



PONTIFICIUM CONSILIUM  
PRO FAMILIA

Prot. N. 2015/650 – II/15

Vatican City, 14 October 2015

Your Eminence, Your Excellency,

At the end of the Mass presided by Pope Francis in Philadelphia, in conclusion of the World Meeting of Families, I had the joy of announcing that the Jubilee of Families will be celebrated on 27 December 2015, the Sunday dedicated to the Holy Family of Nazareth.

According to the indications given by the Holy Father, this celebration will be eminently spiritual and local. Therefore, no a large international gathering of families from around the world will be held in Rome.

The suggestion is rather that every diocese should organize, on the indicated date, a celebration dedicated specifically to families, including a spiritual preparatory path, the passage of a Holy Door, and Holy Mass. The specified structure is that of the celebration that Pope Francis will preside over in St. Peter's Basilica on the same day, according to the official calendar of the Jubilee.

In the coming weeks, some simple materials, useful for the animation of the Jubilee celebrations, will be made available on the website of the Pontifical Council for the Family ([www.family.va](http://www.family.va)).

I kindly ask you to inform as soon as possible the different dioceses belonging to the Episcopal Conference of which you are the President, so that the mercy of the Lord may be celebrated with the families around the world, how and when each local church considers it appropriate.

With thanks in the Lord,

+ Vincenzo Paglia  
President

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To the **Presidents of the National Episcopal Conferences**  
and for information

To the **Presidents of the Commission for Life Family of the Episcopal Conferences**  
Their headquarters