

Join CFMers in praying the Our Father at 8:30 p.m. each night, for all those affected by the pandemic.

Staying Connected during “Covidtime”

How are you reaching out and staying connected with your group during this time of social distancing?

- Continue your CFM meetings via video conferencing using our [special Covid meeting](#).
- Use emails/texts/phone calls and make sure your members are doing well.
- Talk about how your group can reach out.
- Make use of CFM [leader resources](#), [handouts](#) and the [national office](#) to do the above things.

California CFMers Gain Strength from Meeting Virtually

Miriam and Joe Nebres, St. Lawrence Martyr, Redondo Beach, write, “Thank you for providing continuity in our CFM community, and more importantly, for your prayers and leadership as we navigate through these unprecedented and uncertain times. You are one of our immunity boosters!

“Our CFM group had a Zoom meeting last March 29th using the [CFM Covid19 plan](#). It was attended by 17 members (10 screens, like the Brady Bunch grid) and we conducted the meeting the same way we would do in person (sans the collective and delicious refectation) - we followed the sequence in the plan (but prioritized spontaneity of responses), took turns reading out loud, shared our thoughts (and ramblings) on the questions, did petitions and special intentions (so important!), and ended with the prayer (the American Magazine [prayer link](#) was spot on!). We have several members who have front-liners in their respective families, plus one who is part of the CA governor's Covid19 Task Force in Northern California. Many tips (and anecdotes) were shared **Continued on page 2**

Tell Your Story of Responding to Covid-19

Your family, group, parish and community actions are an essential part of the Christian Family Movement. Share what you are doing to put your faith into action and make a difference in society, especially at this challenging moment. Pictures help tell the story. Please email photos and news to director@cfm.org by the 24th of the month for ACT.



Virtual Meeting Sustains CFM Members in Prayer and Friendship

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on how to deal with quarantine and how to stay safe and healthy. Prior to the actual meeting, we did a practice session for those who have never done a Zoom meeting before and got some kinks ironed out. It was so comforting, inspiring, informational, and definitely worth repeating so, we will be doing another Zoom meeting this Friday, still using the CFM plan. This time, the hosts will pick a chapter from the current program book, *Together for Good*. May God continue to bless us all.”

Training Held for Meeting Online

In April, CFM leaders from Colorado, California, Wisconsin, Texas, Minnesota, Nebraska, and Maryland met with National Presidents Brian and Mary Ann Thelen, hosting from Michigan, to practice using the Zoom video platform to have a virtual CFM meeting. Participants were able to ask and answer questions about using the technology, as well as share their experiences meeting virtually during the Covid Pandemic.

For assistance using computer technology for CFM meeting, please [contact the National Office](#) for help and to practice using the Zoom platform.

Sampling of Platforms for Virtual Gatherings:
[click here.](#)



Ideas for Virtual and Family-at-Home Meetings during Lockdown

Need an extra meeting or two to round out the CFM year while you are meeting virtually? You will find these meetings available for free access [on our webpage](#).

- “Every Life is Precious”
- “Gifts of the Holy Spirit”
- 8 Short Activities for Family Time
- “Thanks and Giving”
- “Seeing God's Action Everywhere”

Take Action Now to Help Locally

Look up groups in your town that help health workers, seniors, domestic violence shelters, homeless, farm workers, Here are just a few ideas for action:

American Red Cross: Donate blood. Call 1-800-RED-CROSS to find a local donation site.

Feeding America: [find your local food bank here.](#)

Do You Shop on Amazon? Please take a moment to select "Coordinating Committee of the Christian Family Movement" as your charity of choice.
<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/36-6217705>

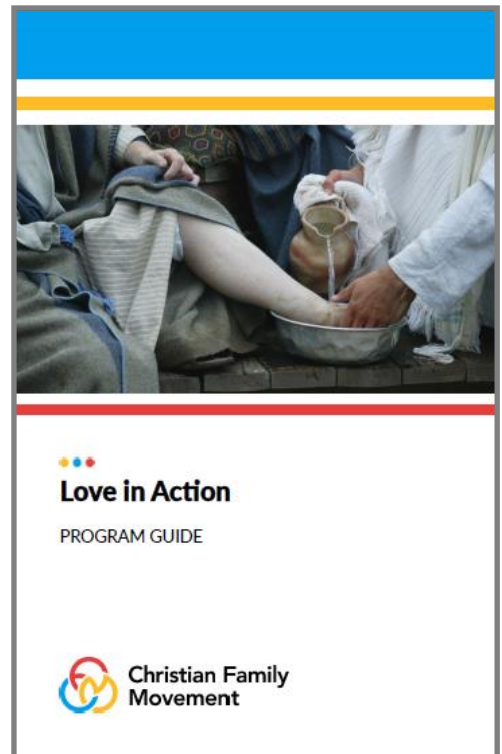
Focus on Catholic Teaching on Social Action

Love in Action, 2020 Program Book available June 1

Jesus performed many charitable actions, and he also worked to change the views of the powerful in society. He leads us to do the same. *Love in Action* offers eight meetings for reflection on the **Seven Themes of Catholic Social Justice**. Together, members will observe situations in family life and society, discuss current events, and discern how to carry on the mission of Christ by acting for justice in today's world. [Table of Contents](#).

A Leader's Edition is available for *Love in Action*. [Log in with your primary email](#) and password and then go to [download materials](#).

You may choose *Love in Action* or any [other CFM program](#) when you join or [renew your membership here](#).



Bishop George Rassas, recently retired as auxiliary of Archdiocese of Chicago, shared this photo of his meeting with Pope Francis during the Ad Limina visit this winter. Bishop Rassas works closely with the CFM National Board.

Care for Your Marriage Now

Marriage Enrichment experts, Terri and John Bosio, offer a **Free Program for Couples**, to help you stay connected and remember what is important in life. Watch it together with your spouse. The program consists of **four short videos** about the virtues that help us keep sanity in our life: Prudence, Justice, Courage, and Temperance.

Available at <https://www.the-virtues.net/online-free-program/>

If you like the program, let others know and if you find it helpful, please drop the authors



Encouragement from International CFM Friends

Jorge and Josie Santamaria of the [CFM Philippines](#), formerly President-Couple and now President-couple of the CFM Foundation, sent this encouragement: "Our Family and Life evangelization programs are on hold due to the lockdown. We join hands and hearts in prayer that, after learning what our Lord wants us to learn, we will bring the needed change and transformation in our lives, in our families and in our CFM programs and services. May God bless you and CFM organizations in the US. "

Accessing Members-Only Resources

Want to preview program books for next year? Want a leader guide? Members may access all CFM program books online by signing in to their account. If you completed the membership form and paid your dues within the past year, you are a member. [Start by Signing in](#) with the primary email address associated with your membership, on the [CFM homepage](#), as seen here.



Holy Land Journey Inspires CFM Pilgrims

In late January/early February four couples from the St. Joan of Arc CFM group, San Ramon, CA, spent two weeks on a Holy Land Pilgrimage in Israel. Cathy and Mike Glazzy shared photo and say, "It was an experience of a lifetime and certainly helps us to envision the gospel passages that we hear every Sunday."



Left: The group gathered by the Sea of Galilee.
Above: Friends floating in the Dead Sea.
Lower left: Experiencing life as a Bedouin at the ancient Galilean village of Kfar Kedem.



Celebrating Sunday at Home?

PRAY the Scriptures.
[Weekly Gospel Reflections for Family Spirituality](#)
Includes discussion questions based on the Observe, Judge, Act method.