



To all committed to the Renewal of the Catholic Church
July 9, 2014

Would you like to see the Synod publicly broadcast?

In our recommendations to the Synod, we have stressed the importance of having families of all forms - divorced and remarried families, families including children of different parents, single people with extended families, religious congregations, same sex families - all participating in the Synod. However, having now seen the [Instrumentum Laboris](#) - the agenda for the Synod recently released - we fully anticipate experiencing some disappointments along these lines. We've asked ourselves what else can be done to reinforce Pope Francis's desire to "involve all the People of God" in the Synod. The answer: -publicly broadcast the Synod for the entire world to watch.

If you agree with this suggestion, let's join together. The greater our numbers, the better our chance of being heard. [Click here](#) to read our proposed open letter to Pope Francis. If you agree, we invite all other groups to post [this link](#) on your website inviting your members to sign the petition. We can continue signing from now until the start of the Synod this October - stressing the importance of (1) having people with lived experience of family life participating in the Synod, and (2) using the Vatican Television Center to publicly broadcast the entire Synod proceedings.

Join in a Regional Gathering

Share your views and life experiences regarding the challenges of living the various aspects of family life in the context of church teachings. Whether you choose to participate in a gathering being held via teleconference call or locally in your region of the world, know that your input will be summarized and carried to Rome to be given to the Synod of Bishops for discussion at their Extraordinary Synod. Pope Francis has asked for this and it is not only our right but our duty to speak up.

To check out local Gatherings, [click here](#). To check out the dates for joining teleconference Gatherings, [click here](#). There are [ten reasons why](#) you will want to attend or organize a Gathering. [Click here](#) if you would like to see how simple it is to organize a Gathering with your group. If you would like to organize a Gathering, click here now.

Take the Surveys: let your voice be heard

Whether or not you join in a Regional Gathering, we invite you to [complete the surveys](#) touching on the topics that will be discussed in the Synod. This is your opportunity to have your voices carried directly to the Synod about issues you believe are in conflict with the Church's teaching on family life. The tally of all the surveys from around the world will be gathered in the form of a summary report and hand-delivered to the Synod.

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:

[Openness to Life Individual](#)

[Gender and Sexuality Individual](#)

[Fulfilling Relationships Individual](#)

[How the Church Learns and Teaches](#)

Only 84 days left until our Forum on the Family in Rome

Forum in Rome - Join us and Book your Reservation Now

If you would like to join us for our Forum on the Family in Rome this October 2 and 3, [Go here to register now](#). If you are even thinking of possibly joining us for our Forum, we strongly encourage you to [make your hotel reservations now](#). You will want to do this before rooms are taken. We have discovered that accommodations in Rome for this October are filling up fast! Most hotels allow a cancellation up to 48 hours before check in.

See the [NCR article](#) by Joan Chittister promoting our Forum in Rome.

What makes the Pope Tick?

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by Robert Blair Kaiser

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OMG! previews Benedict, Me and the Cardinals Three. It's Australian Bishop Willie Morris's personal account of his mugging at the hands of Pope Benedict. It's a case study on why the Church so needs to turn the hierarchical pyramid on its pointy little head.

Help disseminate our recommendations to Synod

[Check out our Position Papers](#) which will also serve as the topics for the Regional Gatherings. 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 clergy inviting them to send them into the Synod and/or anyone they know who might be a center of influence. Our recommendations are also available in [Spanish](#), [Italian](#), and [German](#).

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.