

Family of Parishes: The Directors – Update from Fr. Patrick - July 11, 2021

Hello Corpus Christi Family! This week, I'm continuing with breaking down some of the specifics of the Families of Parishes (FOP) organizational structure. Let's continue with the director positions envisioned in the FOP structure. As was mentioned before, the team of priests, led by the moderator (Fr. Jaime Hinojos) are charged with leading the family and helping to form a team that helps to care for the entire family.

Key to the team that will serve the family are the six directors, who will each have an area of expertise that they oversee at all six parishes in the family. The director does not do the ministry at the parish level per se, though this may happen in some instances, but oversees their area of expertise across the family and works with coordinators at the parish level to ensure ministries in these various areas are taking place and being done effectively. The Archdiocese has listed six director positions in the new structure. A few weeks ago, I covered the Director of Mission Support, the Director of Engagement, and the Director of Discipleship Formation positions (found in the June 27 update). This week I'll cover the other three director positions.

Director of Evangelical Charity: The Director of Evangelical Charity ensures a full response to Catholic Social Teaching through charity in areas of human need, both in the parish and beyond, and works for justice by the promotion and coordination of action to eliminate the causes of human need in our society; and ensures all evangelical charity initiatives are based on a person-to-person engagement approach that places a primary value on the integral connection between works of mercy, accompaniment, and evangelization (UTG Markers 6.1, 6.2 and 8.4). Attention should be given to sensitivity to cultural diversity.

Director of Family Ministries: The Director of Family Ministries assists families in living as domestic church (See Unleash the Gospel, Guidepost 7); oversees ministries that assist struggling families (Marker 7.1); assures the connection between family life and evangelization and Christian service (Marker 7.2); facilitates the use of existing parish programs and events as opportunities for families to encounter Jesus anew, grow daily as his disciples, and give witness to the power of His mercy (Marker 7.3); works closely with the Director of Engagement and Director of Discipleship Formation, helping to move individuals and families from the "encounter" stages of evangelization into the "grow" and "witness" phases of discipleship formation. Attention should be given to sensitivity to cultural diversity.

Director of Worship: The Director of Worship facilitates the worship life of the community by coordinating and providing quality prayer and liturgical experiences which help people encounter Jesus, especially the Sunday experience; ensures the connection between worship and evangelization; oversees the scheduling of all liturgical celebrations and prayer services to ensure the integrity of the liturgical year. Attention should be given to sensitivity to cultural diversity.

If you visit <https://www.familiesofparishes.org/playbook/> you can read more about these various director positions. When it comes to filling these positions, the Archdiocese has encouraged us to look within our family of parishes at the staff we already have in hopes of being able to fill these positions.