



FAMILY GROUP MOVEMENT ENGLAND & WALES



**‘An evangelizing community gets involved by
word and deed in people’s daily lives’**

Pope Francis

For more information please contact:



The Rt Rev Peter Doyle, Bishop of
Northampton, is Patron of The Family
Group Movement (England & Wales)



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**‘This is my commandment: love one another,
as I have loved you’ John 15:12**

FAMILY GROUP VALUES

Family Groups are about people and the
community – *a family for all*

Everybody is welcome: Family Groups are
inclusive and accepting, respecting differences

Together we build a sense of parish in the community
and a sense of community in the parish

Family Groups are a place to share laughter and tears,
food and fun



“The friendship, support, the wonderful feeling of togetherness and fellowship that we have experienced in Family Groups have been absolutely instrumental in keeping our faith on track” Tracey and Stephen

What are Family Groups?

Like a natural family, Family Groups are made up of people of all ages and circumstances who simply commit to meet regularly and get to know each other better. The groups are linked by a common faith bond but are not exclusive to Catholics. Many group members bring along their non-Catholic partners who are integral to the group’s success. Family Groups do not replace other groups in the parish but help their members develop genuine friendships and support networks and to build a sense of community in the parish and a sense of parish in the community.

Do you have to be in a family to join?

No. Family Groups are a family for all irrespective of age or personal circumstances. Family Groups are made up of young, and mature, single, married, widowed, separated and divorced people, families with children and families without, who are

placed into a group of 20-30 members which grows over time as a family.

What do Family Groups do?

Groups meet every four to six weeks for a variety of activities decided by their members. These are always low cost and include walks, shared meals, quizzes, film nights, games, parties and anniversary celebrations, music and themed events, fundraising, House Masses, Advent and Easter activities and occasional trips away. The groups often become a valuable source of parish outreach as well as offering support and fellowship to their own members.

Are there any rules?

The concept of Family Groups is very simple. There are few rules beyond a commitment to know and love each other as brothers and sisters in Christ. The groups need the visible support and encouragement of their parish priest to thrive but are run by volunteer group leaders and parish coordinators.

“I can’t praise the idea of Family Groups enough and would encourage anyone who has the chance to start their own group, to do so. It’s a lot of reward for very little effort.” Fiona



Find out more about the Family Group Movement at
www.catholicfamily.org.uk