



School of Evangelization

ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF BROOKLYN

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To: All Pastors, Administrators, and Catechetical Leaders
From: Theodore J. Musco, Executive Director
Re: Saint John's University: "Love is our mission: the Family fully alive."
Date: December 17, 2014

The coming of Pope Francis to the USA in September 2015 for the World Meeting of Families has made national and international news. The theme of this gathering will be: "Love is our mission: the Family fully alive." In preparation for the coming of the Holy Father and for the Synod, the Diocese of Brooklyn is planning some learning sessions around family. We are doing this in collaboration with the Diocese of RVC, the Vincentian Family, and the Vincentian Center for Church and Society at SJU. These sessions are intended for the Parish Leadership Team in order to provide some useful and realistic considerations around the theme of family.

Three sessions are being planned for 7:00-9:00 in the evening: January 13, 2015, March 19, 2015, and May 12, 2015. Each gathering will look to one of the three foundational Christian images for community as inspiration: Jesus and the Disciples, the Trinity, and the Church at Pentecost. We anticipate that each assembly will provide some worthwhile and practical guidance as we celebrate the holiness of families.

Each session will be led by a recognized faculty member at SJU. The first session will feature Marilyn A. Martone, Ph.D., Senior Vincentian Research Fellow, recently retired professor of moral theology, and author of "Over the Waterfall." She will address the functional learning for family which emerges from the community of Jesus and the disciples.

Each session will take place on the Queen's campus of St. John's University in Bent Hall, room 277A. Parking has been planned. Please enter through Gate 4 on Union Turnpike and park in Lot A located to your immediate left. Campus Directions and Map can be found at www.stjohns.edu/directions.

We would be very happy to welcome you to all the sessions since they make one whole, but if you can only attend one or two, please do so.

To indicate your willingness to participate, please contact Christine Georgi at cgeorgi@diobrook.org with the parish name and the number of people attending.

Thanks for your cooperation and collaboration. We look forward to seeing you at our sessions. We pray that this preparation for the coming of the Pope and the opening of the Synod on Families may be a blessing for our parishes and our Church.