



Spring 2017



A Time For New Beginnings



March Movie Night



North American Priest Experience



April Weekend



Please send your mail to Bob & Jeane Payne at jeane.payne52@gmail.com. Letters and articles designated for publication should be in WORD file format and limited to 200 words or less. Thanks!



Deadlines are as follows:

Spring issue (Mar-Apr-May) — April 25

Summer issue (June-July-Aug) — July 25

Fall issue (Sep-Oct-Nov) — October 25

Winter issue (Dec-Jan-Feb) — January 25

Encounter Spirit Editor: Jennifer Payne
(631) 599-8441 rayjax77@aol.com

As the song goes, "We've only just begun." We truly believe in our hearts that with prayer, hard work, and trust, Jesus' words, "Love one another as I have loved you" will spread, and the miracle of His weekend will continue.

**THIS IS YOUR
NEWSLETTER,
KEEP IT ALIVE—
WRITE!**

Structure Pillar

Kevin ♥ Regina Hickson
(516) 883-9649
rnhkah6483@gmail.com

Team Pillar

Bert ♥ Valerie Mota
(516) 414-4266
val@jssperformance.com

Weekend Pillar

Chuck ♥ Maria Reiss
(631) 486-8607
reissent@optonline.net

Community Pillar

Bob ♥ Jeane Payne
(631) 886-2256
Jeane.payne52@gmail.com

INFORMATION SECTION

We ask that you keep in your prayers all these lovers who have said "YES" to helping Marriage Encounter continue to grow and enrich marriages throughout Long Island.

Weekend Pillar

Application Couple
John ♥ Toni Torio
(631) 728-4165
1-877-NYS-WWME

Prayer Couple
Charlie ♥ Geri Peknic
(516) 596-6241
cgpeknic@optonline.com

Weekend Hosting
Peter ♥ Kathy Kelsch
(631) 472-2959
kpkelsch@gmail.com

Weekend Supplies
David ♥ Carmen Venezian
(516) 612-7774
dcvenezian@aol.com

LI Webmasters
Glen ♥ Diane Sherman
(631) 877-2628
www.wmeli@excite.com

Sharing Group Leaders

Nassau Sharing Group
George ♥ Dolores Kraus
Meetings: 2nd Saturday every month
Hosted by George ♥ Dolores
in Mineola

Western Suffolk Sharing Group
Skip ♥ Fran DeBlasio
(631) 367-4224
Meetings: 2nd Friday every month
in Huntington

Central Suffolk Sharing Group
Ed ♥ Olga Ramirez
(631) 274-5715
Meetings: 2nd Friday every month
in Bayshore

Eastern Suffolk Sharing Group
Bob ♥ Jeane Payne
(631) 886-2256
&
Mike ♥ Patti Tafe
(631) 475-8413
Meetings: 2nd Saturday every month
Hosted by Mike ♥ Patti
in Patchogue

East End Twin Forks Sharing Group
John ♥ Toni Torio
(631) 728-4165
Meetings: 2nd Saturday every month
Hosted by John ♥ Toni
In Hampton Bays

Region 20 Ecclesial Team

Pat ♥ Mary Jo McLaughlin
Father Larry Brault

Encounter Teams

Jim ♥ Diane Popp
(516) 794-0069
Rich ♥ Rosemary Maikis
Mike ♥ Lisa Savallo

Weekend Team Couples

Skip ♥ Fran DeBlasio
(631) 367-4224
skip10fran@aol.com

Jorge ♥ Monica Nunez
(631)

Kevin ♥ Regina Hickson
(516) 883-9649
rnhkah6483@gmail.com

George ♥ Dolores Kraus
(516) 746-0615
Gk90@verizon.net

Ron ♥ Chris Morasse
(516) 731-2055
ron@morassefamily.com

Bert ♥ Valerie Mota
(516) 414-4266
val@jssperformance.com

Luis ♥ Rosa Nieves
(516) 804-3923

Chuck ♥ Maria Reiss
(631) 486-8607
reissent@optonline.net

John ♥ Toni Torio
(631) 728-4165
jtwwme@aol.com

Team Priests

Father Peter Devaraj
(631) 588-7443
peter19812@aol.com

Father Jose K Jacob

Father Roy Tvrdik
258 Eastport Manor Rd.
Manorville, N.Y. 1194
(631) 325-0661
shrineoffice@optonline.net

Dear Lovers and Sharers in the Dream,

Happy Midsummer. Yes, can you believe it we are halfway through 2017? What an exciting year it has been so far. The move to presenting our weekends at the Seminary in Huntington has been most successful. The couples really seem to love the place and it has private bathrooms. So far 41 couples this year have experienced the weekend there. We are looking forward to our future weekends. Long Island also had the opportunity to host a weekend in the Cayman Islands where another 25 couples got to experience the weekend. This was a rare opportunity we had the pleasure to share with Fr. Peter Devaraj and Bert and Val Mota. Long Island also got to play host to the North American Priest Experience. Some 70 priests from all over North America came to the Seminary in Huntington for this great renewal experience. Praise for this goes to Peter and Sheila Oprysko of the Archdiocese of NY for putting it all together. We also thank all who volunteered to help driving and hosting. We are happy to announce that a sharing group has been revived. We are calling this the East End Twin Forks Sharing Group and it is being hosted by John and Toni Torio at their home in Hampton Bays. Lastly we had the opportunity to briefly meet our new Bishop, John Barres. What a truly wonderful priest. We hope to be meeting with him later this summer.

The rest of the year looks to be pretty exciting. There is Dialogue at the Beach coming up on July 15th. This is always fun to come out in the sun to enjoy each other's company while being treated to a presentation, 10 + 10 and sharing and hopefully seeing a great sunset. On August 5th we are having our annual Enrichnic at the Shrine of Our Lady of the Island in Manorville. Come out to the Harvest of the Hearts and plant some new seeds in our relationship. The day will conclude with Mass. We are still filling out the fall schedule but be sure to mark your calendars for October 28th when the Region 20 enrichment takes place again in Milford Massachusetts. The theme this year is on Pope Francis', "Amoris Laetitia" and the section that deals with love and marriage. We hope all of you can join us.

This is the 50th anniversary of the "Summer of Love." The good weather and outdoor living is certainly wonderful. Perhaps we can all make this a summer of love. Leave a pair of dialogue books in your car so if you are out travelling around on vacation or at the beach or park or on the water you can share what you are feeling. Kevin's Dad used to say, "There is no vacation from the 10+10, cherish it while you can." Dialogue is such a wonderful gift, enjoy it.

In closing we are asking for some prayers. In addition to all those on Long Island's prayer list we ask for some prayers for Kevin. He is scheduled to have both his knees replaced this summer but it is being delayed by an infection in one of his legs. We hope this will clear up soon so we can be dancing at the Valentine's Dance next year at the Villa Lombardi.

Have a great summer.

Peace, Love & Joy

Kevin & Regina



Dear community of lovers

WOW we cannot believe summer is in full blast. It has been a busy year for us so far. We feel honored to have presented last year's Region 20 Enrichment in Massachusetts and again in New Jersey in the winter and at the Priest Experience in Huntington in the spring. We can probably recite the whole presentation from memory by now. But, by far the most rewarding was being gifted with the opportunity to present a weekend in Grand Cayman. We were welcomed with open arms. Seeing the attending couples there on Friday night to help us set up for the weekend was both unusual and exciting. Their openness to the weekend was uplifting and their sharings were inspiring.

These were true callings from God to be his light to the world.

Behind the altar at our parish, there is a fixture on the wall of Jesus Christ and the phrase "YOU TOGETHER ARE MY BODY". We read this and thought, "We together are Jesus' body" How appropriate it is to see World Wide Marriage Encounter together as part of Jesus's body. We together, us couples from different areas, different states and different countries together make up the Body of Jesus Christ.

Lovers, we have been called to shine his light. You are reading this because you too have been called by him. We, WWME as a whole; we need each and every one of you, to be part of this movement. It is not just about the weekend presenting teams and pillar coordinators. Every one of you is here, reading this right now, because you felt and noticed a special force at work on your weekend.

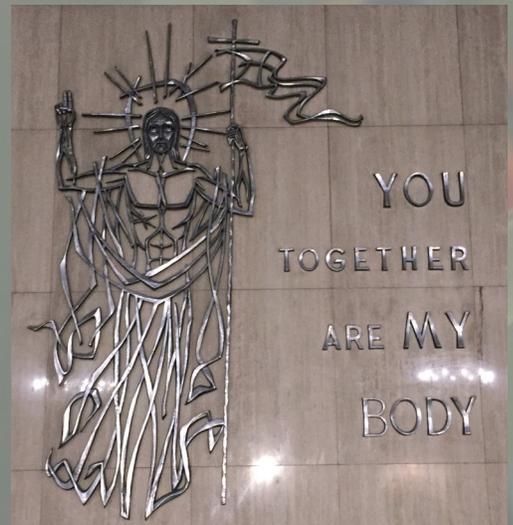
From 1Corinthians 12 12-13 "As A Body Is One Though It Has Many Parts, And All The Parts Of The Body, Though Many, Are One Body, So Also Christ. For In One Spirit We Were All Baptized Into One Body, Whether Jews Or Greeks, Slaves Or Free Persons, And We Were All Given To Drink Of One Spirit." WWME is composed of many community couples, we are blessed to be part of such a strong community in Long Island. Like a wicker basket that is weaved together, rods and sticks holding on to the other, to make this delicate piece of wicker work. Different types of materials, colors and sizes. But if one weave breaks, the others may suffer. The others may have to pick up the slack and hold on tighter so the rest of the basket does not fall apart.

Friends, we need our community to remain strong, we need you to be present at our events. Even if you judge you do not have anything to offer others, come to the event anyway. The sharing group night, if you can't go to your sharing group, attend another one. One word that you may say, that word is all that may take to change someone's life at that moment. You are a great inspiration to us, your presence brightens our hearts. Knowing that you are continually working on your relationship, using the tools you were given on your weekend is an inspiration for us to continue to work on our own relationship. We need the active diversity of our community to make us whole.

1Corinthians 12 14-19 "Now The Body Is Not A Single Part, But Many. If A Foot Should Say, "Because I Am Not A Hand I Do Not Belong To The Body," It Does Not For This Reason Belong Any Less To The Body. Or If An Ear Should Say, "Because I Am Not An Eye I Do Not Belong To The Body," It Does Not For This Reason Belong Any Less To The Body. If The Whole Body Were An Eye, Where Would The Hearing Be? If The Whole Body Were Hearing, Where Would The Sense Of Smell Be? But As It Is, God Placed The Parts, Each One Of Them, In The Body As He Intended. If They Were All One Part, Where Would The Body Be?"



God Bless
Bert and Val Mota



Happy Summer, Long Island!!

It's Maria & Chuck Reiss from East Northport here. We've been missing so many of you! Please support our community events!! We have pulpit talks coming up in July on the 8th and 9th at St. Brigid's in Westbury; Dialogue on the beach at Captree State Park on July 15th; Enrichnic at the Shrine on August 5th. Join us!!

This year we have been using the Seminary of the Immaculate Conception for our WWME weekends. It's a great old "Gold Coast" building with so much charm and beautiful spaces. The conference room has been recently renovated and fits our use perfectly, (even though the pipes creak and knock when the heat goes on – adding to the character). Our last two weekends have been at or near capacity! That is so wonderful!! We've also just set up a new system to notify parishes of upcoming weekends. Please check your bulletins for our ad to make sure it's working properly. Talk to your parish priests and ask them if they would be open to us speaking at mass. We need your help with inviting couples to experience this life-changing gift to each other. There's no advertising as good as your love shining through.

It's been about 6 years since we were first Encountered in September of 2011 and we are so grateful for the gift of WWME. It has rejuvenated our marriage and the rest of our home life. Dealing with everyday trials and tribulations both big and small have become much easier using the tools of dialogue. We are forever grateful for the gift of daily dialogue and to share our life's journey with other believers in the dream.

God bless you all,
Chuck & Maria Reiss
Weekend Pillar



Dear Community of Lovers,

Your most endearing quality is your love for each other & marriage encounter.

It's been a long Winter. Spring was more Winter than Spring. We are experiencing Summer a week early. We are not complaining. Summer is our favorite time of year. BBQs, trips to the beach, delicious ice cream from Dari-land! Most importantly topless rides in Bob's Mustang, the wind in my hair and sun on my face. It makes us very happy. We know it's been a while since the last Spirit was out but we have shaken off our winter funk and it has finally arrived!

We have lots of things going on our lives, our granddaughter Anna will be graduating on the 24th, our grandson Nick is a Marine currently on a training mission in Vermont. In the fall he will be deployed to Bahrain in the Persian Gulf. Please keep him and all our military forces in your prayers. Our daughter Danielle and husband Rich will welcome their fourth child this September. His name will be Michael. He is our 11th grandchild!

Now that the doldrums of a wet and chilly Spring have passed, Bob & I are ready to breathe new life into our dialogue. It has not been our priority and is lackluster at best. We have recommitted to putting dialogue first and taking the time to really craft our love letters. So if you find your dialogue is in need of overhaul, there are lots of questions in this issue. We have planned some relationship-enhancing events that will help spark your 10& 10.

Please join us for Dialogue on the Beach on July 15th, 2 pm to dusk. In August we will have the Enrichnic at Our Lady of the Island shrine on the 5th, arrive by 8:30am for coffee and bagels. Pack a lunch or buy it at the shrine. Please bring your dialogue books and something for the sharing table. We are asking for a 10.00 per couple donation to cover the cost of refreshments. Please RSVP to us at 631-886-2256 so we know how much food & supplies we will need for the day.

We want to encourage all of you to step beyond your comfort zone and attend Marriage Encounter events along with your monthly sharing group. We ask that you consider writing a letter for the next Spirit; it can be on the impact of the weekend on your relationship or your favorite part of summer. You can send them to the Spirit editor at rayjax77@aol.com. We need your input. We hope to see you at one of the upcoming events this summer. Enjoy.

Love, Bob & Jeane





Upcoming Events

Save these important events on your calendar!

July 2017

July 15th: Dialogue at the beach @ Captree State Park, 2pm until dusk. Bring a picnic lunch, there will be a grill available if you want to cook. There will be a presentation and a 10 & 10. Fun, sun and fellowship--what could be better? Please bring something for the sharing table. RSVP by July 12th, 2017

August 2017

August 5th: Enrichnic @ Our Lady of the Island Shrine in Eastport. Join Father Roy and our presenting team for a full day of enrichment! Arrive by 8:30am, presentations will begin at 9am. The day ends with Mass at the rock at 4pm. Please RSVP by August 1, 2017

October 2017

October 28th: Enrichment @ Milford, Massachusetts. Join us for the Area 20 Enrichment! This one-day enrichment is just what the doctor ordered to boost your relationship to the next level. More information on sign-up and local hotels will be forthcoming.

December 2017

December 17th: Marriage Encounter Christmas Celebration @ St. Hugh's of Lincoln - 21 East 9th Street, Huntington Station, 11746. More details to follow!

February 2018

February 2nd: WWME Mass & Dance @ Villa Lombardi's. Rooms will be available at Fairfield Marriott Inn & Suites in Coram. More info coming soon!

Welcome to...
**CAPTREE
STATE PARK**

Dialogue at the Beach

JULY 15, 2017

2PM UNTIL DUSK

@ Captree State Park

3500 E. Ocean Parkway Babylon, NY 11702

What to bring:
your lover, your dialogue books
a picnic lunch

(a grill will be available for cooking)
something for the sharing table

We will provide:

A presentation followed by 10 & 10

Fun, sun, and fellowship!

*Please RSVP to Bob & Jeane by
July 12, 2017 @ (631) 886-2256*

Photo used with permission of Christine Miller

Harvest of the Hearts

All Day Community Enrichment

When: Saturday, August 5 2017

Time: 8:30am – 4pm

Where: Shrine of Our Lady of the Island
258 Eastport Manor Rd.
Manorville, NY 11949

Charge: \$15.00 per couple to cover cost of supplies

Arrive by 8:30am for bagel breakfast.

Presentations will start at 9am.

Bring your own picnic lunch and beverage.

Food is available for purchase at Shrine's coffee shop.

Coffee, Tea and water available through out the day;

courtesy of WWME Long Island

The day will end with Mass at 4pm.

Please RSVP By August 1, 2017

Bob and Jeane

(631) 886-2256

SAVE THE DATES



VISION

“Love one Another as I have Loved you”- John 15:12

MISSION

The Mission of Worldwide Marriage Encounter is to proclaim the value of Marriage and Holy Orders in the church and in the world.

1-877 NYS WWME or wwmeli.org



INVITE A COUPLE TO THE WEEKEND

Weekend Application Form
(Please Print)

His First Name _____ Her First Name _____

Last Name _____ Wedding Date _____

Home Phone _____ Which weekend? _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Parish/Church/Synagogue _____

His Faith _____ Her Faith _____

**Make Check Payable to: Worldwide Marriage Encounter
Mail to application couple with \$50.00 Non-Refundable Application**

To
John ♥ Toni Torio
5 Ocean Ave
Hampton Bays NY 11946
1877 NYS WWME
697-9963



FOR YOUR DAILY

Dialogue

DFILD How do I fail sometimes as a good listener? HDTAOR?

DFILD What can I do to become a better listener for you? HDIFSTWY?

DFILD How do I feel when you ask me for help? HDTAOR?

DFILD What in my life am I most grateful for? HDIFSTWY?

DFILD What is most important to me? HDIFSTWY?

DFILD What is the sweetest thing I have ever done for you? HDTAOR?

DFILD What are my biggest fears? HDIFSTWY?

DFILD Where do I want to live after we retire? HDTAOR?

DFILD What do I daydream about? HDIFSTWY?

DFILD My favorite Summer activity is _____. HDTAOR?