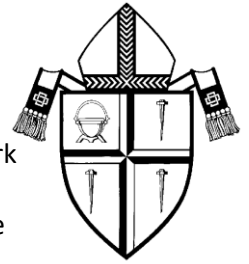


DIOCESE OF SAN DIEGO



Office for Family Life
and Spirituality

Dear Father,

An ongoing objective of the 2016 Diocesan Family Life Synod has been for parish leaders to work collaboratively with the Office for Family Life & Spirituality to implement the proposals of the Synod. For that reason, many parishes have developed and successfully maintained “Family Life & Spirituality Committees.” We have seen some wonderful fruit from these efforts.

In order to facilitate the ongoing collaboration between OFLS and parish leaders, especially in communities without FL&S Committees, we would like to request that each pastor nominate two “Family Life Liaisons” from their parish. The role of the Family Life Liaisons would be:

- To communicate regularly with the Office for Family Life & Spirituality, attending at least two yearly Family Life Deanery Meetings and one yearly formation opportunity.
- To communicate back to their own parishes the resources and formation opportunities being provided by the Office for Family Life & Spirituality.
- To develop a sense of ownership of all families of the parish and be able to articulate common challenges they are facing.
- To become familiar with the existing family ministries in the parish.

We invite you to nominate your two Family Life Liaisons and return this form to John Prust, Director of the Office for Family Life and Spirituality by November 25 (before Thanksgiving):

Family Life Liaison #1 _____

Contact Info (Phone & Email): _____

Family Life Liaison #2 _____

Contact Info (Phone & Email): _____

Please scan and return to Nora at nmendez@sd catholic.org or send by mail to the Diocese of San Diego c/o Office for Family Life & Spirituality.

Please see the addendum on the next page for additional details about our request.

We are so grateful for your support and for all you do to witness to the beauty and realism of the Catholic vision of marriage and family life!

Gratefully Yours in Christ,

John Prust
Director, Office for Family Life & Spirituality

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John Prust".

Addendum:

One of Fr. John Hurley's hopes after the 2016 Family Life Synod was for parishes to develop and maintain Family Life & Spirituality Committees that would work collaboratively with our office to implement the Synod's proposals. Over the last three years, we have witnessed some incredible fruits from the efforts of parishes that have been able to establish Committees. Nevertheless, not every parish has done so, and it is with these parishes especially that we have found it more difficult to sustain fruitful collaborative relationships, especially since we are the only diocesan pastoral office without a clear constituency among parish staffs (for example, OECM works with DRE's, OYM works with youth ministers, etc.).



Office for Family Life
and Spirituality

This is where the idea of parish Family Life Liaisons came from. Our dream is that, through our collaboration with Family Life Liaisons, we can work more closely with parishes and perhaps even begin to develop parish "Family Life Teams" from the bottom-up (rather than top-down), focusing on the formation of the Liaisons and working alongside them and their pastors to discern areas of growth in family life ministry. Family Life Liaisons, we believe, will be able to facilitate more sustainable collaborative relationships between parishes and our office.

Ideally, the Family Life Liaisons will already be active in one or more ministries to couples and families at the parish. In parishes with multiple English and Spanish Masses, we suggest nominating Family Life Liaisons who are familiar with each respective language constituency. Family Life Liaisons may be paid staff members or volunteers.

We see our role as ultimately serving you in your ministries to families and couples, and believe this will assist in that. We are ever grateful for our ongoing collaboration with you and we thank you for your time!