

What to do...

ON YOUR OWN, WITH YOUR FAMILY
OR WITH OTHERS:

- You may want to have some friends over for coffee to talk about these questions
- Find out if your parish or school is inviting families to meet together
- Share these questions with your work colleagues - what do they think?

Perhaps some of the words on the cover of this leaflet highlight your joys or concerns? Write in the space provided but feel free to use extra paper. Send your response to your diocesan contact:

You can also submit a reply via the internet:
www.listening2004.org.uk

This document can be made available in other formats and in other languages on request.

If any issues raised in answering these questions are a problem for you, or for someone you know, your diocesan contact can also advise on services that may help.

Listening 2004...

...is a time to ask ourselves, as a family, as a church, what life is like right now for families, for all families, whatever family means to you.

What are your joys, your sorrows, your hopes?

What do you really want from your church?

This year every Catholic diocese has set aside a special day to listen to you and other families in your area. You can help to shape this day by responding to the questions in this leaflet.

Why? Sharing our difficulties, our blessings and our hopes will help us all to see more clearly what we can do together, with God's help, to build a stronger future for families, at home, in the wider community and in our church.



Marriage & Family Life Project Officer:

Elizabeth Davies

Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales

39 Euston Square, London SW1V 1BX

TF: 01902 621594 Email: daviese@cbew.org.uk

Design by: brandnew@rock.com



Celebration?



UN YEAR OF THE FAMILY
TENTH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

www.listening2004.org.uk

Listening to my family...

What are the difficulties you face as a family?
How do you cope?

What do you enjoy most about your family life?
What are the high-points and the blessings?

What are your hopes for your family?

What else do you want to say about family life at home?

...families in today's world...

Does today's world make family life difficult for you? If so, how do you cope?

How is your family life helped by the world around you?

What do you hope for as a family from the wider community?

What else do you want to say about family life in today's society?

...and families in the church

What difficulties do you experience as a family in the church? How do you cope?

How does the church help you in your family life?

What do you hope for as a family from the parish community in which you live?

What else do you want to say about family life in the church?

GROUND RULES FOR GROUPS: Listen, share & accept all experiences & feelings. Respect confidentiality & the right to be silent. Don't hog the conversation. Listen & check to ensure mutual understanding. Remember that God is present. For more guidance contact your local coordinator.

CLOSING PRAYER: God, grant us the serenity to accept the things we cannot change, the courage to change the things we can and the wisdom to know the difference. Amen.