

“The family, work and holidays
are gifts and blessings
to help us to live
a fully human life”

Benedict XVI

Download posters, flyers and promotional
material from our internet site

Information on registration for the
Seventh World Meeting of Families

available at
www.family2012.com

starting on
Friday, July 1st 2011



VII **WORLD
MEETING**
OF FAMILIES
MILAN 2012

info@family2012.com
www.family2012.com



VII **WORLD
MEETING**
OF FAMILIES
MILAN 2012

THE FAMILY: WORK AND CELEBRATION

*With Pope Benedict XVI
to rediscover the family
our human heritage*

MILAN

from 30th May

to 3rd June 2012

YOUFAMILY
WHERE FAMILIES TALK

www.family2012.com

ARCHDIOCESE OF MILAN
PONTIFICAL COUNCIL FOR THE FAMILY

From Mexico City to Milan

Pope Benedict XVI closed the meeting held in Mexico City in January 2009 with the words: *"I am happy to announce that the Seventh World Meeting of Families will be held, God willing, in Italy, in the city of Milan, in 2012"*.

The origins

Rome, 1994: Pope John Paul II promotes the first World Meeting of Families, to be held every three years.

The other meetings

Rio de Janeiro, 1997
Rome, 2000
Manila, 2003
Valencia, 2006
Mexico City, 2009

The themes of the Meeting

The family, work and celebration represent three aspects of life, starting with family and opening it up to the world. Work and celebration are ways in which the family inhabits social "space" and experiences human "time". The theme looks at the couple formed by a man and a woman and this couple's lifestyles: relationships (the family), the world (work) and human elements of time (celebration).

The Meeting is intended to reflect on the family as **human heritage**, suggesting the idea that the family is a universal human heritage and at the same time contributing to the human element of life everywhere in the world.

The logo



The logo represents a family in an attitude of celebration, fit into a stylised profile of Milan Cathedral. The spires suggest the profile of an industrial city with a wealth of smokestacks. Work, celebration and family come together in a single image, the profound sense of which is apparent in the fact that it is enclosed in the Cathedral of Milan.

Three reasons to participate

To get together and discuss the experience and testimony of families from five continents, enjoy the welcome of the Church in Milan and Lombardy, and experience the city's wealth of culture.

To study and work together, focusing on the theme of the Meeting during the International Theological and Pastoral Congress.

To confirm your faith and celebrate with the Holy Father and thousands of families from all over the world.

The programme

The initiatives planned to prepare for the event begin in September and will be announced on the website www.family2012.com. Below is a general programme for the week of the Meeting:

Tuesday May 29 2012

Welcoming Meeting participants

Wednesday May 30, Thursday May 31 and Friday June 1 2012

International theological and pastoral congress, with reports and seminars inspired by the theme "The Family: work and celebration"; reflection on family policy, meetings with people with significant experience in the area; Eucharistic Celebrations in parishes and/or by language group; celebrations in the participating towns and parishes

Friday June 1 2012

Evening at Teatro alla Scala for delegations from various different countries.

Eucharistic Celebration in the Cathedral

Saturday June 2 2012

Feast of Testimonies in the presence of Pope Benedict XVI

Sunday June 3 2012

Holy Mass celebrated by Pope Benedict XVI

The Catechesis

"May Christian families and ecclesial communities of the whole world therefore feel challenged and involved, and set out promptly on their way towards Milan 2012" (from the letter of Pope Benedict XVI).

The engine driving the Meeting and the path towards Milan are the **Catechesis**. Divided into three groups regarding, in order, **the family** (*The family generates life, The family lives the test, The family animates society*), **work** (*Work and celebration in the family, Work as a family's resource, Work as a challenge to the family*) and **celebration** (*Celebration, time for the family; Celebration, time for the Lord; Celebration, time for the community*) and introduced by a catechesis on family lifestyle (*The secret of Nazareth*), they are intended to cast light on the relationships between the family experience and everyday life in society and the world.