years. Our participation in CFM this year has definitely helped us in this discernment process and I'd like to thank everyone for that."

Fr. Ray Zagorski, retired pastor, called CFM. Here's what he says, "Hi, this is Ray Zagorski. 87 years old and I've been a follower of Christian Family Movement ever since I was active in the parish. It's still one of the greatest things I've participated in from the early days of my priesthood and I thank you very much for keeping me up-to-date and letting me know it's still working. It was a great experience for me and gave me hope for the welfare of families. So, thank you. God be with you."

Deacon Tom and Kathy Rothermich

Queen of the Holy Rosary Parish, Bucyrus, Kansas: "Our involvement



with CFM for more than two decades has been a big influence on us and on our children. We have all grown stronger in our faith, and our marriage is happier thanks to CFM. We formed close friends through CFM in two different parishes. We look forward to our meetings every month and always have interesting discussions and go home inspired. We

strongly recommend joining a Christian Family Movement Group."



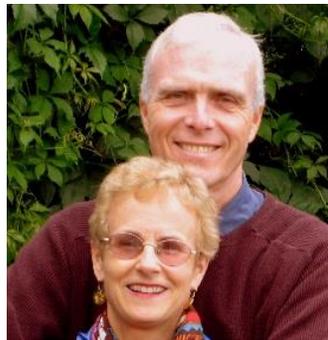
Sean and Dr. Darlene Weaver, St. James Catholic Church, Sewickley, PA:

"CFM has helped us build community within our parish. It

helps us to live out our faith in daily life. One of the things we appreciate most about CFM is that our participation is a concrete way we and the other families witness to our children."

Steve and Nicole VanderVoort, St. Clement, Chicago, IL, January 2018:

"This is our 49th year in CFM. We joined our first group when we'd been married just three months. Whenever we moved and couldn't find a group, we started one. We've found there's no better way to support our marriage, make long-lasting friendships, and develop our spirituality than CFM!"



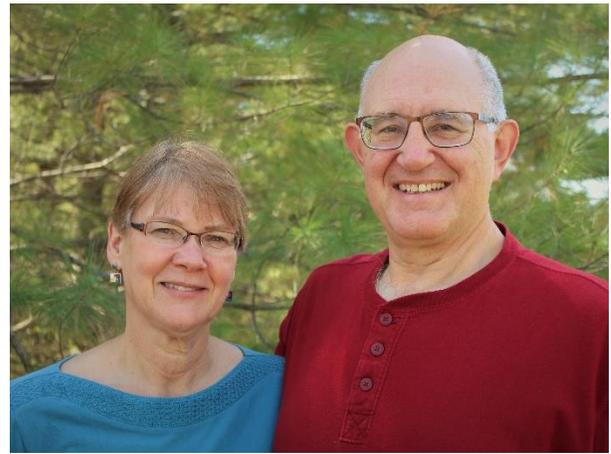
LIKE [CFM's Facebook page](#) to receive weekly Gospel reflections and inspiration for spreading the Good News.

READ [CFM's Blog for Family Spirituality insights](#), and find many more resources for successful groups at <http://www.cfm.org/>

Sponsor Marriage Enrichment

Your CFM group can serve by hosting a **couples' evening**. Make it fun and meaningful.

"Communication" is a great topic that interests everyone. Here's a quick quiz to kick off the event, by author Susan Vogt: [Rules for Complaining](#). This could be the basis for an **intergenerational event**, too. (<http://susanvogt.net/EnrichmentEx.htm#RulesforComplaining>)



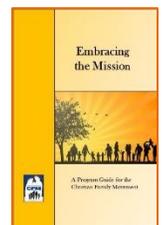
Ruth and Vern Schaefer, Ames, Iowa at St. Cecilia Parish: "We were introduced to CFM by invitation to join a CFM small group at St. Cecilia's church in 2003 or 2004. We have been members of the Ames 8 group since that time." **Ruth and Vern are newly-elected members of the National Board of Directors.**

PLAN END-OF-SEASON

PICNIC: Inside the 2018

Program, *Embracing the Mission*, are complete plans for three fun, prayerful, and educational gatherings that are ideal for inviting more

families to participate in the mission of Jesus through the Christian Family Movement. "Caring for God's Creation" on **page 72** of [Embracing the Mission](#) has all the details for picnic meeting.



Discussing Politics at Meetings

As we strive to put our faith into action in our homes, communities, workplaces, and the world, of course politics may arise in our discussion. CFMers don't shy away from applying our faith to questions in the public square. Listening to the call of the gospel may draw us into the political arena. Ideally your CFM group should provide a place for members to explore how their faith informs their politics. However, sometimes political discussion can derail a meeting, or people who are not used to discussing politics can find it divisive. Visit the [Leader Materials page](#) on the CFM website for practical guidelines about when politics surface at your meeting.