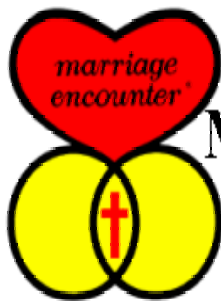
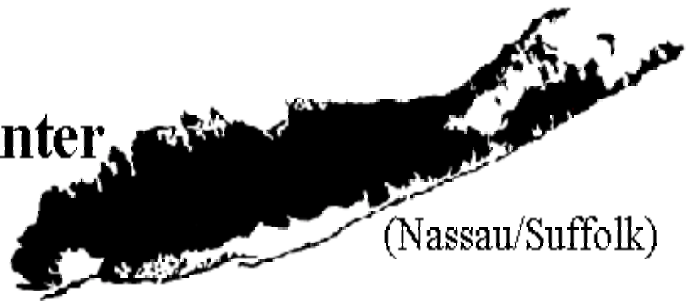


Winter Edition 2008



WorldWide Marriage Encounter on Long Island



(Nassau/Suffolk)

November 2008
Montfort Retreat Center

Dear All,*

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for an unforgettable weekend. We have experienced so much in such a short time. Thank you for sharing your life experiences with us. It hit so close to home and it's relieving that we are not alone. It's nice to know that we're not the only ones going through so much. It's been a wonderful, eye opening, and loving weekend that we haven't had in such a long time. It's so easy to get caught up in everyday life and to take each other for granted.

My mom bought me a charm when I was a little girl that said "Live, Love, and Laugh". I very much believe in those three powerful words; so much that I had them tattooed on the back of my neck. Although I can't see them, I know they are there and anyone who sees them hopefully will learn something and think about what my husband and I have seen a new light that had been growing dim for so long. Thank you for showing us how to live, love, and laugh again.

Love,

Keith and Shannon Musmacker

Other couples wrote:

The weekend was very inspiring and we felt our team couple's were guided by the Holy Spirit by the gift of their sharing. Joseph & Linda Mavellia

What the weekend meant to us was a new found love for each other like the first time we met and why we fell in love and wanted to get married in the first place! Amy & Jose Morales

The weekend for my wife and I was such an eye opening wonderful feeling. We fell in love all over again. Michael & Patty Tafe

"We made our original ME weekend in 1973. This weekend of Nov. 08 was a beautiful renewal, like polishing up our relationship to let the beauty shine forth again. And surprise- we knew our prayer couple Bob & Melinda Nobbs from "Back Then"

Walt & Diane Kay

I shall pass through the world but once: Any good therefore that I can do or any kindness that I can show to any human being, let me do it now, let me not defer or neglect it for I shall not pass this way again.

*Welcome to all on the November
2008 weekend at the Montfort
Retreat Center*

Selwyn & Angela Philip, Rosedale, NY

Diane & Walter Kay, Laurelton, NY

Richard & Geri Lipsman, Belle Harbor, NY

Adam & Lorraine Cyr, Ozone Park, NY

Doug & Rose Latino, Brooklyn, NY

Michael & Patricia Tafe, Patchogue, NY

Shaun & Kandra Berry, Ridge, NY

*Richard & Deidra Dougherty, Lake
Grove, NY*

Jose & Amy Morales, Lindenhurst, NY

*Joseph & Linda Mavellia, Mattituck,
NY*

Louis & Kim Calandra, Patchogue, NY

*Keith & Shannon Musmacker, West
Babylon, NY*

*Mark & Christina McDonnell, Floral
Park, NY*

Ken & Sharon Olsen, Bedminster, NJ

Dan and Michele Zehrer, Dix Hills, NY



Worldwide Marriage Encounter for info
call 1-866-4-WWMELI or visit
www.WWMELI.org

10+10 What are my thoughts and
feelings about spending Christmas with
you?

Dear Lovers,

At present, we are compiling a list of those couples interested in being a Prayer Couple.

Simply put, we are inviting each & all of you to be a very special part of our weekends by praying for one or two couples per year. Praying for a couple or priest making a WWME weekend as many of you already know is a beautiful combination of responsibility & joy. It's an opportunity to deeply share in their weekend.....its struggles & joys....their fears & their growth. A prayer couple is the first introduction to community – a “bridge” into the dialogue support system we offer & is an enriching experience for both the new couple/priest & their prayer couple as well. As Encountered Couples we are all called to a constant journey toward intimacy & unity in our spousal relationships and having the love & support of others with similar values to journey with is a true blessing.

We believe we all need & deserve to take part in this humble gift of praying not only for our precious WWME weekends but more specifically for a precious couple or priest on that weekend. “Love One Another As I Have Loved You” resonates loud & clear as we share this with you – Your couple love is so very important & powerful in this crazy, mixed-up world we live in. You can change the world for one couple – You can be a vibrant part of spreading God's love through your prayers and love. Being a Prayer Couple is a very special privilege.

REMEMER HOW **YOU** FELT
OPENING **YOUR** LOVELETTER ON
YOUR WEEKEND FROM YOUR
PRAYER COUPLE!!

If you believe Our Lord is calling you to this ministry, please contact us via e-mail (cgpeknic@verizon.net) or phone (516-596-6241) as soon as possible. Thanking you, in advance, for your time & consideration regarding this much needed help.

HIS PEACE, our love.

Charlie & Gerry Peknic

L.I. Prayer Couple Coordinators



We danced and laughed.
Seeing all the different

costumes created a memory filled Halloween night. We all are grateful for Vinny and Isabell

All these couples and many others who enjoyed this night say, "THANK YOU" to Vinny and Isabell who made this Halloween Dance a great fun filled night.



Montauk Weekend, 2009

Jeff and Claudia Fishman were the coordinators who got the weekend together. Included was a fun filled day at the beach followed by spaghetti & meatballs, Gucci Fireworks and more.

We all say a very grateful “THANK YOU” to Jeff and Claludia





\$110.00 PER COUPLE
(INCLUDES BEER, WINE,
SODA, DINNER, & DESERT)

Bobby "G" is the DJ

COME JOIN US AS WE
CELEBRATE
WORLD MARRIAGE DAY
BY
DANCING THE NIGHT AWAY



WWME IS PROUD TO SPONSOR
THIS VALENTINES DANCE FOR
WORLD MARRIAGE DAY

To register for this
special event:

PLEASE MAIL THIS FORM
WITH YOUR PAYMENT ON OR
BEFORE JANUARY 20TH TO:

Saturday, February 7, 2009

7:30p.m.-12:00p.m.

At the

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
CENTER

7200 DOUGLASTON PARKWAY

DOUGLASTON, NY 11362

VINNY & ISABELL MCGUIRE

624 VINE STREET

BABYLON, NY 11702

Name: _____

Address: _____

Tel# _____

Enclosed check payable to: **WWME**

Please seat us with _____

Questions please call McGuires, 632-587-6135 or Perrottis, 718-236-6573

Dear Long Island Community:

If you attended the Community night at St. Matthews on Saturday you are aware that we were asked to be the new Community Pillar. It was with humble gratitude that we accepted the position. We believe in the Long Island Community and its future. Our thanks to Joe & Linda Cardalli who worked so hard over the last 5 years, first as Structure Pillar and then as Community Pillar. Their past leadership shoes will be hard to fill. We would like to describe for you our hope for the Community in the following letter:

"We Have A Dream"

Last month we attended the Community Night at St. Matthews. It was there that we heard a heartfelt talk from Joe & Linda about the impact of Marriage Encounter on their lives. When you receive such a gift as The Weekend, it carries with it the responsibility we all have, to share that gift. In the sharing that followed the dialogs, we were struck by the mixture of frustration and wistful hope from the couples. No one wants the dream to die, but attendance at Weekends, Community

Nights, Area Meetings and even Social events has declined dramatically.

Without Community to give Pulpit Talks, there will be no Weekends- without Weekends, there will be no Community.

We know we are guilty of occasionally begging off from a meeting with our Community, our Church or even the PTA! We assume that we are

only one couple and it won't really make a difference whether we show up or not. After attending Community meetings, and even our own Area Board, we can tell you, **each of you make a difference!** Your absence is a loss to all who could have been enriched by you and your sharing. We are always amazed how a sharing after a talk sometimes takes us in a new direction in our thinking and our relationship.

The gift of the weekend is in the presence of Community. It is here where it grows in strength and flourishes. It is here that your relationship is supported through the bumps in life's journey and enriched by sharing both your struggles and your joys with others. In the words of Martin Luther King, yes, "We Have A Dream" that our children and grandchildren will someday experience The Weekend. That they may feel its power to transform and enrich their relationships! That they will learn the tools and share what they learn with others in our Marriage Encounter Community.

We Have A Dream that Marriage Encounter will continue to grow, supported by couples who take seriously

their responsibility to give back in thanksgiving for the gift they received. Let's replace those feelings of apathy and frustration with hope and excitement.

Respectfully Submitted with Love,
Jeff & Claudia Frishman



Do You Remember?

Don Quixote!

ALBANY ENRICHMENT WEEKEND





DINNER DANCE at the Immaculate Conception Center on February 7, 2009. A Mass with Renewal of Marriage Vows is planned to be celebrated by Fr. Peter Deveraj at 6:45p.m. The dance will follow immediately! Dances can be a great way to invite un-encountered friends and family to meet us and get a glimpse of our lifestyle. You can call Vinny & Isabell at 631-587-6135 for more info or to book a spot at this upcoming spectacular event.



A TALE OF THREE EVENTS

Dear Lovers;

Hear is a tale of three WWME events during the past month. Please read and decide if WWME is alive and well on Long Island.

On November 1, 2008 twenty costumed couples haunted the American Legion Hall in Copiague to the music of Bobby "G" and partied until midnight. Two bountiful baskets were won by Joe & Linda Cardali and Glenn & Mille Godlbarb. Donna & Thomas Catapano won best M.E. costume and Vinnie & RoseMarie Giaime won best costume of the night. It was a small, but energetic group and the hall seemed filled beyond the number of people there. Of course we ended the evening with a group chain and the song "There's A New World Somewhere". This Halloween dance was a warm-up for the upcoming **We Believe In Marriage VALENTINE'S**

Q: HDIF when we have fun together in WWME?

On November 21, 2008 nine adventurous couples travelled up to Albany to experience the "Laugh Your Way to A Better Marriage" Enrichment Weekend. The COMFORT SUITES were magnificent! The rooms were new, spacious mini suites and the layout of the place was very conducive to this gathering. There were maybe 75 couples there and three Priests. The program focused on the differences between the male brain (compartmentalized functions) and the female brain (multi functional). We heard a lot of this information before; but not in such an original and funny way. It helped us to put in perspective our normal ways of acting and reacting. We suddenly realized that we don't do this on purpose to infuriate one another; it 's the way men and women are made. Saturday night we all had fun together with a buffet dinner, followed by entertainment and dancing to the music

of “Guytonno”, who was awesome! We thought we were at a private concert, except we all go up to dance song after song. The Enrichment was better than we expected and all the ingredients for a memorable weekend were there and then some. The nine couples were, DeBlasio, Frishman, Flecker, Giaime, Kelsch, Lewin, McGuire, Morasse, Popp.

Vinny & Isabell McGuire
Pulpit Talk Coordinator
Glen & Millie Goldfarb
Booking Couple
Vinnie & RoseMarie Giaime
Spirit of L.I. Editors
Fran & Kate Mayerhofer
Supply Couple

Q: HDIF about a renewed vitality in L.I. Marriage Encounter?

On Saturday, November 29th at Community Night at St. Matthew’s, twenty-four couples from L.I. & Bklyn/Queens and Fr. Peter assembled to welcome 7 newly Encountered couples and to hear a talk on “Community” and then share their enthusiasm, intimacy and fellowship. Everyone left the gathering uplifted, inspired and feeling that they had experienced something special and Holy Spirit blessed.

Prior to the Community Night, seven of the nine couples who attended the Albany Enrichment reviewed the recently compiled “Plan for the Renewal of WWME on L.I.” and approved it with their commitments. Amazingly the following couples agreed to take on the following responsibilities or renewed their commitment to their function:

Ron & Chris Morasse,
Weekend Pillar
Jeff & Claudia Fishman
Community Pillar
Pete & Kathy Kelsch
Hosting Coordinator
Charlie & Gerri Peknic
Prayer Couple Coordinator

You can thank these couples personally at the family

**Christmas Party at
Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Center,
455 Hunter Ave., West Islip on
December 13th
From noon to 4:00p.m.**

**Mass will be celebrated by Fr. Peter at
1:00p.m.**

You can also thank

Joe and Linda Cardali

**For their past five years of leadership
at this gathering and give them a big
bear hug for their love and service.**

**Love,
Vinny and Issabell**

Merry Christmas to all

And may you have a

Happy New Year

