Justice Peace and Development Commission

As you may have heard an important event is taking place from 21-26 August 2018 in Dublin:

The World Meeting of Families

in the Catholic Church. Pope Francis hopes to come and we also hope that he will visit Northern Ireland.

The Pope wants to hear the views of everyone in the Catholic Church - the Church is not the clergy. Rather, it is all the baptised members, although it does not always feel like that. Many lay people feel excluded.

That is why the Armagh Diocesan Justice and Peace Commission has asked us to listen to your views about the Church and Family.

We hope that doing this will give us a better picture of how people see the Church, and also show you that the Church wants to care for and support people.

Below we list a few questions. Would you be willing to discuss them with us either in writing or by chatting to us? Anything you say will be completely confidential. There is no need to sign the form.

We will call back to you and we hope that you will be able to talk to us for a few minutes.

Thank you for taking the time to read this leaflet.

After our survey we will let you know the results.

Names of volunteers

QUESTIONS

1. As a family, do you feel included by the Church?

2. What would you like to see discussed at the World Family Meeting?

3. Are there ways you would like to see the Church change in relation to family issues?

If so, can you name some of them?

4. Can you suggest any ways in which the Church could help you support your family better?

5. Would you be prepared to come to an informal, friendly meeting, bringing a few friends with you, if possible, to discuss these issues? We would love to see you. The meeting will be held on a date and in a venue to be decided.

A few anonymous questions about yourself:

- What age bracket are you in?
  18-35 [ ] 35-65 [ ] Over 65 [ ]

- I am a man [ ] I am a woman [ ]

- Normally I go to Mass
  Daily [ ] Weekly [ ] about once a month [ ]
  Rarely [ ] Never [ ]
What do you feel about your Church?

Your opinion counts!

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OFFICIAL FAMILY PRAYER FOR WORLD MEETING OF FAMILIES 2018

God, our Father,
We are brothers and sisters in Jesus, your Son, One family, in the Spirit of your Son.
Bless us with the joy of love.
Make us patient and kind, gentle and generous,
Welcoming to those in need.
Help us to live your forgiveness and peace.
Protect all families with your loving care,
Especially those for whom we now pray:
[We pause and remember family members and others by name].
Increase our faith,
Strengthen our hope,
Keep us safe in your love,
Make us always grateful for the gift of life that we share.
This we ask, through Christ our Lord. Amen

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What do you feel about your Church?
Help us make your Church more relevant to you

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