



DIocese of CLOYNE

WMOF18 NEWSLETTER

December 2017

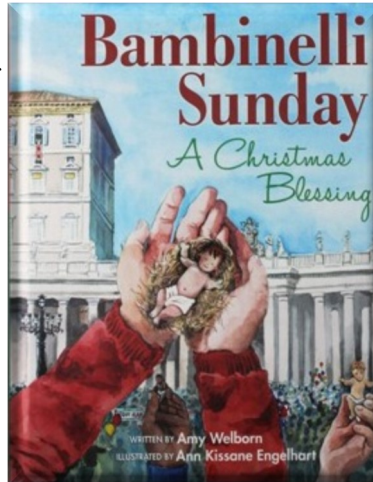


Bambinelli Sunday

Over the past number of decades, on the Third Sunday of Advent, children and adults bring their Baby Jesus figurines from their homes to St Peters Square where they are blessed by the Pope.

This year, as we prepare for the World Meeting of Families, we are asking parishes to invite all children and families to bring the Baby Jesus figurines from their homes to be blessed. This is also an opportunity for the family to receive a blessing.

We suggest that following the blessing, take your 'bambinelli' home, wrap it and open it first as a family on Christmas morning, then the youngest member of the family might place it in the crib. A gift of the presence of Christ in your home this Christmas.



The World Meeting of Families comes to Ireland!

Dublin, Ireland, has been chosen by Pope Francis to host the next World Meeting of Families in August 2018. Started by Saint John Paul II, and held every three years, this major world event celebrates family as the cornerstone of our lives, and the fundamental building block of society and the Church. Families and others from all over the world will gather in Dublin from 21-26 August 2018 to celebrate their lives together, to share their experiences from different parts of the world, to reflect on the different challenges they face and to grow together in faith.

The theme chosen by Pope Francis for WMOF2018 is The Gospel of the Family: Joy for the World. The WMOF2018 Logo, launched in December 2016, reflects on this theme and our journey towards August 2018.

Programme for WMOF18

Tuesday 21st August 2018

Opening Ceremonies

Wed 22nd to Fri 24th August

Three day congress

Saturday 25th August

Festival of Families

Sunday 26th August

Eucharistic Celebration

DECEMBER EVENTS

Bambinelli Sunday

Third Sunday of Advent - 17th Dec.

Parish Carol Service

An opportunity for parishes to invite families to join us as we prepare for Christmas.

Where in the World

Parishes might display a map of the world where parishioners can place a sticker or map pin on the location of their loved one who is abroad for this Christmas.

Christmas Day

Parishes will receive WMOF18 Holy Family Icon cards to distribute to those attending Christmas Masses.

Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Feast Day - 31st December

An opportunity for parishes to gather families and to propose the Holy Family as an example and inspiration for all families.



Parish Conversations

The World Meeting of Families 2018 'Parish Conversations' programme is a resource available to parishes for that purpose.

It provides a simple, concrete opportunity for people to explore a vision for love, marriage and family in light of their own experience and what Pope Francis says in *Amoris Laetitia*.

Using engaging short videos, animations and activities to encourage discussion, it will offer parishioners an opportunity to think about our vision and hopes for family and marriage, and a chance to rediscover the gift that family is to the world.

We held a well attended briefing session in the Mercy Centre in Mallow on Saturday 11th November, where potential facilitators from parishes heard about hosting these Parish Conversations and we will contact all parishes early in the new year to advise them on the availability of resources and to offer any further assistance that parishes need.

We are suggesting that parishes host these sessions around the time of Lent 2018. In the meantime if you need assistance please contact us at - wmof18cloyne@gmail.com

Contact Us -

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How can I get involved?

Volunteer - If you would like to volunteer to assist in the running of the WMOF18 events in August 2018 you can register on www.worldmeeting2018.ie/volunteer

Pray for the success of the World Meeting of Families 2018.

Prepare spiritually with the pastoral programme available to parishes in Spring 2018.

Register now to attend the World Meeting events in 2018,

see worldmeeting2018.ie for details of registration and accommodation.

World Meeting of Families website

www.worldmeeting2018.ie



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