

Our Love Connection



Worldwide Marriage Encounter—Detroit Area

Encounter Weekends

♥ Apr 1-3

♥ Jun 24-26

♥ Aug 18-20

♥ Aug 25-27

From our Ecclesial Team

Dear Loving Community,

Greetings from Fr. Syl Taube and Dan & Debbie Waring! We are very excited for this opportunity to serve our community as your new Ecclesial Team for the Detroit area of WWME. All we can say is that God works in mysterious ways.

We (Dan & Debbie) never dreamed we would be serving in this capacity and we were quite content to serve the community safely in the background doing what we felt comfortable

doing. However, at Mass, the morning we were affirmed, God's Word centered on answering His call. The readings called for us not to hide our lights under a bushel basket and the Gospel communicated the story of Jesus calling His disciples to come and follow Him.

Debbie and I have been involved in Marriage Encounter in some shape or form for about 23 of our 33 years of marriage and WWME has been such a blessing and special part

of our lives.

Each and every couple we have met throughout the years, each priest we have gotten to know, have all helped us to grow not only more deeply in love with one another but, our love and faith in God has deepened as well.

We have gotten to know Jesus on a more personal basis and He is slowly but surely calling us out of our comfort zone



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All Community Meeting

Couples from all over the Greater Detroit WWME Community met Feb 26th to share in planning for the 2011 year. Thoughts, concerns, suggestions and lots of laughter circled the room. It will be hard to capture all the great ideas that were presented, but here are some main topics.

Community strengthening received a lot of attention. Strong WEDS groups are the foundation for a strong community. The *WEDS Circle Leader's Handbook* provides an understanding of the purpose of WEDS groups and places importance on relationships in the

group. In the handbook are guidelines for presentations based on what is going on in your marital relationship. Just as we all experienced the power of personal sharing on the Weekend, we are reminded to use that same tool in our WEDS groups.

Inviting talks as a WEDS group is another way to forge relationships and to utilize the gifts each couple can bring. Some couples are not comfortable talking the talk. But, arranging for the talk, passing out materials after Mass, watching children so others can do the inviting talk are all ways to con-

tribute. There are already lots of inviting talks scheduled and the Community is in need of an Inviting Talk Coordinator. Are you open?

Several good suggestions were made regarding the Prayer Couple process. As a result, new sign-up sheets will be circulated at WEDS meetings to ensure better attendance at walk-ins and ensure each WEDS group is represented at walk-ins where participants are in their WEDS area.

The community group also wanted more emphasis on dia-

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WINE Community Night



Looking for a family activity this Lenten Season?

Why not turn the TV off, jump in the car and join us for an evening of fun, laughter and creativity as you learn how to

"LIFT YOUR FAMILY WITH DIALOGUE"

It doesn't matter if you're grandparents, empty nesters, newlyweds, or whether you have no children or 10. All are welcome and all will experience the impact dialogue has on your family

Saturday, April 16, 2011

St. Vincent Ferrer

1089 E. Gardenia Street

Madison Heights, MI 48071

Doors open at 6 p.m.

Please R.S.V.P. (add # of kids & ages) by Tuesday, April 12th to

Frank & Barb Rouland (frankbarbrou@prodigy.net) or by calling (734) 261-1541

*Bring your family and together you can **sing along with the music, enjoy the presentations, and have fun making your own***

ice-cream sundaes!!!





Ecclesial Letter—Continued

(Continued from page 1)

and guiding us as we “follow Him.” Which leads to the following question we chose to dialogue on: **“Each year I “give up” something during Lent for Jesus. This year I will “do something” for Jesus during Lent instead. HDIFAT?”**

My Darling Deborah & Fr. Syl:

Debbie your MEQ is your desire to make things better. I love you for all that you do. Fr. Syl, your MEQ is your commitment to your many ministries despite being technically retired. I admire you for your dedication and for your love of Jesus and your spouse, the community you serve.

I have never thought about doing something for Jesus during Lent. I was taught you should give up something you love to remind you of the sacrifice Jesus gave. But to really do something for Jesus is a different way to work on our Lenten commitment as a Catholic. Perhaps I should be doing something for our Lord that may be a bit more out of my comfort zone. Maybe I need to possibly volunteer in one of our church’s ministries; as my usual stance is to blend into the background and just be part of the congregation.

I feel optimistic as I think about this opportunity to do something for Jesus. There are so many opportunities to serve Jesus on a daily basis and all I have to do is look for them. My optimistic feeling is intense, a 7 on the WWME scale. It’s how I feel when I have an opportunity to make some extra money by working overtime. The color is the bright glow of a rainbow after a summer storm promising the return of blue skies and warm weather. I love you both.

Dan

Dear Dan & Fr. Syl:

Dan your MEQ is your positive attitude each and every morning. Fr. Syl, I really have to say the same thing about you. Whenever we call to talk to you, you seem genuinely happy and pleased to hear from us. It’s true that each year before Lent I focus on what I will give up (sacrifice) for Jesus to remind myself of His sacrifice for me. I think of things to do but unfortunately for me it’s easier to give up something than to do something like truly examine who I am and then to consciously make an effort to either change a behavior I know I need to change; or work on a relationship I need to restore; or to take that step of faith I need to take. So this question is challenging me to re-evaluate what it is God is asking me to sacrifice for Jesus. Is there something I need to consciously do and die to self in order for God’s love to shine through me?

As I write this letter I feel queasy. On a scale of 1 to 10 it would be a 7. It’s that same queasy feeling I would get before taking a final exam. Did I study enough? The color is the drab, hazy blue and gray March skies trying to let go of winter so that spring can arrive. If my queasy feeling were a taste it would be the metal taste of a dentist’s drill. Time is up. I love you. Me

Dear Dan & Debbie,

Your MEQ is your patience with my failures to be home when I said I would be. This year I am pondering more and more Jesus’ resignation to Abba’s will. I feel disoriented and uncertain about this. Physically it is like taking a pill or a drink and being surprised

by its effect on me. The intensity of my feeling is a 6, an image is sitting on a merry-go-round even after it has stopped and not being sure I want to get off right away. Or, it is similar to getting off a ship that has been rocking and still having a sense that the solid floor I am standing on is rocking. I would color my disoriented feeling a disquieting pink. Pink is usually a pleasant color but this pink reminds me of Pepto-Bismol and a stomach that is kind of woozy. I felt this way giving my first weekend, unsure if I had made the right commitment. Thanks for listening.

Love,
Syl

There are so many wonderful events coming up we’d like to share them with you.

First, of course, is our **WWME WEEKEND – APRIL 1-3 – QUALITY INN – 2537 Rochester Court, Troy 48083.**

As of this writing, we have 21 couples attending the Weekend and a few of the couples are from other areas. The walk-in will be around 3:45 p.m. on Sunday, April 3rd. We invite all the community to come and support these couples. This is one of the most impactful parts of the Weekend when these couples see our community lovingly embrace and welcome them into WWME. We look forward to seeing everyone there.

Next is **FAMILY COMMUNITY NIGHT – SATURDAY, APRIL 16 at 6 p.m. – St. Vincent Ferrer in Madison Heights.**

We really encourage all families to attend this very inspiring and uplifting evening filled with music, presentations and dialogue.

It promises to be a fun-filled evening and best of all you can build your own “ice-

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Dialog:

Each year I “give up” something during Lent for Jesus. This year I will “do something” for Jesus during Lent instead. HDIFAT?



WWME Section 6&7 Convention 2011



POUR OUT YOUR SPIRIT...

AND RENEW THE FACE OF THE EARTH

VISIT US ON THE WEB: www.wwme-ni.org/2011convention

The Grand Geneva
Resort & Spa
Lake Geneva,
Wisconsin
June 10TH -12TH,

Our convention committee has been working hard to bring forth the best our area has to offer it's WWME family. When we saw the **Grand Geneva Resort & Spa**, we all fell in love with the tranquility, the landscape, and all the conveniences a resort has to offer. Stay with your spouse at the main hotel or **bring your family to the Timber Ridge Lodge**, the family friendly spot on the resort grounds, which includes an indoor water park.

In addition to the resort stay, we are offering programs centered on you and your WWME experience. Our goal is for attending couples to recognize the gifts their marriage has to offer and to bridge the gap between seasoned and new WWME couples.

PLEASE JOIN US!

YOUR WEEKEND, YOUR CONVENTION

We are especially excited to offer these two tracks of programming. Experience the track that best describes your WWME weekend:

Track 1 "If Tomorrow Never Comes"

This track is for couples and priests who are more recently Encountered who are eager to learn more about how they can help to Change the World.

- want to share their enthusiasm and excitement with others.
- may be looking for a refresher course.
- are looking for tips on how to continue to live the lifestyle WWME called us to.
- may be wanting help getting back on track with dialogue and community.

Track 2 "The Impossible Dream Revisited"

This track is for couples and priests who have been Encountered for a number of years who:

- may be wondering - what's next for us?
- may be wondering if it's time to move on to a new ministry or to sit back and relax.
- may want to get the excitement back that they once had.
- may want to learn how to mentor the newly Encountered.
- may be wondering what their role in WWME is at this time.

**STAY AT THE GRAND GENEVA RESORT & SPA
FOR THE WWME RATE OF \$139 PER NIGHT!**

Tucked within historic Lake Geneva, **Grand Geneva Resort & Spa** is one of only five AAA Four-Diamond resorts in Wisconsin. An enchanting landscape of rolling hills and pristine views awaits you!

The resort has extended a

special rate of \$139 per night for 3 days before, during, and 3 days after the June 10-12 Convention dates. (LIMITED AVAILABILITY) Make this your family vacation and enjoy all the

amenities: golf, swim, spa, horse back riding, and tennis are just a few of the activities the resort offers.

Call 1-800-558-3417 for reservations





WWME Detroit Community Events

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Host</u>
April 1-3 (Fri-Sun)	WWME Weekend	Quality Inn, Troy	Sunday Walk-in: 3:45pm	Macomb
April 6 (Wed)	Advisory Meeting	TBD	Evening	
Apr 16 (Sat)	Marriage Enrichment Community Night	St. Vincent Ferrer, Madison Hts	6:00-9:00pm	All WEDS Grps
June 1 (Wed)	Advisory Meeting	TBD	Evening	
June 10-12 (Fri-Sun)	WWME Section 6/7 Convention	Lake Geneva, WI	Weekend Event	
June 24-26 (Fri-Sun)	WWME Weekend	St. Paul of the Cross, Detroit	Sunday Walk-in: 3:45pm	Wayne/ Macomb
Jul 22-24 (Fri-Sun)	Community Campout	Proud Lake	Weekend Event	
Jul 23 (Sat)	Day Camping and Picnic	Proud Lake	Day Event	
Aug 6 (Sat)	Golf- Inviting	TBD	TBD	
Aug. 3 (Wed)	Advisory Meeting	TBD	Evening	
Aug 18-20	Non-Resident WWME Weekend	Our Lady of the Woods, Woodhaven	Sunday Walk-in: 3:45pm	Wayne
Aug 25-27	Non-Resident WWME Weekend	St. Andrew, Rochester	Sunday Walk-in: 3:45pm	Oakland
Sep 7 (Wed)	Advisory Meeting (Phone)	Conference Call	Evening	
Sep 16-18 (Fri-Sat)	WWME Weekend	Marriott, Romulus	Sunday Walk-in: 3:45pm	Wayne/ Oakland
Oct 7-9 (Fri-Sat)	Non-Resident WWME Weekend	St. Isidore, Macomb	Sunday Walk-in: 3:45pm	Macomb
Oct 15 (Sat)	Day of Romance	TBD	9:30am-4:00pm	
Oct 30 (Sun)	World Priest Day	TBD	TBD	
Nov 4-6 (Fri-Sun)	WWME Weekend	Quality Inn, Troy	Sunday Walk-in: 3:45pm	Oakland
Nov 16 (Wed)	Advisory Meeting	TBD	Evening	
Jan14, 2012 (Sat)	Christmas Dinner Dance	Venetian Club, Madison Hts	Evening	





Ecclesial Letter – continued

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cream sundaes.” We can all be motivated and inspired no matter if we are empty nesters, have teenagers, very little ones, no children, or have grandchildren. Plan to be there, you won’t want to miss this exciting evening and the ice-cream too!

There are two non-WWME events in the area that may be of interest to you as well.

MARRIAGE: GOD’S LOVE MADE VISIBLE – SATURDAY, APRIL 9 FROM 8:45 am – 3 p.m. – St. Anastasia Church in

Troy– A day of reflection based on the book “The 7 Spiritual Practices of Marriage” by Kevin Anderson, PhD. To register call 248-689-0732.

WHY THE FIG LEAF? GOD, SEX AND SENSIBILITY – A THEOLOGY OF THE BODY FOR OUR TIMES – SATURDAY, MAY 14 FROM 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. at Madonna University in Livonia – This conference is presented by the Archdiocese of Detroit and is a teaching by John Paul II that will change and revolutionize the way you look at yourself, others, and the world around

you. For more information call the Family Ministry Office at 313-237-5894.

Finally, we’d like to challenge you, our Detroit community, to dialogue on the question above and to trust Jesus in what He may be calling you to do this Lenten Season.

Love and hugs,
Fr. Syl, Dan & Debbie

All Community Meeting – continued

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logue. So, hold onto your hats for an upcoming Dialogue Challenge! Along with the Dialogue Challenge a need for family friendly events was identified. These suggestions lead to planning for Community Night 2011. And guess what the theme is ...“LIFT YOUR FAMILY WITH DIALOGUE.” Couples from our Community along with their families will share the impact dia-

log had or is having on their families. You won’t want to miss it! Also, mark your calendar for October 15 when the Community Day of Romance celebrates Sweetest Day with the theme – Art of Love.

Wrapping up our afternoon Mark and Mel Fusani challenged us with a heartfelt presentation about what community means to them. Our dialogue question was “What specific effect is our relationship having on our WWME

Community? HDIFAT?” Writing, dialoging and sharing on that same question opened some new doors and helped us recognize how the unique relationship of every couple there was a special gift to our community.

Dairdre and Charlie McGlothlin

Dialog:

What specific effect is our relationship having on our WWME Community? HDIFAT?

The New WEDs Game

Dave and Debbie Murray along with Mike and Donna Kohn came to the Soulmates WEDs group from the Detroit/Redford WEDs group.

We got to know Dave and Debbie when we workshopped them to be a Post Encounter team couple. Dave is very enthusiastic and enjoys all the small things in life. Dave also has a great sense of humor. Debbie is warm and caring and quickly becomes your friend by being a good listener.

At the last Weds meeting at their house they had a game for us to play. It was called the New Weds Game. The women were in one room and the men in another answering questions about their respective spouse. After the game the question we shared on was: **We are still learning about each other. DILD.** It was a great evening with **Richard and Eileen Jewell** being the grand prize winners.

Dave and Debbie are both enthusiastic, creative and fun to

be around. They are a very strong couple who dialogue daily and also pray together daily.

It’s a pleasure to know them, work with them and have them in our group. They have been a great addition to our WEDs group.

Rick and Miriam Mikulak





Honoring a Special Soulmates Couple

With winter almost over and spring around the corner we just wanted to stop and smell the roses. The roses are Frank and Barb Rouland, a special couple in our Weds group.

Frank and Barb have been a part of our Weds group since shortly after making their weekend in 1980. Barb recalls how the then Weds leaders kept contacting them until they attended WEDS, several months later. After attending the first meeting Barb told Frank that she loved the meeting and that it was something just for them. They put the date on their calendar and tried to never miss one. Once it got on their calendar they were committed to going to that meeting.

We met Frank and Barb at our first WEDS meeting after we fin-

ished Post Encounter in 1995. They along with the other couples made us feel right at home. Frank and Barb are the definition of commitment. They never miss a meeting and are always appreciative of the presentations. Their sharings are filled with love for each other. They always start their sharing with To Frank and friends / To Barb and friends.

Barb and Frank are our inspiration. They have taught us by example how to serve the Marriage Encounter community. They have served the community in various leadership roles throughout the years. Throughout the various community leadership positions we've held they are always right by our side willing and able to help us no matter what the request. This in-

cludes even the difficult job of writing for and presenting at a Community Night.

Just this weekend as the February W/E Post Encounter was ending, Paul and Claudia Zernac contacted us to invite someone from the Soulmates group to meet a possible new WEDS couple. I sent the email out on Friday evening and by Saturday the Rouland's had volunteered to greet the new couple. Not only did they volunteer to go but had in hand an invitation letter and our WEDS schedule. So, a big THANK YOU to both of you. We love you!!

Rick and Miriam Mikulak

*Barb and Frank
are our inspiration*

Men Need Respect

One important aspect of respect is how you treat your husband in the privacy of your home. *How do you speak to your husband, especially in front of your children?*

Privately treat your husband with honor, respect and dignity. Do not talk to him like he is stupid or the enemy. Even when you are frustrated, remember you are on the same team. Talk to him with a tone of voice that lets him and others know that you respect him.

Respect also determines how you treat your husband publicly.

The primary need man has is the respect of his wife.

Tommy Nelson, BETTER LOVE NOW!, B&H Publishing Group

Women Love Appreciation

Here's an exercise:

Walk up to your wife, put your hands on her shoulders, and look into her eyes. Then, for the next thirty seconds, without looking away, tell her how much she means to you and how you appreciate all she does. Even with her fallibilities and failures, thank her for being a good in-law to your parents, a mother to your children, a friend to your friends, and for taking care of your home. You'll probably get choked up and start squeaking about halfway through.

Husbands, tell your wife what you think about her, that she's precious to you.

Tommy Nelson, BETTER LOVE NOW!, B&H Publishing Group



Want to be notified when the Newsletter is published?

Sign-up for email Notification

Sign-up by visiting [WWME Detroit Website Already Encountered link](#). Then enter your email address and click subscribe.

You will receive an email telling you when the newsletter is available on the website and you will also periodically receive prayer requests from the community.

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Macomb Zone: OPEN

Wayne/Monroe Zone: OPEN

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Write an article about WWME; we love to read what you write

We welcome and encourage submissions from our readers!! We accept articles that support the values of the Marriage Encounter Weekend. Articles should fall into one of the following categories:

1. An incident or a period of your life that was strongly affected by living the Weekend values.
2. Teaching articles that provide support by citing personal experience, to couples, priests and religious attempting to live the Weekend values.

3. Articles about upcoming Marriage Encounter events or reports about community and WEDS events that have already taken place.
4. Poems or prayers or stories that relate to marriage and family life.

Please note: articles from other sources including the Internet must have permission to reprint included.

Articles for submission to *Our Love Connection* should be submitted no later than the 15th of the month to be included in

the next edition.

Send all submissions to:

Bill & Phyllis Rosen
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Rochester Hills MI 48307
wjr@wowway.com
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We Encourage Dialogue Support Page



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OPEN

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