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*Christian Family Movement*

## Early registration a win/win situation

Procrastination is a common trait and anyone who has planned a party lately knows that people are slow to respond and sometimes show up without warning. It's not very comforting to be in that situation if you are the one planning the party, but how does one convince people it's important to commit early?

The early registration break is a good deal for both the planners and the attendees. Conference goers get a financial break, but the committee will get a chance to plan better for those who will be coming.

This is especially important for children's programming. With new



Everyone loves a bargain and the committee planning this summer's CFM National Marriage and Family Life Conference, Fanning the Fire of Faith decided to take advantage of this simple fact of human nature. Families who mail conference registrations by June 10 will get a substantial reduction in fees. Up until then it costs just \$100 for a family of four to attend this summer's national gathering. Afterwards fees will go up to \$140.

policies implemented by both the archdiocese of Chicago and national CFM it is imperative that caregivers and program leaders for children are properly certified. Do to this circumstance, registrations for children postmarked after July 1 will be accepted on a space available basis.

Register now to avoid disappointment. This issue contains a handy registration form. *Why not fill it out today?*



## Presidents' Perspective

by Peter and Jane Buchbauer

### *A time for endings and new beginnings.*

It is with joy and a sense of regret that we write our final *Presidents' Perspective*. The four years we have had the privilege to serve the Christian Family Movement have been busy, but rewarding. We hope that we have left the movement better than we found it. We believe that our revision of the mission statement and amendment of the bylaws have made the movement more attractive and easier to manage. We recognize that nothing accomplished during our terms was possible without the dedicated service and assistance of the officers and directors of this movement. We want to single out **Jane and Paul Leingang** for their dedication and hard work in leading the movement from the national office. We will miss our weekly Saturday telephone calls, but look forward to sleeping in on Saturdays come July.

We have been very busy in these last months. It seems that the seeds we scattered over the years all took root during these last few months. In February, we attended the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops Committee on Marriage and Family Life meeting in **Savannah, Georgia**. Our term as lay advisors to the committee will end in November when **Bishop Kurtz** will assume the chairmanship and appoint his own committee of bishops and advisors.

Also, in February, we traveled to **Lubbock, Texas** to present a diocesan marriage retreat at the invitation of **Bishop Placido Rodriguez** and his family life director, **Deacon Jessie Esquivel**, whom we met in 2001 at a joint USCCB-NACFLM meeting celebrating the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of *Familiaris Consortio*. During the course of the retreat we shared how our CFM experience had helped form us as a married couple and had helped form our family. We hope that some of the participants will be interested in starting CFM in Lubbock.

In April, we traveled to **Portland, Oregon** to present a workshop on "Pastoring to Working Moms and Double Duty Dads" for the National Convention of the National Federation of Priests' Councils. We witnessed over 265 priests in fellowship and prayer and were immensely inspired by their example of lives faithfully embracing their vocation. We hope that some of the priests will return to their parishes and encourage families to embrace CFM.

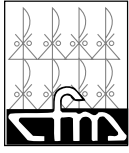
It will take time before we know whether these efforts have borne fruit. Fortunately, we leave the presidency of CFM in good hands. **John and Lauri Przybysz** will take over as our national presidents. You will recognize them from their marriage column in ACT.

They are a dynamic couple who will do much to promote the mission of CFM. We ask that you hold them up in prayer and take upon yourselves the task of helping to spread the gift of CFM to other families in your communities.

Finally, we want to take this opportunity to recognize a special couple. **Mary Lou and Phil Gorman** have been involved in CFM since the earliest days of the movement. Their friendly nature welcomed us to the national board in the early '90s. They have welcomed many into CFM over the years. Mary Lou's motto was "Each one, reach one." And she and Phil did. So, we ask that you pledge yourselves to taking one or two actions. Either recruit a new family into your CFM group and/or make a contribution to the Gorman Fund to help spread CFM. It is a fitting tribute to a couple whose lives were transformed by CFM and who in turn have spread that good news to as many people as they could.

It is with profound thanks to a loving God who has blessed us, our marriage and our family abundantly, that we pray that He continue to bless CFM and all CFMers with His generosity.

*Peter and Jane Buchbauer, CFM Presidents, live in Winchester Virginia. Their children are Joseph, Peter, Michael and Maria.*



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CFM news articles and photos welcome. Subscriptions are free to members and \$8.00 for non-members.

Want to touch base with CFMers around the country? Join CFM's e-mail exchange by contacting [cfm-exchange@cfm.org](mailto:cfm-exchange@cfm.org)

### *CFM's Mission*

- ◆ to promote Christ-centered marriage and family life;
- ◆ to help individuals and their families to live the Christian faith in everyday life; and
- ◆ to improve society through actions of love, service, education and example.

## Parent to Parent

by *Mary Lou Gorman*



### *An Opportunity of a Lifetime*

If I could ring a bell right now I would, to call you all to the National Marriage and Family Life Conference, July 15-16 at Holy Family Parish in a northwest suburb of **Chicago**. Whatever plans you have for the summer, do include this fabulous opportunity for your family. A conference like this only happens once every three years, and where else can you find such a faith-filled and fun experience for the whole family to enjoy.

The parish is considered one of the top ten in the country. Holy Family has 140 ministries that it can accommodate, with a huge courtyard and fountain. Of course it's air-conditioned and it has perpetual adoration in a small chapel on the premises.

The fact that your little ones will be well cared for in a nursery, and children 4-18 will have special programs appropriate to their ages should be a wonderful incentive to come. Just meeting CFM kids from all over the country will be an experience for them and there's a good chance they'll have pen pals when they leave.

The program will be inspiring with **Father Pat Brennan**, the Holy Family pastor, giving the keynote address and **Dave Brummel**, a faith and family comedian and story teller entertaining you. Spirituality, communication, sexuality, and balancing job with family life are some of the topics to be discussed at the workshops.

It's so important for us parents to model for our kids. Here's a chance to show your children how important your faith is, and let them share it with you. The conference liturgy is sure to be inspiring. The exposure trip on Friday is CFM-in-action with your family. On Saturday, you'll have picnic box lunch all together and a buffet on Saturday evening with a social to follow.

I can't say enough about what a great town Chicago is to visit. On Sunday we can all enjoy the famous Lincoln Park Zoo. The downtown area, with Millennium Park and Navy Pier are great attractions, along with the Art Institute, the Field Museum, the Planetarium, the Aquarium, and the Museum of Science and Industry.

Don't hesitate! If you haven't sent in your registration by now, do so right away. The cost is minimal and what you'll receive from the experience is priceless. Your children will talk about it for years to come, as mine have.

See you at the Conference!

*P.S. Chicagoans, it's right at your doorstep! Lucky you! Bring your friends!*

*Mary Lou and Phil Gorman, Arlington Heights, members of CFM since 1953, have four daughters and 14 grandchildren.*

# World Hunger Banquet

by Mary Spila, Palatine, Ill.

Inspired by other CFM groups, the St Thomas of Villanova CFM group in **Palatine, Illinois**, sponsored a World Hunger Banquet in March.

Through this activity we simulated the inadequate distribution of food in our world. About 85 people from the parish and Palatine community attended and were served a meal according which country's flag they drew when they entered the banquet room. Those who drew a flag of a developed world nation received a fine meal with all the trimmings. Some drew the flags of a poorer country and shared a simple meal. Most, however, drew the flag of a developing nation and had rice doled out to

them to eat with their hands while sitting wherever they could find a place.

A speaker from Bright Hope International, a Christian relief and development agency, showed pictures and told of his experiences working with the poor in **Haiti** and **India**. Bright Hope also sold crafts made by artisans in the countries they serve to help support those workers who live on less than one dollar a day. The parish raised almost \$50. for Bright Hope through this event.

The World Hunger Banquet is a wonderful way to open our hearts to those who have so much less than we do.



*Left: Banquet attendees learn about the poor at the children's table.*

*Below: "Third World" diners*



## In Memoriam

**Monsignor Paul Lackner** died on April 16. Monsignor Lackner was a long-time chaplain of CFM in the **Pittsburgh** area. He was ordained in 1942 at St. Vincent Archabbey in **Latrobe, Penn.** In addition to his work with CFM he was director of Cursillo within Pittsburgh diocese, Holy Name Society, and Greater Pittsburgh Guild for the Blind, now Pittsburgh Vision Services. He remained active well into his old age. As recently as three years ago he was still promoting CFM within the Pittsburgh archdiocese. Two new groups were started as a result of a promotion he advocated. The prayer for the Christian Family Movement that is printed in current program books was written by Msgr. Lackner. May he rest in peace.

Augustinian **Father Edward L. Hamel**, member of the national chaplain team from 1974-76 and member of the program committee from 1968-1973 died on February 25. Father Hamel was born in **Chicago** and taught at Tolentine College seminary in **Olympia Fields, Ill.**, during his time in service to CFM. He was later assigned to Villanova University and taught in the Theology Department until 1993. After some years of parish service he retired in 2001.

St. Anthony in **Pewaukee, Wisc.**, is mourning the death of one of their members, **Scott Barnhart**, who is survived by wife **Susan** and daughters **Britta**, 10, and **Jenna**, 5. **Pat Hafey** wrote to say that his "humor, enthusiasm, and genuine perspective is missed by all who were blessed to know him." Scott was an organ donor.



*Too Good to Miss!  
Register Today!*

**2005 CFM National Marriage and Family Life Conference**  
*Holy Family Church, Inverness, Ill. July 15 and 16*

**Featured Presenter:  
Doug Brummel**

Doug is a "faith and family comedian and storyteller" reminiscent of Red Skelton, Carol Burnett or Bill Cosby, but with a "Catholic twist." Brummel presents his message uniquely through a cast of characters he has created to highlight different issues of faith, marriage and family life. Doug will present on Friday evening and twice on Saturday /

***Instilling Respect for the Gift of Sexuality  
Living in a Sex-Saturated Culture***  
**Mary Louise Kurey**

Mary-Louise Kurey, Director of the Respect Life Office at the Archdiocese of Chicago, is one of the foremost speakers and authors on chastity and pro-life issues in the United States. Ms Kurey will offer insights on teaching and living healthy sexuality for children.

**Keynote Presenters:  
Saturday Morning**

**Father Patrick Brennan**  
*Kindling the Fire of Faith*

Father Brennan will speak on ways families can create faith-filled homes. He is a dynamic national speaker and author of many book on evangelization. He presents evangelical missions in parishes and has been pastor of Holy Family parish for the last ten years.

***A Short Course for a Happy Marriage***  
**Steve and Kathy Bierne**

Creators, editors and publishers of *Foundations*, a newsletter for newly married couples have worked in family ministry for many years. They will discuss how our view of marriage determines our experience of marriage.

**Andrew and Terri Lyke**  
*God Couples: Sacramental Marriage  
in Community*

Andrew and Terri, syndicated columnists and national speakers on the topic of couple communication and marriage, believe that successful couples surround themselves by couples who encourage them in their marital commitment. The Lykes will speak to the importance of couples mentoring and being mentored by other couples around them.

***Spirituality @ Work: Balancing Job with  
Personal and Family Life***  
**Greg Pierce**

Greg Pierce is the co-publisher of ACTA Publications and the author of *Spirituality@Work: 10 Ways to Balance Your Life on-the-Job*. He will discuss the nature of the spirituality of work and offer suggestions for connecting our faith with our daily work on our jobs, with our families and in our church and community.

**Workshops Saturday**

***Are Your Outside Activities on Overload?***  
**Robin Hafey**

Robin Hafey, an experienced parent educator and member of CFM since 1980, will help her audience sort out ways to prioritize activities and to know when the line of healthy interest in sports, church and community involvement has been crossed.

***The Four Communication Traps in Marriage***  
**Dr. James Healy**

Dr. Jim Healy is the author of the audiocassette series, *Rooted in Love: Speaking to Couples About Marriage*, and has spoken on Marriage and family issues across the country. Dr. Healy will explore with us how we get into these traps and how to get out of them. (This works with your kids, too!)

*And there's more: Children's program, Gala Dinner, Closing Mass, Vendors, opportunities for fun before and after, Mingling with CFMers from across the country. You don't want to miss this opportunity faith and family fun and enrichment. Reduced early registration fees until June 10!*

# Registration



## 2005 CFM National Marriage and Family Life Conference Holy Family Church, Inverness, Ill. July 15 and 16

(Please print names as you wish nametag to read.)

Last Name	First	Spouse	Name(s) of Children	Age on 7/15/05
Address				
City	State	Zip		
Phone (      )	e-mail			
Member of CFM?	In a group?	(Put any additional names on a separate sheet.)		

Babysitting is available for children 3 and under during adults-only sessions. Registrations for children postmarked after July 1 will be accepted on a space-available basis.

**Registration Fees:** Registration fees cover the program on Friday and Saturday and the gala dinner Saturday night, but not Saturday lunch. Participants are encouraged to bring a picnic lunch or purchase a box lunch since very few eating establishments are located nearby. Soft drinks will be available for purchase at a nominal price.

	Cost	Amount	Number	
Adult	\$50 (If postmarked by June 10, \$35)	_____	X_____	=\$_____
Each child	\$20 (If postmarked by June 10, \$15)	_____	X_____	=\$_____
Child under 3		\$10	X_____	=\$_____
Box lunch		\$ 5	X_____	=\$_____

Total Registration = \$\_\_\_\_\_

We would like to help others attend the conference by contributing to a scholarship fund.  
Please accept this additional donation. We understand this amount is tax deductible.      \$\_\_\_\_\_

Due to limited family funds at this time we can only afford to pay this much.      \$\_\_\_\_\_

We are requesting scholarship funds.      \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL ENCLOSED = \$\_\_\_\_\_

Send us information about the pre-conference activity with WINGS (Women In Need Growing Stronger).

We are interested in the post-conference visit to Lincoln Park Zoo.

Mail registration form **with payment** to the CFM National Office, PO Box 925, Evansville, IN 47706-0925.  
Make check payable to Christian Family Movement. Questions? (812) 962-5508.

CFM encourages out-of-town participants to contact the Country Inn and Suites, 1401 N. Roselle Road, Schaumburg, Ill. (847) 839-1010. before June 21. Rates are \$79 for parents and children under 18. Additional adults \$10 each. Rooms are also available a half-mile away at the Wingate, 50 Remington Rd., (847) 882-5000. Rates are \$69 for two adults and children; additional adults \$10 each. Call the hotel's local number and mention "Christian Family Movement" for these rates.

## From the National Chaplain

by Father Don Conroy



### *Christian Family's Mission: A Great Legacy of John Paul II*

Shortly after Pope John Paul II began his papacy in 1978 he announced that his first international synod of bishops would have as its theme "The Role of the Christian Family in the Modern World."

To prepare, the United States bishops invited experts to Notre Dame to help them prepare for the synod, including leaders from the Christian Family Movement.

Before the synod, Pope John Paul sent out an extensive summary of topics related to the theme. He also presented in his Wednesday audiences a newly minted "Theology of the Body." Here he explored the "nuptial meaning of the body" and the dignity of life and love.

The Synod was held in October 1980 in the Vatican. Pope John Paul participated in the plenary sessions and listened to bishops' presentations of their views on the renewal of Christian family life.

In 1981, the Pope issued an Apostolic Exhortation on the Role of the Christian Family. This groundbreaking document presented, for the first time in the church's history, a major theological reflection on the Christian family. Pope John Paul II emphasized its practical application when he said: "No plan for organized pastoral work at any level must ever fail to take into consideration the pastoral area of the family."

As a central theme, the Pope summoned families "to become who you are." In this way the Pope launched a search for the understanding and mission of the Christian family in the contemporary world.

In the first section of the Apostolic Exhortation the Pope offered a vision of the four defining tasks or roles of the Christian family as they live out their commitment to the Gospel:

*Among the fundamental tasks of the Christian family is its ecclesial task: The family is placed at the service of the building up of the kingdom of God in history by participating in the life and mission of the church: a church in miniature (ecclesia domestica), in such a way that in its own way the family is a living image and historical representation of the mystery of the church.*

*Pope John Paul II, Familiaris Consortio, 49*

The first task is to form an intimate community of persons—parents, children and extended family and friends.

Following on this, the family is to serve life—to create a culture of

life-giving values—both by bringing children into the world and by handing on Gospel values and traditions as each member grows and is called forth to serve.

The third task calls the family to get involved in the society's development by becoming a community of training and hospitality. As the basic cell of society, this mission includes political witness, involvement and activity.

Finally, the Pope notes that the Christian family has the role of sharing in the life and mission of the whole church by becoming what it truly is: the Domestic Church. The Christian Family is to become a community of evangelization, of prayer and worship, and of service to all of humanity in Jesus' name.

Throughout his long papacy Pope John Paul II continued to proclaim the central importance of the Christian family's mission and ministry. He gave us a lasting legacy on which to build and develop our full potential as persons and as family members.

This legacy continues to challenge us as Christian families and CFM members today.

*Father Don Conroy is President of the National Institute for the Family in Washington, DC., and Pastor of Holy Family Parish, Latrobe, Penn.*



## Taking the Time to Make a Difference

by Paul R. Leingang

### About freedom and doing right

Freedom.

Richie Havens sang the word again and again at Woodstock. I wasn't there but I've heard the tape of his exultant shout. It still carries some electricity of excitement.

Freedom for some meant freedom of expression, freedom to oppose the establishment, and for many, freedom to indulge in whatever felt good.

"Freedom's just another word for nothing left to lose," sang Janis Joplin, in Me and Bobbie McGee. Those are troubling words, but they can make a person think about such things – especially if you put them with another line from the scriptures of the sixties and seventies, one by Bob Dylan, that said, "if you ain't got nothing, you've got nothing to lose."

I recently read an account by Esther Elizabeth in the October 2004 newsletter, "Journey Into Freedom," published by an organization of the same name. Her experience of freedom came at a time when she feared that she had quite a lot to lose.

"I felt free the first time I was arrested. On the campus of Antioch College, in nonviolent direct action, a small group gathered outside a restaurant and a barber shop that refused to serve 'people of color.' It was a long time ago and I don't remember all the details or the sequence of events. I do remember the handcuffs and joining others in the back of a paddy-wagon. On our way to the county jail, we broke out

in a loud, joyful rendition of 'We are Not Afraid.' A few blocks later the verse changed to 'We are a little bit afraid' and by the time the paddy-wagon rolled into the jail parking lot, we were whispering still another verse, 'We are really afraid.' And I was afraid. I had not walked that path before. But, even though I wondered what my arrest could

—————  
*'We are Not Afraid!'*  
...A few blocks later  
... 'We are  
a little bit  
afraid'

mean (loss of job, time away from my responsibilities and friends, a large fine), I felt freer than ever before because I did what I knew, for me, was right action. I lived out what I said I believed. I put my life where my mouth was. Freedom, for me, comes when I'm about right action."

◆ ◆ ◆

In her essay on freedom, Esther Elizabeth also focused on the words of Jesus in the tenth chapter of the Gospel of John. Jesus is portrayed as being in charge of his destiny, even as he accepts his Father's call to give up his life – having everything to lose.

"For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life, that I may take it again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down

of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again; this charge I have received from my Father."

John's Gospel, in chapter eight, also gives us the memorable words, quoted often, that "the truth will make you free."

"Jesus then said to the Jews who had believed in him, 'If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.'"

Jesus expands on the meaning of freedom: "Truly, truly, I say to you, every one who commits sin is a slave to sin. The slave does not continue in the house for ever; the son continues for ever. So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed."



What is your personal experience of freedom? With nothing or everything to lose?

If you have children, how would they describe the experience of freedom—in your home, at school or among friends?

Examine news stories and reports from your city or area.

Who has freedom?

Who lacks freedom?

How is freedom exercised?

Freedom of speech? Freedom from fear?

Take the time to reflect on your own experiences and on the experiences of those you love. If you have felt freedom, even when you were afraid of the consequences, offer support to others to do what is right.

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*Paul is director of communications for the Diocese of Evansville, Ind.; and editor of the Message, the diocesan newspaper. His weekly column Taking the Time to Make a Difference is syndicated in a number of diocesan newspapers and appears on the CFM website.*

*Paul and Jane Leingang are executive directors of CFM.*

Everyone knows about the elephant. You know, the elephant in the living room that everybody sees but nobody talks about? It's in the way and it's starting to stink. The "elephant" is the difficult issue you both need to discuss that seems too big to handle. It could be in-laws, or finances, or your sex life. It might be your health, or his drinking, or your job prospects. In married life, many elephants will come along. How can we clear the air?

Some valuable reminders can help us build loving communication in our marriages. When we remember to listen with love, our partner experiences our love. And our living room can become livable again.

- **Give focused attention** to demonstrate your readiness to listen. This means eliminating distractions. Face each other. Assume an open body posture: relaxed, arms uncrossed, feet on the floor, and head or trunk leaning slightly forward. Establish eye contact.
- Take turns talking. Some experts recommend passing an object back and forth, with the person who has the "floor" holding on to it until he or she feels that they have been understood. This object could be anything, even the TV remote control.
- **Share your feelings** by naming them. Begin by making "I" statements, e.g., "I feel angry when you ...." Paraphrase and restate to be sure you heard correctly before responding, e.g., "I hear you saying you feel angry when I..." Give the other person a chance to say what they really mean. Clarify and ask questions, e.g., "Is this what you meant

## Your Marriage: The Great Adventure

by Lauri Przybysz



### "Can You Hear Me Now?"

- when you said ...?" A feeling should be expressed as "I am \_\_\_" not "I think \_\_\_."
- **Be honest**, not brutal. Some things are better left unsaid. When you do talk, think about what you're really communicating. Too much honesty—especially all at once—can be cruel.
  - **Be a reflective listener.** Show that you are hearing the message. Allow some silence, to give your partner a chance to add a thought. Be sensitive to non-verbal clues. *Listen with all your senses.* Only 7% of communication is the spoken word. Body posture and gesture are 38% of communication, and 55% is carried in the tone and inflection of the voice. Try to name the feelings that your partner is expressing.
  - **Respond with empathy.** Show your partner you have heard and understand what they said. Try not to be judgmental. Do not try to solve problems hastily or offer advice too quickly. To make the most of the communication, don't take sides immediately. Ask questions for clarity, not curiosity. Make sure you understand what produced the feeling. Empathy can be phrased with this formula: "You feel \_\_\_ because \_\_\_."
  - **Do not offer your opinion** or thoughts until you get the

floor to speak. Listen and concentrate on what the speaker is saying. Don't prepare your next point while the speaker is speaking. Validate and affirm your partner by letting him or her know that you understand what he or she is saying. You don't have to agree. When your spouse feels that he or she has been really listened to and heard, the result is greater respect, trust, intimacy, and a better, happier marriage.

Practice these techniques using the Active Listening Model here. Pick a non-threatening topic: "Where shall we go out to dinner tonight?" or "What chore would I like to trade with you?"

#### The 10-10 Technique for Active Listening

1. One person talks. The other listens. (10 minutes)
2. The listener repeats or rephrases what was said, checks for accuracy, and comments on non-verbal cues.
3. Reverse roles.

"If it's going to work, communication must be clear and positive."

*Lauri and John Przybysz live in Severna Park, Md., and have six children. Lauri is coordinator of marriage and family enrichment for the Archdiocese of Baltimore.*

**John and Beth O'Neil** of St. James Parish, **Arlington Heights, Ill.**, were elected to the board of directors of CFM at the February board meeting. Their names were inadvertently left out of last month's issue of *ACT*. We apologize for the omission.

In March, St. Lawrence Martyr CFM, **Redondo Beach, Calif.**, hosted a reunion of nearly 100 current and former CFM members to commemorate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of St. Lawrence Martyr Church. The evening featured a talk, "Serving As Jesus Did," by associate pastor **Fr. Kevin Schindler-McGraw**; large and small group discussion; and an opportunity for current members to meet some of those who had founded CFM nearly 50 years ago.

On Holy Saturday, **Brad and Sally Shewmon's** group of

CFMers from Our Lady of the Wayside in **Arlington Heights, Ill.**, visited Theresa House, a transitional shelter for families located in south **Chicago**. The shelter provides transitional support and services for entire families.

**Deacon Jerry and Ronnie Brennan** organized the children for a session of decorating Easter eggs followed by a hunt. CFMers also provided some light maintenance work while they were there and everyone enjoyed lunch together.

St. James CFM in **Arlington Heights, Ill.**, heard **Mark Bakal** speaking on "Getting the Most Out of Your Marriage" on April 9<sup>th</sup>. They invited potential members to join them for the occasion. **John and Beth O'Neil** are parish leaders.

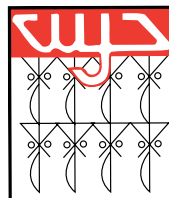
Over \$4000. has been donated by CFM and MFC (Hispanic CFM in the U.S.) toward ICCFM's

Tsunami Relief Fund. **Nop and Elma Muangkroot** of **Thailand**, International Presidents, are in the process of distributing the funds to needy families and local organizations in **Thailand, Sri Lanka, India** and **Malaysia**. All administrative costs are being absorbed by CFM.

St. Mary Student Parish in **Ann Arbor, Mich.**, reaches out to students at the University of Michigan by holding a pancake breakfast for them at the beginning of school. The group also had a Thanksgiving potluck, adopted a family at Christmas and held a women's retreat. They did yard work for the elderly in November. The group usually has one social event and one meeting a month. They aim to be visible to the students so that they will remember the work of CFM and want to be part of it when they start families.

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