



# Let's Talk Family! Let's Be Family!

Dublin Diocesan Home/School Family Faith Week  
15-20 April 2018

(an initiative developed by the Primary Diocesan Advisers, Education Secretariat)



As part of the preparation to celebrate the World Meeting of Families 2018, families and Catholic primary schools across the Archdiocese of Dublin are invited to reflect, explore and celebrate the joy of love in family life.

### What we know about World Meeting of Families 2018...

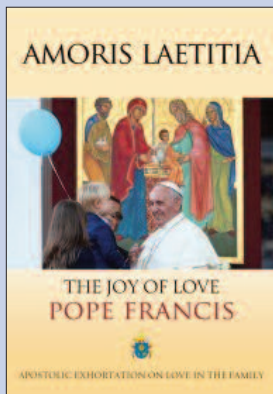
The World Meeting of Families is a celebration and exploration of the joy of family life.

Dublin, Ireland, has been chosen by Pope Francis to host the World Meeting of Families 2018. From 21-26 August 2018, families and others from all over the world will gather in Dublin to celebrate their lives together, to share their experiences from different parts of the world, to reflect on the different challenges they face and to grow together in faith. Further information available on [www.catholicschools.ie/csw2018/](http://www.catholicschools.ie/csw2018/)

In 2016, Pope Francis wrote "The Joy of Love" (*Amoris Laetitia*), a document about love, marriage and family life. He asked Ireland to host the World Meeting of Families in 2018 and to prepare for that event by offering families, parishes and groups a way of thinking about and sharing his message in *The Joy of Love*: that the Gospel of the Family continues to be Joy for the World.



### The Joy of Love (Amoris Laetitia) ...



...further details available on [www.worldmeeting2018.ie/en/](http://www.worldmeeting2018.ie/en/)

### Moments of Faith to date...



Further details available on [www.catholicschools.ie/csw2018](http://www.catholicschools.ie/csw2018)

### Did you receive your copy of the icon of the Holy Family?



Further details available on [www.worldmeeting2018/WMOF/media/downloads/WMOF2018-Icon-of-the-Holy-Family.pdf](http://www.worldmeeting2018/WMOF/media/downloads/WMOF2018-Icon-of-the-Holy-Family.pdf)



The Boards of Management of Catholic primary schools are invited to announce that this exciting **Dublin Diocesan Home/School Family Faith Week** will take place from the 15-20 April 2018. Boards of Management (BOM) are invited to provide a Family Petition Box to include prayers for liturgies during the week. The BOM may also display the copy of the *Icon of the Holy Family* etc. More ideas are available on [www.worldmeeting2018.ie/en](http://www.worldmeeting2018.ie/en)

Activities to celebrate **Let's Talk Family! Let's Be Family! Dublin Diocesan Home/School Family Faith Week 15-20 April 2018** at home and at school are included overleaf.

# School based activities using *Grow in Love (GIL)* resources, an image of the Icon of the Holy Family, and the *Catholic Children's Bible (St Mary's Press)*

## Day 1

Ritual/Liturgical celebration based on *The Boy Jesus in the Temple*, Lk 2:41-50, available on [www.education.dublindiocese.ie/2014/06/19/additional-resources/](http://www.education.dublindiocese.ie/2014/06/19/additional-resources/)



Display an image of *The Boy Jesus in the Temple*, Lk 2:41-50.  
Light a candle or access the virtual candle on the *Grow In Love* website.

### Sign of the Cross

**Opening Hymn:** *A Joy for All the Earth* (official hymn for World Meeting of Families 2018) available on [www.worldmeeting2018.ie/en/About/Hymn](http://www.worldmeeting2018.ie/en/About/Hymn)

### Scripture

Bible Procession: From the back of the room a child carries the Bible to the Prayer Space.  
Prayer on opening the Bible:

Bless me, O God, so that  
In opening this Bible  
I may open my mind and heart  
To your Word.  
May it nourish me  
As it nourished Jesus.  
Amen.

Scripture Reading: *The Boy Jesus in the Temple*, Lk 2:41-50

### The Boy Jesus in the Temple (Lk 2:41-50)

Every year the parents of Jesus went to Jerusalem for the Passover Festival. When Jesus was twelve years old, they went to the festival as usual. When the festival was over, they started back home, but the boy Jesus stayed in Jerusalem. His parents did not know this; they thought that he was with the group, so they travelled the whole day and then started looking for him among their relatives and friends. They did not find him, so they went back to Jerusalem looking for him. On the third day they found him in the Temple, sitting with the Jewish teachers, listening to them and asking questions. All who heard him were amazed at his intelligent answers. His parents were astonished when they saw him, and his mother said to him, "Son, why have you done this to us? Your father and I have been terribly worried trying to find you."

He answered them, "Why did you have to look for me? Didn't you know that I had to be in my Father's house?" But they did not understand his answer.

### Intercessions

The response (R) is: **Hear our prayer**

- We pray for Pope Francis, that the Holy Spirit will continue to guide him in his work. Lord in your mercy (R)
- We pray for our families that we may always care for one another. Lord in your mercy (R)
- We pray to Mary, that she may lead us to her Son, Jesus. Lord in your mercy (R)
- We pray for ourselves, that we may often use the words: 'Please', 'Thank you' and 'I'm sorry', Lord in your mercy (R)

**Official Family Prayer for World Meeting of Families 2018 (available on page 8)**

**Closing Song/Hymn:** e.g.

*They Care For Me (GIL, J Inf p.48)*

*When Jesus was a Boy (GIL, S Inf p. 132, 1<sup>st</sup> Class p.83)*

*This Little Light of Mine (GIL, 1<sup>st</sup> Class p.290)*

*A Mhuire Mháthair (GIL, 4<sup>th</sup> Class p.349)*

Ritual/Liturgical celebration based on *The Wedding in Cana*, Jn 2: 1-12, available on [www.education.dublindiocese.ie/2014/06/19/additional-resources/](http://www.education.dublindiocese.ie/2014/06/19/additional-resources/)

Display an image of *The Wedding in Cana*, Jn 2: 1-12. Light a candle or access the virtual candle on the *Grow In Love* website



### Sign of the Cross

**Opening Hymn:** *A Joy for All the Earth* (official hymn for World Meeting of Families 2018) available on [www.worldmeeting2018.ie/en/About/Hymn](http://www.worldmeeting2018.ie/en/About/Hymn)

### Scripture

Bible Procession: From the back of the room a child carries the Bible to the Prayer Space.  
Prayer on opening the Bible:

Bless me, O God, so that  
In opening this Bible  
I may open my mind and heart  
To your Word.  
May it nourish me  
As it nourished Jesus.  
Amen.

Scripture Reading: *The Wedding in Cana*, Jn 2: 1-12

### The Wedding in Cana (Jn 2: 1-12)

Two days later, there was a wedding in the town of Cana in Galilee. Jesus' mother was there, and Jesus and his disciples had been invited to the wedding. When the wine had given out, Jesus mother said to him, "they are out of wine."

"You must not tell me what to do," Jesus replied, "my time has not yet come."

Jesus' mother then told the servants, "Do whatever he tells you."

The Jews have rules about ritual washing, and for this purpose six stone water jars were there, each one large enough to hold between twenty and thirty gallons. Jesus said to the servants, "Fill these jars with water," They filled them to the brim, and then he told them, "Now draw some water out and take it to the man in charge of the feast." They took him the water, which now had turned into wine, and he tasted it. He did not know where this wine had come from (but of course, the servants who had drawn out the water knew); so he called the bridegroom and said to him, "Everyone else serves the best wine first, and after the guests have drunk a lot, he serves the ordinary wine. But you have kept the best wine until now!"

Jesus performed this first miracle in Cana in Galilee; there he revealed his glory, and his disciples believed in him. After this, Jesus, and his mother, brother, and disciples went to Capernaum and stayed there a few days.

### Intercessions:

The response (R) is: **Hear our prayer**

- We pray for Pope Francis, that the Holy Spirit will continue to guide him in his work. Lord in your mercy (R)
- We pray for families who do not have the nourishment they need for their lives. Lord in your mercy (R)
- We pray for ourselves, that we will always remember to thank God for all the gifts we receive. Lord in your mercy (R)
- We pray for ourselves, that we may often use the words: 'Please', 'Thank you' and 'I'm sorry'. Lord in your mercy (R)

**Official Family Prayer for World Meeting of Families 2018 (available on page 8)**

**Closing Song/Hymn:** e.g.

*Grace Before and After Meals (GIL, J Inf p.173)*

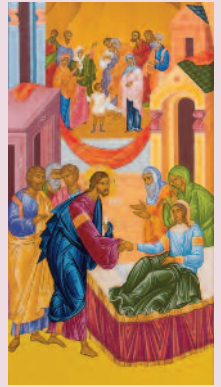
*The Last Supper (GIL, S Inf p.209)*

*Eat This Bread (GIL, 4<sup>th</sup> Class p.402)*

*Christ Be Our Light (A-O 8 p.273)*

Ritual/Liturgical celebration based on *Jairus' Daughter*, Lk 8:40-42, 49-56, available on [www.education.dublindiocese.ie/2014/06/19/additional-resources/](http://www.education.dublindiocese.ie/2014/06/19/additional-resources/)

Display the image of *Jairus' Daughter*, Lk 8:40-42, 49-56. Light a candle or access the virtual candle on the *Grow In Love* website



### Sign of the Cross

**Opening Hymn:** *A Joy for All the Earth* (official hymn for World Meeting of Families 2018) available on [www.worldmeeting2018.ie/en/About/Hymn](http://www.worldmeeting2018.ie/en/About/Hymn)

### Scripture

Bible Procession: From the back of the room a child carries the Bible to the Prayer Space.

Prayer on opening the Bible:

Bless me, O God, so that  
In opening this Bible  
I may open my mind and heart  
To your Word.  
May it nourish me  
As it nourished Jesus.  
Amen.

Scripture Reading: *Jairus' Daughter*, Lk 8:40-42, 49-56

### **Jairus' Daughter (Lk 8:40-42, 49-56)**

When Jesus returned to the other side of the lake, the people welcomed him, because they had all been waiting for him. Then a man named Jairus arrived; he was an official in the local synagogue. He threw himself down at Jesus' feet and begged him to go to his home, because his only daughter, who was twelve years old, was dying.....a messenger came from the official's house. "Your daughter has died," he told Jairus; "don't bother the Teacher any longer."

But Jesus heard it and said to Jairus, "Don't be afraid; only believe, and she will be well."

When he arrived at the house, he would not let anyone go in with him except Peter, John and James, and the child's father and mother. Everyone there was crying and mourning for the child. Jesus said, "Don't cry; the child is not dead- she is only sleeping!"

They all made fun of him, because they knew that she was dead. But Jesus took her by the hand and called out, "Get up, child!" Her life returned, and she got up at once, and Jesus ordered them to give her something to eat. Her parents were astounded, but Jesus commanded them not to tell anyone what had happened.

### Intercessions:

The response (R) is: **Hear our prayer**

- We pray for Pope Francis, that the Holy Spirit will continue to guide him in his work. Lord in your mercy (R)
- We pray for those in our families who are sick at this time, that they may find peace. Lord in your mercy (R)
- We pray for ourselves, that we may open our hearts to forgive and be forgiven. Lord in your mercy (R)
- We pray for ourselves, that we may often use the words: 'Please', 'Thank you' and 'I'm sorry'. Lord in your mercy (R)

**Official Family Prayer for World Meeting of Families 2018 (available on page 8)**

**Closing Song/Hymn:** e.g.

*Lay Your Hands* (GIL, 3<sup>rd</sup> Class p.122)

*The Bells of the Angelus* (GIL, 3<sup>rd</sup> Class p.123)

*Circle of Friends* (GIL, 1<sup>st</sup> Class p.84; 2<sup>nd</sup> Class, p.44)

*Críost Liom* (A-07, p.294)

*Song of Repentance* (GIL, 4<sup>th</sup> Class p. 375; A-O 8 p.314)

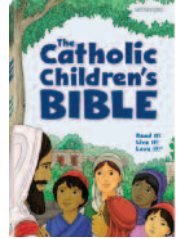
## Suggestions for Class-Based Activities

- Visit the website for the World Meeting of Families 2018 on [www.worldmeeting2018.ie/en/About/About-WMOF2018](http://www.worldmeeting2018.ie/en/About/About-WMOF2018)
- Compose a class prayer and display it on the Virtual Candle on the **Grow in Love** website
- Design a Family Petition Box and present it in the parish church. Invite the local parish community to pray for the intentions included
- Compose individual prayers for inclusion in the Family Petition Box
- Draw a papal flag and display it
- Bring home and pray the *Official Family Prayer for the World Meeting of Families 2018*
- Colour in the colouring sheet of the Icon of the Holy Family available on [www.worldmeeting2018.ie](http://www.worldmeeting2018.ie)
- Imagine what you might do if Pope Francis asks to visit your house in August 2018
- Research visual images of *Jairus' Daughter* (Lk 8:40-42, 49-56), *The Wedding in Cana* (Jn 2:1-12) and *The Boy Jesus in the Temple*, (Lk 2:41-50)
- Invite a visitor into your class to share their memories of:
  - the papal visit of St John Paul II to Ireland 1979
  - a pilgrimage to Knock/Lourdes/Fatima (resources on *GIL* website)
  - receiving Holy Communion for the first time (perhaps a grandparent)
  - attending World Youth Day
- Celebrate lunchtime as a class picnic
- Find out more about Our Lady's parents, St Anne and St Joachim
- Celebrate Grandparents Day if you have not already had an opportunity to do so. Further information available on [www.catholicschools.ie](http://www.catholicschools.ie)
- Research the life of the patron saint of your parish/school
- Draw, colour and display a picture of Pope Francis
- Hold a class quiz about Pope Francis
- Make a class collage reflecting "The Joy of Love in the Family"
- Celebrate the diversity of cultures and traditions in our school family. Investigate how to say 'Please', 'Thank you' and 'I'm sorry' in a variety of languages
- Explore the Icon of the Holy Family on [www.worldmeeting2018.ie/WMOF/media/downloads/WMOF2018-Icon-of-the-Holy-Family.pdf](http://www.worldmeeting2018.ie/WMOF/media/downloads/WMOF2018-Icon-of-the-Holy-Family.pdf)
- Research the life of St Thérèse of Lisieux and of her parents Saints Louis and Zélie Martin
- Organise a pilgrim walk around your parish; include a visit to the church, local historic site, holy well etc (further details available on [www.education.dublindiocese.ie/2014/06/19/additional-resources/](http://www.education.dublindiocese.ie/2014/06/19/additional-resources/))



## Teacher/Parent/Guardian Tip

### Sacred Seeing (*Visio Divina*)



Here are step-by-step instructions for guiding the children to pray using *visio divina*.

**Step 1.** Choose a scene from one of the Scripture stories explored on Day 1, Day 2, or Day 3.

**Step 2.** Look carefully at the image.

**Step 3.** As you look at the image, let your eyes stay with the very first thing you notice. Try to keep your eyes from wandering to other parts of the picture. Breathe deeply and let yourself gaze at that part of the image for a minute or so. (Allow some time for children to focus on the image in silence.)

**Step 4.** Now let your eyes take in the whole image. Take your time and look at every part of the scene. See all the details. Reflect on it for a minute or two. (Allow some time for children to focus on the image in silence.)

**Step 5.** Think about your response to the following question:

- What feelings are you experiencing as you look at the image?

### Sacred Reading (*Lectio Divina*)

Here are step-by-step instructions for guiding the children to pray the Scripture stories as outlined on Day 1, Day 2 and Day 3....using *lectio divina*.

#### **Step 1: READ**

Before reading Sacred Scripture, invite the children to become quiet and still, using these or similar words:

I invite you to pause for a moment. You may close your eyes ... Be aware that you are preparing to hear the Word of God ... You need to listen really carefully to what God is saying to you through these words ... so try to forget about everything else except the words that you hear from Sacred Scripture.

Then read the Scripture.

#### **Step 2: MEDITATE**

Invite the children to think about the story they have just heard. They may keep their eyes closed as you guide them in their silent reflection with these or similar questions:

- What happened in this story?
- Is there any phrase or word you would like to remember?

#### **Step 3: PRAY**

Invite the children to pray, prompting them to do so with questions or suggestions such as:

- Is there something you would like to say to Jesus, using your inside voice, about the story you have just heard? ... Perhaps you would like to talk to him about some of the characters in the story ...
- Is there anything you would like to ask Jesus about the story? ... Jesus is listening to you now ... Tell him whatever thoughts or questions are in your mind ...

#### **Step 4: LISTEN**

Invite the children to listen to what Jesus might be saying to them now, using these or similar words: We have prayed to Jesus about the story. Now we will be quiet and hear what Jesus might be saying back to us ... Perhaps Jesus is telling us about how we can choose to be more like Him in our family life. Allow for a few moments of silent reflection.

# Suggestions for Home-Based Activities

## Day 1

Resources to complement activities in the home are available on [www.education.dublindiocese.ie/2014/06/19/additional-resources/](http://www.education.dublindiocese.ie/2014/06/19/additional-resources/)

- Draw your family or family tree
- Sacred **reading** of *The Boy Jesus in the Temple*, Lk 2:41-50
- Sacred **seeing** of *The Boy Jesus in the Temple*, Lk 2:41-50
- Invite the family to compose a family prayer and place in the Family Petition Box where available
- Pray the Official Family Prayer for World Meeting of Families 2018



## Day 2

Resources to complement activities in the home are available on [www.education.dublindiocese.ie/2014/06/19/additional-resources/](http://www.education.dublindiocese.ie/2014/06/19/additional-resources/)

- Draw a faith timeline and record significant times in your life including receiving the sacraments
- Sacred **reading** of *The Wedding in Cana*, Jn 2: 1-12
- Sacred **seeing** of *The Wedding in Cana*, Jn 2: 1-12
- Invite the family to compose a family prayer and place in the Family Petition Box where available
- Pray the Official Family Prayer for World Meeting of Families 2018

## Day 3

Resources to complement activities in the home are available on [www.education.dublindiocese.ie/2014/06/19/additional-resources/](http://www.education.dublindiocese.ie/2014/06/19/additional-resources/)

- Share a story/meal/joke/prayer with the people in your family
- Sacred **reading** of *Jairus' Daughter*, Lk 8:40-42, 49-56
- Sacred **seeing** of *Jairus' Daughter*, Lk 8:40-42, 49-56
- Invite the family to compose a family prayer and place in the Family Petition Box where available
- Pray the Official Family Prayer for World Meeting of Families 2018

**Further information and resources** Icon on the Holy Family

[www.worldmeeting2018.ie/WMOF/media/downloads/WMOF2018-Icon-of-the-Holy-Family.pdf](http://www.worldmeeting2018.ie/WMOF/media/downloads/WMOF2018-Icon-of-the-Holy-Family.pdf)

## 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 love.

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**

*Mary, mother and guide, pray for us.*

*Saint Joseph, father and protector,  
pray for us.*

*Saints Joachim and Anne, pray for us.*

*Saints Louis and Zélie Martin, pray for us.*

## A JOY FOR ALL THE EARTH OFFICIAL HYMN FOR WORLD MEETING OF FAMILIES 2018



Love bears all things, endures all things  
Love longs for all things good,  
love never ends

Love is patient, and love is kind.

Love is not resentful; it is not rude.

Love is not arrogant, nor boastful,  
nor jealous,

but love rejoices, rejoices in the truth

**Refrain**

**The joy, of love, a joy for all God's family,  
The joy of love transcending time and  
space.**

**Our Love for each other mirrors God the  
Father's love.**

**The joy of love: a joy for all the earth.**

Here in Gods family all find their home.

All can find salvation troubled souls find  
peace.

Here is found tenderness, compassion and  
justice

Here God reaches down to us and touches  
us with grace.

**Refrain**

Love is our origin, our constant calling.

Love is our fulfilment, in God's dwelling  
place.

Love is the mystery of Father, Son and  
Spirit,

Love is communion of blessed Trinity.

**Refrain**

This is what God asks of us, to act with  
justice,

to love with tenderness, to walk humbly with  
God,

to give our lives in service to others.

The joy of the Gospel is the joyful love of  
Christ!

**Refrain**

Love bears all things, endures all things  
love longs for all things good, love never  
ends.