

May 30, 2014

To all committed to the Renewal of the Catholic Church

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*Um diesen Newsletter in andere Sprachen zu übersetzen, klicken Sie hier.*

## Only 125 days left until our Forum on the Family in Rome



Are you considering joining us to gather together to offer our support for the Synod? Be watching for an NCR article next month by Sr. Joan Chittister about our Forum on the Family in Rome and our worldwide Regional Gatherings to prepare for it.

## Organize a Regional Gathering

The Position Papers are one source of information for the bishops, but we want to be sure to reach the heart of the grassroots. Do you belong to a book club, prayer group or bible study? Perhaps you could invite some friends to a potluck or maybe even gather a larger group in a church hall. We need you to take our simple "recipe" for holding a Regional Gathering and get people talking, thinking and giving us feedback.

Check out these templates and instructions for the facilitator. You'll see there is a format for holding a small living room gathering (or a series of four) and another for conducting an all-day event in a parish hall. The format of each meeting is laid out for you. All you need to do is invite friends or members of your organization to join with you. Be sure to let people know that this is not just parking-lot venting - this is a method to bring your ideas and concerns directly to Rome and to the bishops!

If you are not sure how to get started in setting up a Gathering, click here now.

## Take the Survey and let your voice be heard

Another way to make your voice heard is to take our surveys. Each one will take only a few minutes of your time. But be assured that a summary report will be prepared and delivered to the Synod caring your views directly to the bishops in attendance. Click on the links below:

Fulfilling Relationships survey:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/CCRRelationshipsIndividual>

Openness to Life survey:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/CCROpennesstoLifeIndividual>

Gender and Sexuality survey:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/CCRGenderandSexualityIndividual>

How the Church Learns and Teaches survey:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/ChurchLearnsandTeachesIndividual>

## Let's proclaim the Position Papers!

All 114 Presidents of Bishops' Conferences have the CCR Int'l recommendations regarding the dissonance between lived experience of family life and Church teaching. Now it's time for YOU to read them, discuss them and distribute them to your pastor, bishop, prayer group, friends, neighbors, etc. Be generous with this thought-provoking beacon of hope for all who want the Church to be relevant to our lives!

We want to get these papers out to every corner of the world. Feel free to email and or print and mail this document to your pastors and bishops, and invite them to send them into the Synod and/or anyone they know who might be a center of influence.

Our Position Paper committee has simplified the Family Synod issues into four general topics: Fulfilling Relationships, Openness to Life, Gender and Sexuality, and How the Church Learns and Teaches. For details, click here.

This document is also available in Spanish, Latin, and German.

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## Reminder to book your reservations for Rome now

Consider joining us in Rome! The first step in getting ready for Rome is to make your hotel reservations. You will want to do this now before rooms are taken. We have discovered that accommodations in Rome for this October are filling up fast! Even if you are only thinking about joining us for our Forum on the Family in Rome this October 2 and 3, we strongly encourage you to make your hotel reservations now. Most hotels allow a cancellation up to 48 hours before check in.

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## Around the World

Visit our Around the World page where you will read what is happening with our supporters from all parts of the globe. Share your stories with us that you may feel the support of our worldwide network of kindred spirits.