



ARCHDIOCESE OF NEW YORK

FAMILY LIFE

TO: Pastors and Administrators
FROM: Theodore Musco, Director
RE: *Strong Catholic Families/Fortaleciendo Familias en la Fe Initiative*
DATE: October 16, 2023

IMPORTANT ACTION ITEM!

During our fourteen *Educate—Encourage—Engage Meet and Greet Meetings* held during this past pastoral year throughout the Archdiocese of New York, the initiative that received the most attention was *Strong Catholic Families/Fortaleciendo Familias en la Fe* sponsored by the National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry (NFCYM).

As previously announced, *Strong Catholic Families* <https://nfcym.org/programs/strong-catholic-families/> will be the foundation for working with families throughout the Archdiocese promoted and supported by the Office of Family Life in conjunction with other departments and offices. Please use the link above to learn more about this initiative.

The Strong Catholic Families resources, events, and training options are designed to:

- Motivate and engage parents to embrace their responsibility for the family life development of their children and grow the domestic church of the home.
- Motivate and engage parishes/schools to accompany, support and equip parents and families in passing on family life values to their children.



In addition to *Strong Catholic Families, Partnering with Parents* <https://nfcym.org/programs/strong-catholic-families/leader-parent-resources/provides-resources> that can be used to assist parents and parish leaders.

Now, we look forward to meeting with pastors, administrators, parish leaders, and others to assist your parish in implementing *Strong Catholic Families Fortaleciendo Familias en la Fe*. Our staff will schedule a meeting at your convenience and provide some basic steps to help your parish motivate and engage parents.

Please contact me to set up a meeting time and location. My email is Theodore.Musco@archny.org and my office telephone is 646-794-3186. This is an excellent time to meet to prepare for the new calendar year 2024. I look forward to speaking with you soon.