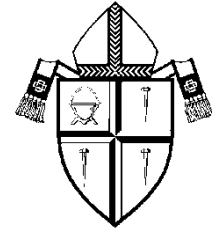


**CWG III: The Challenge to Welcome,  
Nurture, and Form Children**



**Summary of Proposals**  
September 17, 2016

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

**The questions addressed are:**

1. How can the Church in the Diocese of San Diego more effectively communicate to our people the balanced sense of parenting expressed in *The Joy of Love*, while also helping parents to turn that balance into reality?
2. What are the principal cultural distortions which limit healthy parenting in Imperial and San Diego Counties?
3. Specifically, how can we as a Church more effectively empower our parents as first teachers in the ways of faith, hope and love?
4. How can the Church better support families in the absence of extended family?

There were three discussion periods, each followed by general feedback from all delegates on the work of each of the four 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 delegates had three preferences, 1-3 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 four priorities each were related to one of the four questions.

Part of question two was addressing principal **cultural distortions/societal challenges** affecting family life today. Below are some of the challenges which were addressed:

- Contemporary realities of family life today
  - ✓ New norm of both parents working
  - ✓ Mixed marriages
  - ✓ Different value systems
  - ✓ Single parent homes
- Family life distractions
  - ✓ Overuse of social media as new norm
  - ✓ Role of parents
  - ✓ “Do” vs “Say”
- New Addictions
  - ✓ Chemical dependencies
  - ✓ Social media
  - ✓ Internet

**Seven *Proposals* for Consideration:**

III-A: (15) Strategize on incentive parental involvement in parishes (Q.2)

III-B: (14) Provide tools, resources, and experiences supporting parents to evangelize and educate their children in faith, hope, and love. (Q.3)

III-C: (13) Create small groups (approximately four families) at the parish level in order to cultivate relationships of faith and balance among Catholic families. (Q.1)

III-D: (13) Embrace those who are alone, isolated, and on the margins. (Q.4)

III-E: (9) Direct more funding to CYO in order to create social programming for Catholic youth at the deanery level. (Q.1)

III-F: (5) Develop a social media presence with and for youth in order to promote parish and diocesan youth ministries. (Q.1)

III-G: (2) Reach out by informing, introducing, inviting, identifying, connecting, creating communities, gathering small groups, and experiential faith formation. (Q.4)