



Sharing Your Elevator Statement about CFM

It is our hope that all CFM leaders would be able to articulate the vision and mission of the Christian Family Movement and be prepared enough to effectively share that in a brief and compelling manner when the opportunity arises. These preplanned sharings are sometimes referred to as “elevator statements” because they take about the time you'd spend riding an elevator with someone. Elevator statements should be informative, but they also need to come from the heart of the person giving it, and so below we offer some resources to help you do that. To start, you might find it helpful to watch this Ted Talk to help you develop your “why”, or your heart of the elevator statement. The first 4 ½ - 5 ½ minutes are most valuable.

<https://bit.ly/3NbRTgA>

Beginning this month, we will provide potential elevator statements for you to read and build from.

For church people: “We believe that families are agents of evangelization, like mustard seeds that can grow into Christian community by God’s grace and with the encouragement of other families to be partners in ministry. That is why we help start networks of small groups in our parishes to observe what families need, judge how to help them thrive, and take action to serve as Jesus calls us in our baptism.”

For general public: “CFM believes that people need to help each other in our families, at church, and in society. Because we are following Jesus, we know we need to do more than talk about problems; we need to do some positive action to make a difference. That is why we help people start small groups with other couples and parents, to put our faith into practice.”



US Bishops to Focus on Eucharistic Revival - CFM Participates in National Virtual Gathering to Support This Effort

The Bishops of the United States are calling for a three-year grassroots revival of devotion and belief in the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. These three years will culminate in the first National Eucharistic Congress in the United States in almost fifty years. In response to this initiative, CFM board members Linda Nuccio, Steve and Donna McCullough, and Miriam Nebrey joined representatives of other Catholic Ecclesial Movements and New Communities in the U.S. for the 5th National virtual gathering of MovCom US on February 26, 2022. The goal of the meeting was to discuss and exchange experiences and ideas for Eucharistic Revival and to help people understand the gift of the Eucharist.

Highlights:

- The CFM Year of Marriage Booklet based around the family table & the Sacrifice of the Mass has 6 acts referencing the Eucharist. This will be presented to the membership via CFM.org & social media.
- Members are invited to prepare for Sunday Mass with weekly gospel reflections by Dr. David Thomas.
- In the upcoming program book about family armor, one chapter will discuss strengthening ourselves by receiving the Eucharist.
- The Eucharist may be brought close to the people through acts of charity; enforcing & promoting catechism through Religious Education; holding of & attending spiritual retreats; praying harder; spending time in Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament; and reaching out to millennials through personal testimonies using social media.
- Members of Couples for Christ talked about a series called Real Presence which is offered by Accension Press. They said it speaks to the domestic church and intentional disciples. It is a program free to all parishes.
- Others talked about doing bible studies.

How can you, as CFM members, help in this encounter with the Eucharist to become intentional disciples? For more information, please visit [Home - National Eucharistic Revival](#)



**Welcome New Board Members,
Albert and Susie Zimmerman !**

Albert and Susie Zimmerman, long time CFM leaders and active members at St. Lawrence Martyr Parish in Redondo Beach, CA, will start their roles as members of the National Board of Directors in June 2022.

Albert is an engineer and Susie is a stay-at-home mom and together they raised 5 children and are now enjoying their visits with their grandchildren. They joined CFM in 1980, shortly after experiencing the loss of twin baby girls and receiving so much love and support from the CFM community. Through the years, they have participated in and have led various activities and fundraisers, including sending care packages to US military abroad.

Their vision for CFM: "We want CFM to continue, to grow, and to thrive. We think it offers families a wonderful resource to help grow a Christian family that can be God's hands in this world. We feel that this helps the parents by providing a loving and nurturing community for sharing, growing, and acting. We also feel that our children learn from the examples they see, and that the CFM experience provides them a model that can help carry them through their entire lives. Any opportunity for us to help share this vision is welcome."

CFM in the World Wide Web

Have you ever googled Christian Family Movement (CFM) to check what information is on the World Wide Web about us outside of CFM.org? Check these links out and feel proud to be part of such an international organization with a long history of evangelization and participation in the mission of Jesus.

- [Strengthening one of Christian families' greatest resources: each other | ROME REPORTS](#)
- [In Christian Family Movement, Brian and Mary Ann learned to 'step out in faith and trust God' | Faith Magazine](#)
- [Christian Family Movement - Wikipedia](#)
- [Christian Family Movement | Encyclopedia.com](#)

**Marriage Moments and Parenting Pointers
by Susan Vogt**



As you crack open an Easter Egg, remember that with its hard shell but soft inside, it is a reminder that in marriage you must crack open your defenses to uncover each other's vulnerability.

How do couples comfort each other and rejoice together?

Learn how to make a palm cross with your child: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kmtg7m7lon8>

Celebrate Earth Day (4/22) by committing to an act of resuscitation.

Bonus: [Guess the Homily](#) is an enticing way to get children engaged at Mass - even if the homily isn't stellar.

For more ideas and tools for becoming better marriage partners and parents, please visit www.SusanVogt.net or subscribe to her email list.



**Beatitudes
for our Modern Day
from Pope Francis**

Blessed are those who remain faithful while enduring evils inflicted on them by others and forgive them from their heart.

Blessed are those who look into the eyes of the abandoned and marginalized and show them their closeness.

Blessed are those who see God in every person and strive to make others also discover him.

Blessed are those who protect and care for our common home.

Blessed are those who renounce their own comfort in order to help others.

Blessed are those who pray and work for full communion between Christians.

For your CFM group meeting in April, please consider using any of the articles in this month's newsletter as part of your discussion. Please share how this ACT Newsletter was used at your home, at your meeting, or in your life. We'd love to hear from you.