

**Coastal Delmarva Voice of the Faithful**  
<http://votf-cd.org/> and <http://voicefaithful.wordpress.com/>

**Mission:** To provide a prayerful voice, attentive to the Spirit, through which the faithful can actively participate in the governance and the guidance of the Catholic Church

**Goals:**

1. To support those who have been abused
2. To support priests of integrity
3. To shape structural change within the Church

**Agenda**  
**January 13, 2015**

- Welcome
- Opening Prayer
- Treasury Report
- “The Family in the Catholic Church” Meetings and Study
  - Four Sessions at St. Ann’s Parish on January 21, 28, February 4, 11
- Request from National VOTF to Host Healing Circle
- Program: Fr. Patrick Bergquist “Looking for Spring Beneath the Snow”
- Next Affiliate Meeting: March 10  
“Spiritual Leadership for Challenging Times: Leadership Style of LCWR and Catholic Sisters”  
Linda Plitt-Donaldson MSW, Ph.D. Fellow at Institute for Policy Research and Catholic Studies  
at Catholic University of America  
See <http://www.solidaritywithsisters.org/> and <http://globalsistersreport.org/>
- Dates to Note
  - 11 April – Coastal Delmarva Affiliate Morning of Reflection
  - 18 April – VOTF 2015 National Assembly Hartford, CT  
Keynote: Marie Collins of Pontifical Commission for the Protection of Minors
- Closing Remarks and Prayer

*In the depths of your hopes and desires lies your silent knowledge of the beyond;  
and like seeds dreaming beneath the snow your heart dreams of spring.  
Trust the dreams, for in them is hidden the gate to eternity.*

**Kahlil Gibran**

## **The Family in the Catholic Church -- Meetings and Study**

**There will be a series of meetings for interested parishioners to brainstorm about the needs of families in the Catholic Church, as well as to read together the documents from the Bishops' Synod on the Family which took place in October.**

**The meetings are scheduled to allow the fullest participation--a morning meeting at 9:30 am in Delaney Hall for those available in the morning and an evening meeting at 7pm in room 7 of the Masterson Center for those available in the evening. The dates for these meetings are January 21 and 28 and February 4 and 11.**

**We will provide copies of three documents from the October meeting: the preliminary summary, the English language groups' commentaries on that summary and the final document. Anyone who would like to look at the final document now can go the following Internet address:**

**<http://press.vatican.va/content/salastampa/en/bollettino/pubblico/2014/10/18/0770/03044.html>**

**The Holy Father has asked for participation by the laity in the matter of identifying concerns and issues related to the family. Our plan in this series of meetings is to keep notes on discussion points and what is shared and prepare a document from these to send to Bishop Malooly. For those of you who cannot attend these meetings, you are invited to share your concerns and sense of what the issues about the family are by sending them to the office of Religious Education. Please make "Family Synod" your subject so that we don't miss any of them. The email address to send these to is [dre@stannsbethany.org](mailto:dre@stannsbethany.org). For those planning to attend please let us know either through email (to the same address) or by phone 302-539-5443.**