

THE HOLY FAMILY INSTITUTE ANNUAL TRIDUUM 2014  
NATIONAL SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF LEBANON, OHIO



# HOLY FAMILY INSTITUTE

A PAULINE INSTITUTE OF  
CONSECRATED SECULAR  
LIFE FOR THE CATHOLIC  
MARRIED OR WIDOWED



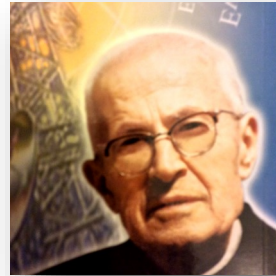
HISTORICAL  
BACKGROUND

**1947 - Pope Pius XII establishes “Secular Institutes” to distinguish them from Religious Institutes in the Apostolic Constitution *Provida Mater Ecclesiae***

**March 6, 1960** – Fr. James Alberione, SSP, requests approval from the Congregation For Religious of “specific and special association of the faithful in which it is possible to embrace the life of evangelical perfection within the meaning of the apostolic constitution *Provida Mater.*”

He presented ONE institute divided into three sections – for single women (Institute of Our Lady of the Annunciation), for single men (Institute of St. Gabriel Archangel), for diocesan clergy (Institute of Jesus Priest). He presented them not as an independent entity but as being “united to the Society of St. Paul as a work proper to it.” Thus, these institutes were not approved as SECULAR institutes but as AGGREGATED Institutes.

When the Founder was drawing up the STATUTE for the Institutes, he added the following article: “Those persons who are joined by the matrimonial bond but who desire to reach Christian Perfection in a way compatible with their state may also become members in a secondary way.”



**Blessed James Alberione  
Founder  
The Pauline Family and  
the Holy Family Institute**

**W**hy AGGREGATED? One reason the Founder took the approach of “aggregated institutes” is to facilitate their approval versus the long wait for complying with the exacting norms for the independent entity of “secular institutes”. The other reason for his choice of “aggregated” is Alberione’s fundamental concept of “family”: that his foundations are ONE, one spirituality, one origin, all came to life from the Tabernacle. Given the reputation of Fr. Alberione, founder of 4 religious institutes, and the esteem of the Vatican for him, approval of this work took only 6 weeks.

**April 8, 1960** – The STATUTE receives Decree of Approval for a 10-year period from the Congregation For Religious in Rome . The approval included the “Family” section. Although there were members in the Aggregated Institutes for single people during this period, there were as yet no married or widowed members.

**August 1971** – Fr. Furio Gauss, a diocesan clergy and member of Institute of Jesus Priest, receives informal approval to begin formation of married couples for the Holy Family Institute in Italy.

**November 26, 1971** – Death of the Founder soon after being visited by Pope Paul VI. He is beatified by Pope St. John Paul II on April 27, 2003.

**January 1972** - At the annual meeting in Rome of delegates to the Institute of Jesus Priest, Delegate Director Fr. Stefano Lamera was charged by the Superior General with the guidance and development of the Holy Family Institute providing married full membership in the Pauline Family. The first Statute of the Holy Family Institute is drafted shortly after by a commission of priest and bishop members of the Institute of Jesus Priest and some married couples.

**October 1972** – Fr. Stefano Lamera accepts first couples for membership in the Holy Family Institute.

**November 3, 1973** – First 20 candidates make First Profession in the Queen of Apostles Basilica in Rome.

**June 19, 1982** – The Holy See declares that the Holy Family Institute is a Work proper to the Society of St. Paul and aggregated to it and approves its Statute for a ***ten-year experimental period.***

**March 19, 1993**

The Congregation for the Institutes of Consecrated Life and the Societies of Apostolic Life issues the Decree of Approval and confirms the Statute and Directory of the Holy Family Institute in its present form.

Given in Rome by Eduardo Cardinal Martinez Somalo, Prefect, and Francisco Javier Errazuriz Ossa, Secretary on the Solemnity of St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.