

Welcome to our Worldwide Marriage Encounter Prayer Couple Family for the Dallas/Fort Worth and East Texas. You are the “bridge” into the dialogue support system we offer to any couple or priest. As Prayer Couples, we are focused on the Weekend and on the community that is needed to continue to live the Weekend and the way of life it presents to us.

The Prayer Couple prays for their couple / priest throughout the Weekend and attempts to establish a relationship after the Weekend with a note, a meeting, a phone call, etc., to invite them into community.

Helping

Marriages

Grow ...

This pamphlet has many ideas to further help you be a Prayer Couple for your couple / priest. Thank you for your yes and ENJOY!

THE MISSION CALL OF A PRAYER COUPLE:

As Encountered Couples, we are called to a constant journey toward intimacy and unity in our spousal relationship. We will never arrive, and we cannot travel alone. We need the love and support of others with similar values, to journey with us.

The Presenting Teams on a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend have been called to share their journey with others on the weekend - to challenge the couples / priests to grow and to change - because of their lived experiences, due to the growth and changes in their own lives.

The Prayer Couple, who are praying and sacrificing, not only for the intention of the Weekend, but for a special couple in particular, are also called to share their journey with others after the Weekend.

Dialogue is what made our Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend - not the presentations and not the Presenting Teams. Our newly encountered couples deserve the gift you and your dialogue will be to them.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF A PRAYER COUPLE:

PRAYER LETTER:

Write a prayer letter to the assigned couple / priest. Both of you should write. Let your love shine through the prayer letter by including any / all of the following:

- ✍ How you have been praying for them.
- ✍ What you did for the sake of their Weekend (prayer / sacrifices).
- ✍ If you had a candle burning for them.
- ✍ How happy you are for them and how important they are to you.
- ✍ Encourage them to keep using the tool of dialogue.
- ✍ Invite your couple / priest to your home so you can continue in their journey.
- ✍ Send or bring the prayer letter to the hotel by the Friday of the weekend.
- ✍ Attend the sing-off on Sunday at the hotel. The weekend ends about 4pm. Be there to greet your couple and begin their Marriage Encounter walk in the world with them.
- ✍ Encourage your couple after the Weekend and ask them to attend Circle with you and to continue dialoguing. Attend their First Reunion with them.

SACRIFICE, DIALOGUE & PRAYER:

SACRIFICE (Before and during the Weekend)
“A Love That Risks Nothing, Is Worth Nothing”

Sacrificing for the Weekend is the best way to keep the Weekend and the couples constantly in mind and in prayer. The more difficult the sacrifice, the more present the couple / priest will be to you.

Sample Sacrifices:

- ✍ Giving up attitudes and behaviors for 44 hours: coffee, cigarettes, cursing, snacks, reading, TV, meals, etc.
- ✍ Being physically uncomfortable: a penny in your shoe, sleeping on the floor, praying on your knees for (___) hrs / minutes, etc.

DIALOGUE (Prior to the Weekend)

Dialogue about your couple / priest before the Weekend. It will help increase your awareness of them, and of the Weekend in general.

Sample questions:

- ✍ What sacrifices am I willing to make for the sake of the Weekend? WAMF?
- ✍ What obstacles keep me from being more open to this experience? WAMF?
- ✍ What are my hopes and dreams for this Weekend?
- ✍ Our couple / priest is nervous. WAMF?
- ✍ FRIDAY: Remembering Friday night of our Weekend? WAMF?
- ✍ SAT: HDIFA our sacrifices now?
- ✍ SUN: Specifically, in what way did I re-commit myself to loving you for a lifetime? WAMF?

PRAYER

“All things whatsoever you ask in prayer, believing, you shall receive.” Jesus Matt 21:22

Prayer can work miracles, especially when offered unselfishly for the benefit of others. Sometimes we need to tug on our Lord's garment as frequently as the woman in the gospel.

Daily Mass, pray the Rosary, visit the Blessed Sacrament, and Novena's are also ways to pray for your special couple / priest.

Praying for a couple who is making a Marriage Encounter Weekend is a beautiful combination of responsibility and joy. It is an opportunity to deeply share in their Weekend...its struggles and joy...their fears and their growth.

To help you reach out in prayer for a couple on a Weekend, the time of each presentation is shown below, with suggestions for your prayers.

FRIDAY:

8:00-8:50 INTRODUCTION

Pray that the couple may be open to the team and to the discipline of the Weekend.

9:00-10:00 COMMUNICATING OUR FEELINGS

Pray that the couple may have a clear understanding of feelings, and may look within themselves to find that they do have deeply buried feelings.

SATURDAY:

9:00-10:05 ENCOUNTER WITH SELF

Pray that the couple may look inward to find their personality style, and that they are honest in their assessment of who they really are. Also, remember the uncomfortableness that the couple may be feeling during this presentation.

10:15-11:45 MARRIAGE IN TODAY'S

WORLD - Pray that the couple can look beyond their good marriage and see that, if it weren't for the world's plan their marriage could be truly great.

12:55-1:50 LISTENING

Pray that the couple may realize that in the past there have been many times when they did not really listen to one another, and that now they may truly begin to listen with their hearts.

2:00-3:25 AREAS FOR REACHING OUT

Pray that a spark of urgency for dialogue may be kindled in the couple. Also pray that they allow themselves to be open to the non-verbal technique. Pray too, that they may find the closeness in their dialogue that the team couples has just shared with them.

4:25-5:30 GOD'S DESIRE FOR MARRIAGE

Pray that the couple may begin to see that the only way they can be open to God is by being open to their spouse. Let them realize that God truly has a stake in their marriage.

6:40-8:05 RISKING TO TRUST IN DIALOGUE

Pray that the couple may see the beauty and joy that comes from allowing themselves to become vulnerable to one another. Pray that they may overcome their fears and truly trust one another.

8:15-9:05 IMPACT OF DIALOGUE IN OUR

DAILY LIVES - Pray that the couple may see the beauty and joy that comes from allowing themselves to become vulnerable to one another. Pray that they may overcome their fears and truly trust one another.

9:05 - OPEN ENDED DIALOGUE TIME

Pray that the tiredness of the day vanishes in the beauty of open-ended dialogue.

SUNDAY:

8:25-11:25 MARRIAGE AS SACRAMENT

Pray that the joy and peace of living a sacramental way of life will blossom in the couple's hearts, and that their Extended Dialogue (60/75) may truly be a celebration of that joy.

11:35-12:20 KEEPING OUR RELATIONSHIP

A PRIORITY - Pray that the couple can begin now to re-evaluate their life, and that they will have the courage to make changes in their behavior that will allow them to live a sacramental way of life and keep their relationship a priority.

1:20-2:10 SHARING IN THE DREAM

Pray for the couple to open their mind and hearts to give freely to God. They are being asked to help change the world by giving financially and to invite others to the Weekend.

2:20-2:50 CONTINUING OUR JOURNEY

Pray the couples will be open to share their couple love and to making the new lifestyle they have learned about a part of their lives by joining the Worldwide Marriage Encounter family.

2:50-3:05 SHARING

Pray that the couple can find the strength in their hearts to share their relationship with the other couples on the Weekend.

3:05-4:05 MASS

Pray that the couple may truly experience themselves as Church, and that they may approach the Eucharist filled with the joy of being part of a community of love - the Church.

AFTER THE WEEKEND:

Keep in touch with your couple / priest.

One ringers.

Send notes with dialogue questions.

Lovingly encourage them to be a part of Community / Circles.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter

Prayer Couple Pamphlet - Dallas/Fort



Worth/East Texas