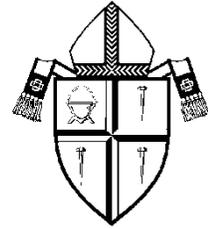


CWG V: The Challenge to Bring Spiritual Depth to Family Life



Summary of Proposals

September 10, 2016

This CWG had three questions to focus on and the 30 in attendance were divided into 5 tables, each table being assigned one question.

The questions addressed are:

1. How can parishes bring prayer more into the center of family life, with specific attention to the multi-cultural dimensions of this challenge?
2. What steps can our local church take to increase the participation of families at Mass, particularly in their identities as families?
3. What specific steps can the diocese take to build a spirituality of care, consolation, love and realism in our families?
4. How can we promote a substantial spiritual life shared between husbands and wives?
5. What can lead to a spirituality of evangelization and solidarity in family life rather than a spirituality of insularity?

There were three discussion periods, each followed by general feedback from all delegates on the work of each of the five table's presentations. Feedback explored affirmation for what was presented, comments for fine-tuning and recommendations. In some cases other proposals were suggested to be explored by the table. During the last session delegates had time to reflect on the proposals and to prioritize them based on where their passion was and given there were five questions, delegates had five preferences, 1-5 with one being the greatest. The below proposals are listed by priority of the working group. All proposals received priority and will remain for consideration by the Synod General Assembly. Actually, the top five priorities each were related to one of the five questions.

Fourteen Proposals for Consideration

V-1: (25) Create an Office for Family Spirituality (Q,3)

V-2: (16) Create a more welcoming Catholic worship to foster family participation. (Q,2)

V-3: (16) Create a variety of prayer experiences for parents to lead their children in prayer. (Q,1)

**V-4: (15) Support single parent family life experiences. (Q, 5)
(Death, Deployment, Divorce, Deported, Single)**

V-5: (13) Sponsor married couple retreats that focus on strengthening and growing relationships.

(Q,4)

V-6: (11) Sponsor mini retreats/days of recollection for parents in parishes or deanery clusters (Q,1)

V-7: (10) Promote sustained relationship growth in SCC, mentorship, faith formation programs. (Q,4)

V-8: (9) Provide childcare for parish activities so that husbands/wives can participate together. (Q,4)

V-9: (9) Create an Office of Communications. (Q,3)

V-10: (3) Give space to cultural expressions of prayer grounding families in solid catechesis and making them pathways to Christ for their children. (Q,1)

V-11: (3) Connect multigenerational pieties, liturgy and religious traditions. (Q,5)

V-12: (2) Expand counseling services for Catholic families. (Q,3)

V-13: (2) Recognize life experiences among parishioners. (Q,5)

V-14: (1) Connect religious education programs to family mass schedule. (Q,2)