



Pontificio Istituto Teologico
Giovanni Paolo II
Matrimonio e Famiglia

 Sede Centrale



**PONTIFICAL JOHN PAUL II THEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE
FOR MARRIAGE AND FAMILY SCIENCES**

ACADEMIC YEAR 2026–2027



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THE JP2

The **Pontifical John Paul II Theological Institute**, born from the prophetic vision of St. John Paul II following the 1980 Synod on the Family and reestablished by Pope Francis in 2017 in the wake of the 2014–2015 Synod, has a clear mission: to establish, within the framework of **pontifical institutions**, an **international academic body of reference in the field of the sciences pertaining to marriage and the family**, at the service of the universal Church and local churches.

At its Rome campus, it offers specialized licentiates and doctoral programs in **Theology and in the Sciences of Marriage and the Family**, promoting the study of the family as a school of humanity, in light of the Church's **magisterium** and attentive to the challenges of **contemporary society**.

Responding to **the need for formation** in the areas of marriage and the family, **the goal** is to contribute to the development of pastoral approaches suited to diverse local contexts, inspired by the living tradition of the Church and its social doctrine.

It is designed to form **laypeople, couples, priests, men and women religious, missionaries, professionals, and future leaders** engaged at various levels in family and community accompaniment.

UNIQUE. PONTIFICAL. INTERNATIONAL.

It is the **only center of higher education** entirely dedicated to the study of theology and the sciences related to marriage and the family. As a **pontifical university**, it serves the Holy Father and the Church's Magisterium in **promoting a theology in dialogue with the other sciences**.

Since its founding, it has been conceived as a center for advanced studies **functioning as an international academic system**, serving the universal Church while remaining attuned to the cultures and social and missionary challenges of local Churches.

SYNODALITY. INTERDISCIPLINARITY. COMMUNITY.

These are the **guiding principles** of the formation and academic life offered by the JP2. The specialized nature of the Institute offers students the opportunity to be closely **accompanied** and guided throughout their educational journey, including through **personalized study plans** that take into account their specific interests and needs.

Synodality is practiced as a way of life: in teaching methods, in learning activities, and in the accompaniment of students. By listening to everyone's voice, we learn better to serve the **common good** and to discern where the Holy Spirit leads theological reflection in service to the mission.

The desire is to build an **academic community that walks together**: students, professors, and staff. **Interdisciplinarity** is put into practice through research themes, the diverse expertise of the faculty, the selection of visiting professors, and by means of the diversity of the students' previous fields of study and educational backgrounds.



IDENTITY AND MISSION

*In reflecting on marriage and the family,
let us never lose sight of the pastoral perspective
and attention to the wounds of humanity.*

Summa familiae cura



The John Paul II Institute,
with its international membership,
has as its mission:

TO SERVE

the vocation and mission of marriage and the family
through **teaching and research**.

TO PROMOTE

interdisciplinary and intercultural reflection on the family
and kinship structures through a pedagogy tailored to
students of diverse nationalities and cultures, integrating
multiple learning methods (courses, seminars, research-
oriented and practice-oriented workshops) to train
professionals in pastoral care that is attentive to **the**
needs of families and to major emerging social issues,
thereby contributing to the development of **Theology** and
the **Social Doctrine of the Family**.

TO PRACTICE

solidarity, fraternity, and synodality as a method of
collective work, both within and outside the academy, by
initiating **processes of collaboration and partnership** with
other universities, and civil society institutions, to foster the
creation of an international research network serving the
journey of families.

THE ACADEMIC PROGRAM

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THEOLOGY OF MARRIAGE AND THE FAMILY

Doctorate in Theology of Marriage and the Family
Licentiate in Theology of Marriage and the Family

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SCIENCES OF MARRIAGE AND THE FAMILY

Doctorate in Sciences on Marriage and Family
Licentiate in Sciences on Marriage and Family
Diploma in Sciences on Marriage and Family

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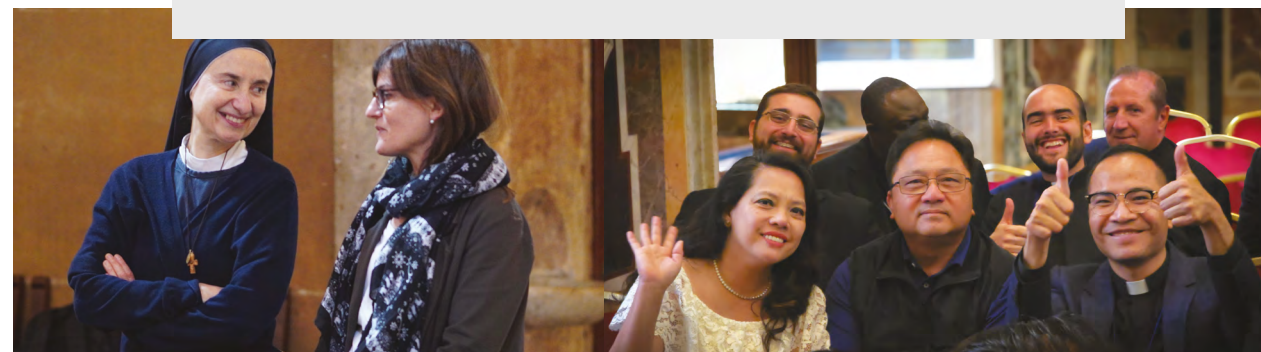
MASTER'S degree from Civil Universities in collaboration with JP2

First-Level Master's in Bioethics from the University of Rome Tor Vergata

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THIRD MISSION

- Close to Families. Family Ministry Programs
- Walking with Families: Pathways in Pastoral Accompaniment (in English)
- Being a Leader in a Synodal Church (CRUIPRO Course)
- Caring School. Family Care as a Social Paradigm
- Training Course for International Family Movements
- Collaboration with dioceses and ecclesial services for ongoing formation



JP2 IN THE WORLD



1 HEADQUARTERS

in Rome, at the
Pontifical Lateran University

7 INTERNATIONAL SECTIONS

3 ASSOCIATED CENTERS



*In different social, economic, and cultural contexts,
the challenges we face vary:
yet everywhere and always, we are called to support,
defend, and promote the family.*

Pope Leo XIV

INTERNATIONAL SECTIONS

- **United States**, Washington, D.C.
Pontifical John Paul II Institute for Studies on Marriage and Family
at the Catholic University of America
www.johnpaulii.edu
- **Mexico**, Mexico City, Guadalajara, and Monterrey
Pontificio Instituto Teológico Juan Pablo II para las Ciencias del Matrimonio y la Familia
Universidad Anáhuac México
<https://familia.anahuac.mx>
- **Spain**, Valencia
Pontificio Instituto Teológico Juan Pablo II para Ciencias del Matrimonio y la Familia
www.jp2valencia.es
- **Spain**, Madrid
Pontificio Instituto Teológico Juan Pablo II para Ciencias del Matrimonio y la Familia
www.institutojp2.es
- **Brazil**, Salvador de Bahia
Pontificio Instituto Teológico João Paulo II para as Ciências do Matrimônio e da Família
Universidade Católica de Salvador
www.institutofamiliajoaopaulo2.org.br
- **Benin**, Cotonou
Institut Pontifical de Théologie Jean-Paul II pour les Sciences du Mariage et de la Famille
Email: ipjbénin@yahoo.fr
- **India**, Changanacherry - Kerala
John Paul II Pontifical Theological Institute for Marriage and Family Sciences
<http://stjohnpaul2institute.org/>

ASSOCIATED CENTERS

- **Lebanon**, Beirut
Institut de la famille
Faculty of Religious and Theological Sciences – Université La Sagesse
www.uls.edu.lb
- **Philippines**, Bacolod
Pope John Paul II National Institute for Studies on Marriage and Family
University of St. La Salle
<https://www.facebook.com/jp2institutephilippines/>
- **Dominican Republic**, Santo Domingo
JP2 Centro Asociado SD-UCSD, Universidad Católica Santo Domingo
<https://www.instagram.com/institutojp2sd>

THEOLOGY OF MARRIAGE AND THE FAMILY



A leading academic center, serving the mission of the universal Church, in the field of sciences pertaining to marriage and the family and regarding issues connected with the fundamental covenant between man and woman for the care of the next generation and of creation.

Summa familiae cura

Doctorate and Licentiate programs

The Institute has been entrusted with the mission of engaging in **theology in dialogue with the other sciences** to enable local Churches better to accompany families, especially those who are suffering, and to do so in a way that values the resources of their cultures, renewed by the light of the Gospel.

The **Licentiate** (canonical) and **Doctorate** (canonical) programs in **Theology of Marriage and the Family** aim to offer those who have already earned a Bachelor's or Licentiate degree in Theology **specialized training** on the reality of the family, in accordance with the Church's **magisterium** and attentive to the questions of **contemporary society**, to prepare them for **future leadership roles** in pastoral, missionary, and educational fields, in service to local churches.

Students will acquire specific skills to accompany families through the various stages of life, such as marriage preparation, welcoming and raising children, transmitting the faith, and caring for the vulnerable, with training also in the areas of **contextual and interdisciplinary theology**.

The **Social Doctrine of the Family**, the **synodal method**, and a **simultaneous focus on global and local contexts** are the main features of the program, making this educational offering unique in its kind.



DOCTORATE IN THEOLOGY OF MARRIAGE AND THE FAMILY

The doctoral program is structured as a **doctoral school**, where doctoral students in Theology and the Sciences work together, in collaboration with the faculty, to learn how to **conduct research** within an international academic community, while respecting each other's differences and contributions.

Duration: 3 academic years.

Admission requirement: Licentiate in Theology with at least *magna cum laude*.

Objectives: The Doctorate qualifies graduates to teach in a faculty or seminary through scholarly training, research, and the completion of a doctoral dissertation.

LICENTIATE IN THEOLOGY OF MARRIAGE AND THE FAMILY

The **Licentiate** in Theology of Marriage and the Family promotes theological specialization, pastoral renewal, and interdisciplinary training for those in the Church who are involved in various capacities with family life.

Duration: 2 academic years (120 ECTS).

Admission requirement: Bachelor's degree in Theology, at least *cum laude*.

Objectives: to provide students with in-depth knowledge of the subject and to train them in scholarly work, including with a view to teaching.



SCIENCES ON MARRIAGE AND THE FAMILY



By participating in the mission and journey of the entire Church, your Institute contributes to the understanding of the papal magisterium and to the ongoing renewal of the dialogue between family life, the world of work, and social justice.

Pope Leo XIV

Diploma, Licentiate, Doctorate

The program in Sciences of Marriage and the Family - Diploma, Licentiate (canonical), **Doctorate** (canonical)— meets the educational needs of those who, having already earned a bachelor's degree (for the Licentiate) or a master's degree (for the Doctorate) in other disciplines or professional fields, wish to deepen their studies on family life from a theological-pastoral perspective.

It is designed primarily for laypeople, religious men and women, educators, pastoral workers, and other professionals working in the field of family counseling and pastoral care within diocesan and parish institutions.

No prior degrees in theology are required.

Prior familiarity with religious studies and one's specific fields of specialization is an asset for developing the interdisciplinary nature of the Science programs.

The Social Doctrine of the Family, the synodal method, and the international perspective are the main features of the program, making this educational offering unique in its kind.



DOCTORATE IN SCIENCES ON MARRIAGE AND THE FAMILY

The Doctoral program is structured as a **Doctoral School**, where doctoral students in Theology and the Sciences work together, in synergy with the faculty, to learn how to **conduct research** within an international academic community, respecting differences and the contribution of each individual.

Duration: 3 academic years.

Admission requirements: Licentiate in Sciences at least magna cum laude or Master's degree.

Objectives: The Doctorate qualifies graduates for teaching and research and is aimed at advancing scientific training through collaborative research and the preparation of a doctoral dissertation.

LICENTIATE IN SCIENCES ON MARRIAGE AND THE FAMILY

The Licentiate in Marriage and Family Sciences promotes **theological specialization, pastoral renewal, and transdisciplinary formation** for those in the Church who are involved in various capacities with family life.

Duration: 2 academic years (120 ECTS).

Admission requirement: Bachelor's degree.

Objectives: to provide students with in-depth knowledge of the subject and train them in scientific research.

DIPLOMA IN SCIENCES ON MARRIAGE AND THE FAMILY

Primarily aimed at those who wish to acquire a basic Christian and professional education in the field of **family counseling**.

Duration: 1 academic year (60 ECTS). Option to take the program part-time and online.

Admission requirements: a high school diploma valid for university admission in the student's country of origin.

Objectives: to acquire professional skills for pastoral work.

RESEARCH DOCTORAL SCHOOL



*An exciting challenge is emerging:
to engage in a fruitful dialogue on marriage and the family
across different fields of theology, as well as between theology
and the other sciences.*

Msgr. Philippe Bordeyne, President

EMERGING ISSUES ON MARRIAGE AND THE FAMILY

During the doctoral program, the John Paul II Institute is committed to fostering scientific research and critical reflection in dialogue with the international community.

The discernment of emerging issues in the realm of marriage and the family currently revolves around three thematic axes:

Diaconia of Marriage and Families: Today's fragilities call for acceptance, listening, and support. Families become witnesses to the Gospel through love lived out in daily life.

Family, Church, and Society: the family is a social actor that overcomes the distinction between private and public spheres, contributing to the common good. Theology is called to support the public commitment of families in the values of justice and solidarity.

Families, Care, Mobility, and Migration: exploring the role of migrant families as protagonists of new forms of coexistence, participation, and cultural and ecclesial transformation.

EDUCATIONAL AND FORMATIVE GUIDELINES 2026–2027

Ten Years of *Amoris laetitia*: fostering spaces for reflection on the themes of the Apostolic Exhortation and on deepening its implementation and pastoral organization in light of *Amoris laetitia*, involving the Institute's alumni.

The Living Legacy of the Second Vatican Council: promoting the study of conciliar documents and their impact on ecclesial practices, as well as on subsequent magisterial guidelines regarding the family and social doctrine.

Social Doctrine on the Family: to deepen the Church's social teaching on issues affecting family life in all its aspects. To develop practical and educational approaches based primarily on concrete family realities and experiences.

DOCTORAL SCHOOL: A SHARED PASSION FOR RESEARCH

Students who choose to pursue a doctoral program at the John Paul II Institute, in Theology or in Sciences of Marriage and the Family, actively participate in a “Doctoral School.”

The program takes place within a research community where the doctoral student, alongside the faculty, shares their work and collaborates in building a dynamic, open, and interdisciplinary study environment.

The goal is to create a space for mutual learning where one can think with freedom and responsibility.

The Doctoral School promotes internationalization through regular connections with its overseas branches and affiliated centers, as well as with other international academic institutions.

KAROL WOJTYŁA CHAIR

The *Karol Wojtyła Chair* at the Pontifical John Paul II Theological Institute, inaugurated on October 14, 2003, is a center for philosophical-theological study dedicated to preserving the legacy of *Karol Wojtyła's* thought by promoting research aimed at demonstrating the fruitfulness of a frank and cordial dialogue with all the issues present in the contemporary cultural landscape.

For the four-year period 2023–2027, the Chair is directed by **Prof. Jean-Luc Marion** of the *Académie française*.



MASTER'S PROGRAM of Civil Universities in collaboration with jp2



MASTER'S PROGRAM IN BIOETHICS

The Master's Program in Bioethics is the result of a collaboration between the University of Rome Tor Vergata and the Pontifical John Paul II Theological Institute for the Sciences of Marriage and the Family, and aims to provide a course of study on the main bioethical issues.

Through the study and in-depth exploration of various disciplines (philosophy, history, medicine, theology, law) and the expertise of specialized faculty from both institutions, the program addresses topics that deeply affect families, as they relate to the unborn, the management of suffering and end-of-life care, solidarity, and family relationships.

Duration: 2 academic years part-time (60 credits).

Eaching format: The course will be held online in a synchronous format,

Activities: The program covers 8 thematic areas with corresponding exams. The final examination will consist of a term paper, to be presented orally.

Admission requirements: Bachelor's degree or equivalent qualifications issued abroad and accompanied by a declaration of equivalence; a positive evaluation of the candidate's curriculum vitae by the Faculty Board.

THIRD MISSION

The Third Mission refers to the set of activities through which universities **engage directly with society and the educational needs of ecclesial communities**, complementing the traditional missions of teaching (first mission) and research (second mission).

In this context, the John Paul II Institute is committed to expanding its sphere of action and reflection toward civil society with a view to shared growth and dialogue with **contemporary culture**, in full adherence to the call for a “Church that goes forth” (*Evangelii gaudium*, 20).

GAUDIUM ET SPES CHAIR

The *Gaudium et spes* Chair, inaugurated on January 25, 2018, is an institutional body dedicated to the Third Mission which, following the inspiration of the conciliar document from which it takes its name, aims to **offer spaces for dialogue**, discussion, and in-depth reflection with various actors in the **contemporary cultural world** to try to read and understand the *signs of the times* together.

CLOSE TO FAMILIES. Family Ministry Programs

The John Paul II Institute offers **family ministry programs** open to all, **both in-person and online**, to contribute to the formation of educators and professionals involved in various capacities in family accompaniment and pastoral guidance.

On the tenth anniversary of *Amoris laetitia*, the following formation programs are offered:

- **Amoris laetitia Course**
- **Social Doctrine of the Family Course**
- **Vatican II and Synodality Pathway**

WALKING WITH FAMILIES. Pathways in Pastoral Accompaniment (in English)

“Walking with Families” is an online program held entirely in English, designed to provide high-quality theological and pastoral formation on marriage and family life. It offers a flexible and inspiring way to grow in understanding and to strengthen your mission—right where you are.

BEING A LEADER IN A SYNODAL CHURCH (CRUIPRO COURSE)

This is a formation course offered by **CRUIPRO** and organized by the JP2 Institute, open to all Li-centiate and Doctoral students at the **Pontifical Universities of Rome** who wish to develop their **capacity for discernment** through a theoretical and practical approach that reflects the synodal style and dynamics. The goal is to contribute to a joint formation program for the training of **future church leaders**.

CARING SCHOOL. Family Care as a Social Paradigm

The school was created to envision, design, and support new **care networks** and **new practices** of informal **alliances** across generations, cultures, and institutions, offering training by establishing **partnerships** with various institutions involved in supporting individuals in various capacities.

The goal is to train a new **generation of leaders** by promoting the family dimension of care as a new social paradigm capable of fostering the **integral development of the individual**, situated within both their **family context** and the broader reality of **supportive social networks**.

TRAINING COURSE FOR INTERNATIONAL FAMILY MOVEMENTS

The **JP2 Institute** has launched in collaboration with *Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life* offers training programs for **future leaders** of the **largest international family movements**, because the Church counts on Lay movements to promote mission with and for families.

The aim is to contribute to the **ongoing formation** of the laity, which is essential for the Church's mission, and to strengthen the Institute's engagement with the experience and expertise of family movements.

The program takes place in July and lasts one week at the **Pontifical Shrine of Loreto**.

COLLABORATION WITH DIOCESES AND ECCLESIAL SERVICES FOR ONGOING FORMATION

The JP2 Institute makes its **scientific and pastoral expertise** in the field of family ministry available by offering **formation and accompaniment** to dioceses and local churches that request it.

PUBLICATIONS



Anthropotes.

Journal of Studies on the Person, Family and Society

This is the official scholarly journal of the John Paul II Theological Institute.

Founded in 1985 and published quarterly, it features **academic contributions** from **international scholars** on the person, family and society with an **interdisciplinary approach**, focusing on **emerging issues** in contemporary theological debate.

Series

The following series are published by Studium, the result of the research and teaching activities carried out by the Institute to fulfill its mission:

- JP2 Essays** Publishes essays and articles dedicated to the themes of human love, marriage, and the family.
- JP2 Strumenti** Publishes concise, accessible texts that explore current issues.
- JP2 Theses** Publishes the best doctoral dissertations written by the Institute's students.



THE ACADEMIC COMMUNITY

The John Paul II Institute welcomes, at its headquarters in Rome, **religious, lay-people, couples, and priests** from more than **forty different nationalities** who together –each with his or her unique contribution– explore the reality of **marriage and the family** in light of the Gospel tradition and in response to ‘concrete reality’ reality.

The presence of a **multicultural community** fosters mutual listening and **practical knowledge** of different national and cultural contexts.

The students, often away from home, experience the warmth of a united academic community, where a spirit of **sharing** and **mutual support** accompanies their daily commitment, so that everyone feels part of a family of learning and fraternity.

Upon completion of the program, students are invited to join the **JP2 Alumni Network**: a way to **stay in touch**, **share experiences** of service around the world, and provide opportunities for **continuing education** in the field of **family ministry**.

INTEGRATED TEACHING

The Institute provides students with the best **technological resources** in the field of university education.

Today, it is at the forefront of developing online instruction and promoting **integrated, interactive teaching**, harmonizing the richness of in-person instruction with the potential of digital and bibliographic tools.

The technologies in use allow for **individualized study paths** even when it is not possible to attend all in-person classes.



SIGN UP AND CHOOSE YOUR PATH

DOCTORAL SCHOOL

Doctorate in **Theology of Marriage and the Family**

Doctorate in **Sciences on Marriage and the Family**

For information or enrollment, please write to: dottorato@istitutogp2.it

LICENTIATE

Licentiate in **Theology of Marriage and the Family**

Licentiate in **Sciences on Marriage and the Family**

For information or registration, please write to: licenza@istitutogp2.it

MASTER'S DEGREE OF CIVIL UNIVERSITIES IN COLLABORATION WITH JP2

Masters Program in Bioethics from the University of Rome Tor Vergata

For information or registration, please write to: master@istitutogp2.it

THIRD MISSION

- Diploma in Sciences of Marriage and the Family
- Close to Families. Family Ministry Programs
- Walking with Families: Pathways in Pastoral Accompaniment
- Being a Leader in a Synodal Church (CRUIPRO Course)
- Caring School. Family Care as a Social Paradigm
- Training Course for International Family Movements

For information or registration, please write to: pastorale@istitutogp2.it

VISIT OUR WEBSITE: www.istitutogp2.it



The Joy of Love experienced by families is also the joy of the Church.

*We must develop the insight of seeing
the family as the first cell of society,
being the original and fundamental
school of humanity.*

Pope Leo XIV, Address to the Academic Community of the JP2 Institute



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FOR INFORMATION AND ENROLLMENT

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Learn more:

