



# DIocese OF CLOYNE

## WMOF18 NEWSLETTER

October 2017



### Icon of the Holy Family

A specially commissioned WMOF2018 icon of the Holy Family was unveiled and anointed on the 21st August 2017, during the launch of the one-year programme of preparation at the National Novena in Knock, Ireland.

The icon was written by the Redemptoristine Contemplative Community in Drumcondra as part of their ongoing prayer for families. The icon is meant to encourage both reflection and prayer as part of the journey of preparations to World Meeting of Families 2018.

Following the official unveiling at the National Novena in Knock, the icon will be available to travel to each Diocese in Ireland. The Icon will be in the Diocese of Cloyne at the end of October, see **October events**.



### 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

### October Events

The WMOF18 Icon of the Holy Family will visit -

**St Colman's Cathedral, Cobh**  
from 27th to 30th October 2017

**Church of the Resurrection, Mallow**  
from 31st October to 1st November

### Petition Box

At the national launch of the preparations for the World meeting of families, each diocese was presented with a Petition Box which will initially accompany the Icon of the Holy Family and will remain in the Diocese for the coming year to gather family petitions. All of the contemplative communities around the country have agreed to take a share of these petitions throughout the year and to pray for each petition received. In June of next year we will gather up all of the petitions and bring them to the Final Mass for WMOF 2018.

### Ambassador Families

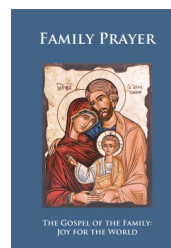
Parishes in the Diocese of Cloyne have nominated an Ambassador family who will help to promote WMOF18 events in their parishes and will also liaise with the diocesan coordinators.



Bishop William Crean with Ciaran, Eadaoin, Pauline and Michael Farrell from Cobh, at the national launch of the preparations for the World Meeting of Families in Knock, Co Mayo, on the 21st August 2017

### Family Prayer Book

In our last newsletter we requested that parishioners might submit personal prayers which are precious and unique to them, for inclusion in a Family Prayer Book, along with some other well known prayers, to accompany people in preparation for WMOF18. We were delighted with the response and our thanks to all who submitted their favourite prayers. We apologise that we were unable to include all the prayers received. Please contact your parish to get copies of this prayer book which is unique to the Diocese of Cloyne.



### 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](http://www.worldmeeting2018.ie/volunteer)

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

**Prepare** spiritually with the pastoral programme available from this Autumn.

**Register now to Attend** the World Meeting events in 2018, see [worldmeeting2018.ie](http://worldmeeting2018.ie) for details of registration and accommodation.

**World Meeting of Families website**  
[www.worldmeeting2018.ie](http://www.worldmeeting2018.ie)

 [www.facebook.com/wmof2018](https://www.facebook.com/wmof2018)  
 [www.twitter.com/wmof2018](https://www.twitter.com/wmof2018)