

 THE LAY
MEMBERS
 CHRIST'S
FAITHFUL
PEOPLE 

JOHN PAUL II

Study Guide

PREPARED BY THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS



The 1987 world Synod of Bishops was convened by His Holiness Pope John Paul II to discuss "The Vocation and Mission of the Laity in the Church and in the World Twenty Years After the Second Vatican Council." On January 30, 1989, the Holy See issued the Holy Father's post-synodal apostolic exhortation *Christifideles Laici* (The Lay Members of the Christian Faithful). Here he sums up the deliberations of the Synod and offers his own insights into its theme.

This study guide to *Christifideles Laici* has been prepared by the Knights of Columbus for groups and individuals who wish to become more familiar with the teaching of Pope John Paul on the vocation and mission of the laity and to apply that teaching to their own situations.

The study guide is not a substitute for the papal document but is meant to be used in conjunction with it. While the questions following each section are intended to help discussion, there are many important topics for consideration in *Christifideles Laici* besides those indicated there or in the accompanying summary. Readers are encouraged to give Pope John Paul's text their careful, prayerful attention.