

Celebrating Our Lady in Oshkosh

On Saturday, February 22, CFM groups at St. Jude Parish partnered with the parish religious education program to sponsor a Winter Family Festival. The theme was “Mary Around the World.” CFM families chose a number of Marian apparitions from different nations and worked together to make displays. Each display featured an informational poster of the apparition and homemade treats from the country where Mary appeared. From Our Lady of Knock in Ireland to Our Lady of Velankanni in India to Our Lady of Good Help in Wisconsin and more, the diversity of the Catholic faith was well-represented. Activities and crafts made it a fun event for kids. With a meal, faith, and fellowship, the event was a great evening bringing families together for one more feast before the Lenten fast! Fr. Louis Golamari is the pastor, and Rob Saley is the Adult Faith Formation director and CFM coordinator for the parish. *See more photos on pages 2 and 3.*



New Look! We Are Energized for Sharing CFM

In the Prayer for the Christian Family Movement, we pray “Holy Trinity, you are a family. We believe you wish our families to reflect your heavenly community.” The new CFM logo uses a traditional symbol for the Holy Trinity. 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.

CFM’s Goals for the Future Emphasize Outreach to Young Families:

- Provide a welcoming place for young marrieds to experience community, find support to live and raise their families in faith, and reach out to make a difference. Grow our movement among the younger generation of families in new parishes and dioceses.

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CFM's Goals for the Future, continued from page 1

- Continue to serve our current members and established groups with excellent programming and improved communication.
- Serve parishes by providing a tool for building community and forming disciples through the church of the home.
- Be a more visible presence in our neighborhoods, parishes and society

Next steps: We hope to expand our outreach to more young families with a professional, targeted advertising and promotion campaign. We are also updating our webpage and web presence and are creating materials to make it easy for parishes to start and grow CFM.

All who love CFM are invited to help us make that dream a reality. We need your help! The knowledge and resources necessary to keep up with changing technology and the dissemination of information is a costly part of keeping the movement vibrant. Think about sharing the story of CFM with all you meet. **Consider making [a generous one-time or recurring donation](#).** Please pray for us! Contact office@cfm.org to learn how you can help in other ways.

CFM Groups in Action

OMAHA, NEBRASKA. St. Bernard's CFM wrote and mailed out valentines and also gave 32 to one of their deacons who distributed them to the nursing home where he does communion services. They also just completed their Undie Sunday collection and will be sorting and distributing all the items to three shelters. Deacon Ed and Sheila Osterhaus are leaders of this group.

SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA. The new group at Good Shepherd Parish continues to meet and attract more young families. John Prust is leader.

OSHKOSH, WISCONSIN. St. Raphael's parishioners are sampling CFM's program, *Meeting Jesus Changes Everything*, in preparation for launching groups in Fall 2020.

DAVENPORT, IOWA. Marianne Agnoli, Diocesan Family Life Director, is helping already-established parish small groups at St. Paul's parish find CFM materials for marriage enrichment.

LATROBE, PENNSYLVANIA. St. Cecilia Parish is adding families and using *For Happier Families*.

ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA. Nativity of Our Lord Parish faith formation minister Theresa Lauber reports that two young couples' groups are meeting monthly. One group is using *Meeting Jesus Changes Everything*; the other group uses *Our Marriage: A Work in Progress* and *A Spiritual Journey*.



The Mission of Jesus is Our Mission, too!

REFLECT ON THE WHY, WHAT AND HOW OF CFM

Listen, as National Spiritual Director, Fr. Louis Golamari (below) shares part of his homily on the account of Jesus beginning his public ministry, from the Gospel of Luke. 8 min.

audio link: <https://soundcloud.com/user-948973327/cfm-message-from-national-spiritual-director-fr-louis-golamari>

View a [photo/slide show](#) illustrating this talk. This and many other testimonies of CFM's mission are posted on the [CFMtube channel](#) on YouTube.



CFM Office Moves to Maryland

New Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 1477
Severna Park, MD
21146

1-800-581-9824

When Your Child Is Far Away

Susan Vogt, author of *Marriage Moments* and *Parenting Pointers*, offers ideas for staying connected with your young adult children as they move away from home. "Building family bonds both before and after children leave home is a constant challenge. One of our son's lives in the same city as we do, but the others all live out of town. Our one married son lives in Washington DC, another lives in Singapore, and our daughter currently lives in Kenya. About a year ago we realized that even though we got together for Christmas, would periodically Skype or call, and carried all of our children close to our heart, it was getting a little too hit and miss for us. We wanted more reliable and significant connecting time for the whole family. [Click here](#) to read the strategy our family developed." Click [Read More](#) at the end to see all 65 questions posed over 5 years.



To receive weekly short emails *Marriage Moments* or *Parenting Pointers*, contact the [CFM office](#).

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

READ [CFM's Weekly Gospel Reflections Blog for Spirituality](#) from a family perspective, including discussion questions based on the Observe, Judge, Act method.

Make Kindness Your Lenten Action

"It is not enough to say we are Christians. We must live the faith, not only with our words, but with our actions."

—Pope Francis

Find loads of ideas for putting love into action at the **Random Acts of Kindness** website:

<https://www.randomactsofkindness.org/kindness-ideas>

National Day of Unplugging

We increasingly miss out on the important moments of our lives as we pass the hours with our noses buried in our devices. from our devices (TV, Cell phones, computers...) Challenge yourself and your children to go 24 hours without media. What will you do instead? What will you learn? Take the pledge and get a free activity tool kit here:

<https://www.nationaldayofunplugging.com/>



Share Your Actions. Tell Your Story.

Your family, group, parish and community actions are an essential part of the Christian Family Movement. Share what you do to put your faith in action and make a difference in society. Pictures help tell the story. Please email photos and news to director@cfm.org by the 24th of the month to see your group in ACT.



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