

# Week 4: Call to Family, Community & Participation

**The family is the basic unit of society, where values are taught. The Church recognizes the importance of the global vision of family, which invites nations to work together for the common good. We are called to participate in family and society for the common good.**

## Bulletin Inserts

The first and fundamental structure for "human ecology" is the family, in which man receives his first formative ideas about truth and goodness, and learns what it means to love and to be loved, and thus what it actually means to be a person. (Centesimus Annus, 39)

"Communion" has to do with the personal relationship between the "I" and the "thou." "Community" on the other hand transcends this framework and moves towards a "society," a "we". The family, as a community of persons, is thus the first human "society." (Gratissimam Sane, 7)

The political community, a reality inherent in mankind, exists to achieve and end otherwise unobtainable: the full growth of each of its members, called to cooperate steadfastly for the attainment of the common good (Gaudium et Spes, 74)

## Discussion questions

What most challenges the ability of a family to develop a God-centered orientation?

Why is the common good linked to society and family?

How does cooperation in economic development flow naturally from the concept of the global family?

## Petition

May the Church around the world find new and creative ways of nurturing family life, we pray to the Lord

## Penitential Act

Lord Jesus, you remind us we are brothers and sisters in God's family: Lord, have mercy

Christ Jesus, you teach us to call God our "Father": Christ, have mercy

Lord Jesus, you call each of us to work for the good of all: Lord, have mercy

