



DICASTERIUM
PRO LAICIS, FAMILIA ET VITA

Prot. n. 2019/394

Vatican City, 7 May 2019

Dear friends,

As announced in a previous communication, I am pleased to inform you that this year the **Annual Meeting of the Dicastery with the moderators of international ecclesial movements** will take place on **Thursday 13 June** in the Aula Magna of the Jesuit General Curia in Rome (Borgo S. Spirito, 4 - 00193 Rome), starting at 8:30 and ending at 17:45. Each ecclesial movement can be represented by up to two representatives.

The topic of the meeting will be: **“The prevention of sexual abuse: commitment on the part of ecclesial associations and movements”**. This is a subject of great concern in the Church, one that is very close to Pope Francis’ heart and that must also be addressed seriously by ecclesial movements. Our day of reflection and dialogue will be an opportunity to heighten awareness among the international leaders of ecclesial movements – and through them, all the members of these movements – of the serious issue of sexual abuse. This topic has been silenced or underestimated for too long, and now preventative measures must be put in place. Secondly, the Dicastery would like to suggest some criteria for the training of animators in the ecclesial movements that would also be applicable for all their members. These are to help create wholesome relationships in all aspects of life and in every field of action (family environment, group life, apostolate, mission, etc.), especially with respect to minors and the very young, but naturally also in relation to adults and the elderly. Thirdly, we would like to offer an opportunity for exchange so that the participants at the meeting can hear about educational and proactive programmes that have proved to be most effective in countering this despicable practice. We ask all of those who will deliver reports or speak from the floor, to bear in mind the abovementioned objectives and to comply with them. This will lead to a more effective outcome in the discussions on the subject in question.

This year, in order to get to know each other better and to have further opportunities for exchange and dialogue, all participants at the meeting are invited to lunch by the Dicastery in the same building. For those who wish, we will have the opportunity to conclude our day with the celebration of Mass at 18:15 in the church of the San Lorenzo Youth Centre in Via Pfeiffer 24, a few metres away from where we will have our meeting.

In order to facilitate the organisation of the meeting, we ask you to communicate the

names of the participants by Thursday 30 May to the following email address: g.buontempo@laityfamilylife.va. Let us know if they will be present for lunch.

I wish all of you the best for this Easter season. Yours sincerely in Christ,



Kevin Card. Farrell

Prefect