



# WORLD MEETING OF FAMILIES 2018

logo

## At the Heart of the Logo

At the heart of the logo is the family. Family members are represented in different ages and roles while walking together in communion and love, helping one another through the journey of life. No one is excluded, no one is left behind. Couples, elderly, single, widowed, consecrated, clergy, children, all are important members of our families and all are invited to participate of WMOF2018.



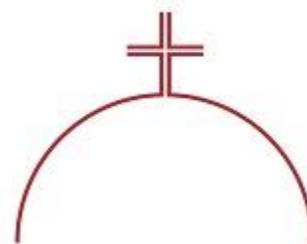
## An International and Ecological Event

The map of the world shows that families from all around the globe will come to Ireland for what will be a truly international event. While we see only a glimpse of the continents, they represent the whole world: the common home of all families, entrusted to us by God. In his encyclical letter, *Laudato Si*, Pope Francis reminds us that families have a vital role to play in caring for our common home. He reminds us that Saint Francis of Assisi described our earth itself as “like a sister with whom we share our life and a beautiful mother who opens her arms to embrace us”. (Cf. Pope Francis, *Laudato Si: On Care for our Common Home*, n.1). The World Meeting of Families in Dublin, Ireland, will explore how families, as our first home, can help us to care for our common home.



## The Church, the Family of Families

The red semicircle with the cross on the top echoes the logo of the Archdiocese of Dublin, which is the host diocese for WMOF2018. As well as representing God’s love, flowing from the cross, embracing all the families of the world, the semicircle and cross also represent the ‘dome’ of the Church, “a family of families, constantly enriched by the lives of all those domestic churches” (Pope Francis, *The Joy of Love*, n. 87). In the logo, as in real life, the Church embraces the family, protects the family and supports the family. When our families are stronger, society is stronger, and the Church is stronger.



### **The Cross**

The cross is the ultimate symbol of the self-sacrificing love of Jesus. Self-sacrificing love is at the very heart of marriage and family life. The rays represent the grace of the Holy Spirit, flowing from the cross and uniting our families in love. Through the Holy Spirit, Jesus dwells within our families and gives us the strength to take up our own crosses and follow him.



The cross used in the logo is also a symbol of Ireland's Christian roots and history. Known by many as the "Papal Cross", it stands in the Phoenix Park in Dublin, one of the largest walled city parks in Europe, where, in 1979, over one million Catholics gathered for another major occasion: to welcome, listen and pray with Saint John Paul II, who was also the founder of World Meeting of Families. Christ is the one that gathers us and calls us to come together again in WMOF2018 in Dublin.

### **The Holy Trinity**

In the Joy of Love, Pope Francis speaks several times of marriage and the family as the "living icon" of the Most Holy Trinity (cf. nos. 11, 121, 161, 314, 324). As the family, through marriage, comes together in mutual self-giving, communion and love, it reflects the mystery of the Holy Trinity and immerses itself in "the mystery from which all true love flows" (n. 63).



The tri-spiral swirl in the logo draws from ancient Celtic imagery, to reflect this truth. These triple spirals are found on ancient stones and monuments around Ireland. As Christianity came to Ireland, the tri-spiral, or triskele, began to be used as a symbol of the Holy Trinity, together with the well-known shamrock, associated with St Patrick. St. Patrick, tradition has it, used the shamrock to explain the mystery of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit united, as one family: one God and three Divine Persons, in a perfect communion of love.

### **Location and Date**

The logo includes the date and location chosen by Pope Francis to host the next World Meeting of Families: Dublin, Ireland, 21-26 August 2018. It is a great joy and responsibility for us in Ireland to host this event and the logo includes a direct invitation to families and individuals from all over the world to come and join us for the event.

DUBLIN, IRELAND  
21-26 AUGUST 2018

### **Design and Usage**

The logo for the World Meeting of Families 2018 was designed by Aid to the Church in Need (Ireland). The Logo is available in English, Spanish, French, German, Italian, Portuguese, Polish and Irish.

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