

6. *“The family which experiences the joy of faith communicates it naturally. That family is the salt of the earth and the light of the world; it is the leaven of society as a whole.”*

In what way, through the abiding presence of God, is your family “the salt of the earth and the light of the world,” and a place of, and for, handing on our faith

THE CALL, THE JOURNEY AND THE MISSION.

An Invitation from the Bishops
of England and Wales to Reflect
on the Gift of Marriage and
Family Life.



RESPONSE FORM

**Please complete this form after
your reflections.**

Thinking about what you have read in the Scriptures and using the quotations from the teaching of Pope Francis, respond to the following questions, using your experience of Marriage and Family Life.

1. *“I am asking you to rebel against this culture that sees everything as temporary and that ultimately believes you are incapable of responsibility, that believes you are incapable of true love.”*

What are your joys and hopes of marriage and family life today?

2. *“With trust in God’s faithfulness, everything can be faced responsibly and without fear. That is why we need the grace, the grace that comes from the sacrament[[of Marriage]!”*

What are our struggles and fears for marriage and family life today?

3. *“Those who celebrate the sacrament say, ‘I promise to be true to you, in joy and in sadness, in sickness and in health: I will love you and honour you all the days of my life’. At that moment, the couple does not know what will happen, nor what joys and pains await them.”*

How can we better understand marriage as a vocation?

4. *“Today, there are those who say that marriage is out of fashion...They say that it is not worth making a life-long commitment, making a definitive decision, ‘forever’, because we do not know what tomorrow will bring.”*

How does your marriage enrich you?

5. *“The family is important, and it is necessary for the survival of humanity. Without the family, the cultural survival of the human race would be at risk.”*

How does your family life enrich those around you?