



“The engagement of every lay person, according to their gifts and state in life, is essential for the mission of the Church to be fulfilled.” Unleash the Gospel Marker 5.1: The Laity.

Family of Parishes Third Family Gathering – Witness

The Witness stage is directed to others in word and deed to attract them to the faith and help them to encounter Jesus Christ. It is characterized by being intentional about encouraging and empowering individuals and families to be outward focused and to be bearers of the Gospel in their homes, neighborhoods, and places of work. Marker 9.3 of Unleash the Gospel says:

“To live fully as a disciple is to make disciples. All we need is this conviction: ‘Knowing Jesus is the best gift that any person can receive; that we have encountered him in the best thing that has happened in our lives, and making him known by our word and deeds is our joy.’”

This gathering will nurture and encourage the Family of Parishes to celebrate together, to pray together, and to discern and follow the promptings of the Holy Spirit in order to bring the message of the Kerygma to our communities through our experiences and mutual collaboration. It is an opportunity to give **witness** to our faith and the plan of God that has brought us together to bring others to Christ within and beyond our Family’s geographical boundaries.