

WHY YOUR MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

We ask each member to join the CFM family by registering annually. Families join CFM on an annual basis to support the mission of the movement. The mission of CFM is:



**Christian Family
Movement**

- To promote Christ-centered marriage and family life.
- To help individuals and their families to live the Christian faith in everyday life.
- To improve society through actions of love, service, education, and example.

1. One way that CFM accomplishes its mission is by providing meeting guides (program books) to its members for use in their small groups. Other benefits include the ACT e-newsletter, weekly Gospel Reflections, and access to e-books versions of CFM program materials. As members meet in their small groups, they Observe, Judge and Act to make a better world.
2. **Your dues (\$40 per family) support our mission.** When you pay your dues, you are saying that the values represented by CFM are important to you. Most of the work of the Movement is done by individual members who absorb their own expenses. Dues and other donations from members cover the administrative costs of a small national office, outreach to new families, and advertising to make our mission and programs known to new members, pastors, and family life ministers. Your donations support new families who try CFM for the first time at a discounted rate.

**On the back of this sheet is information about the importance of CFM annual dues.
Please share it with your members.**

If the annual \$40/family dues present a hardship for anyone, people are still welcome to join CFM without a fee. Please register all families, though.

3. **Memberships should be renewed annually. Please ask your members to renew online or send their renewal form and payment by October 1.** Our preference is that each member family uses our on-line membership and donation forms. <http://www.cfm.org/join-and-renew-form> If your members prefer paper forms, one is included in the annual leader packet. Feel free to make copies for your group.
4. **Group Registration:** If you prefer, you may register the whole group, send a list of names and email addresses, and order books to be shipped to one address for distribution.
5. **Annual membership includes a meeting guide (program book).** Choose your group's program title when registering. We send the requested books after we receive a membership online or by mail. Even if your group has not completed the inquiry book you are currently using, please renew your membership annually. We can send a new book when you are ready.
6. If you wish to have books on hand during your membership drive to give out when members register, we can **bill you for the memberships (\$40/family renewals; \$10/first-year memberships).** We will send one book per membership. Books can be returned for credit.
7. **Send us a group list.** Please collect at least the mailing and email addresses of each member and share them with us. Please send this list to CFM, even when members are registering online individually. We will compare the two lists and let you know who still needs to register for the year. If you have your own database, you may send us a printout or an electronic file.
8. **Please allow 10 working days for your order to reach you.** Regular shipping for group orders is \$5. Expedited shipping can be arranged at your expense.

What Your Dues Do

Thanks to the generosity of our members, CFM continues to grow! This year we are reaching out to more young families and improving our website and updating the look and design of all our materials. We continue to collaborate with the marriage-supporting efforts of the worldwide Church. CFM participated in the 2019 Conference of the National Association of Catholic Family Life Ministers in Denver and the World Assembly of the International Confederation of Christian Family Movements in Mexico.

To support the work of the movement now and in the future, we rely on the annual dues and other donations of our members and supporters.

1. Member Benefits:

All members receive a meeting guide/program book; they also receive ACT, our e-newsletter, with features on married spirituality and ideas for family faith-building activities from family life ministers and experienced parents throughout the country (CFM members throughout the country submit articles for ACT). CFM members may also receive resources for parenting and faith formation by e-mail from CFM and can access bonus meeting ideas and family faith activities on our website www.cfm.org and our Facebook page www.facebook.com/ChristianFamilyMovement.

2. Outreach:

Your membership dues make it possible for CFM to offer **new** members a reduced introductory rate of \$10 per family for the first year. The National Office also spends time responding to inquiries from people new to CFM. To support CFM around the world, CFM-USA families contribute \$2/family to the International Confederation of CFM and CFM North America. CFM is active in 43 countries on 5 continents, with 120,000 nuclear families, and 5,000 single-parent families worldwide!

3. National Office:

CFM maintains a small, efficient, and virtual national office which employs a part-time Executive Director to fulfill member requests, respond to inquiries, send out information to new parishes, communicate with parish leaders and members, and promote the movement. Office expenses include the costs of shipping, computer/email/website costs, and general office expenses.

4. Advertising:

We want more families to experience the blessings of participation in CFM. To this end, CFM is a member of the National Association of Catholic Family Life Ministers (NACFLM). We also sponsor an advertisement in the NACFLM Parish Resource Guide and frequently submit articles to the NACFLM newsletter. Through our association with NACFLM, we have received many inquiries from people who are interested in learning more about CFM. New groups continue to be formed due to promotion of CFM through NACFLM.

5. Board of Directors:

CFM's national board of directors meets monthly via video call to facilitate the development of program materials, manage the ongoing operation of CFM, and decide on ways to reach more families. Bi-annual meetings are face-to-face. For these meetings, most of these volunteer board members, from all over the country, cover the cost of travel, lodging and meals on their own. CFM provides for the travel expenses of our National Chaplain and also provides help with travel expenses for those who otherwise would not be able to participate on the national level. We do not want service on the National Board to be a financial hardship for anyone.