



Engaged Encounter Notes



Diocese of St. Augustine

A Love Letter From Our Leaders

March 2007

Volume 14, Issue 2

Dearest Community,

The following is a prayer for families to pray each evening and comes from the Lenten Reflections booklet--Not By Bread Alone:

Earnest and loving God, you call all people to yourself. You call us to authenticity and honesty. Draw us closer to yourself. Allow us to deepen our faith this Lent, to grow more intimately in relationship with you and to live as you desire. For this we pray, in the name of Jesus, who calls us to new life.

By now you each should have received your discernment "package"; if not please let us know and we will e-mail a copy to you. **We are so blessed to have our new Unit Coordinators, Jack & Claudia Barrett, from Pensacola, FL coming to Jacksonville to facilitate the process for us.** If you would please assist us with the planning

by confirming your attendance at discernment as soon as possible we would appreciate it. Please keep the community and the discernment process in your prayers over the next couple of weeks. Please don't forget to bring *one small item (one per person) that holds special memories, i.e. a letter, a photograph, something special made by your children, a special ornament, a ticket stub – DO NOT LET YOUR SPOUSE KNOW WHAT YOU'RE BRINGING IT'S A SECRET THAT WILL BE SHARED DURING OUR DISCERNMENT PROCESS.*

What an amazing group of couples we ministered with last weekend! You might be interesting in hearing that one couple were both Buddhist that traveled from Miami because they desperately wanted some marriage preparation and were

turned away by every other domination. They were an interesting couple to say the least & were so thankful to have participated in the weekend with us.

We must send an enormous thank you to Ron & Patty Pendleton for stepping in as the senior couple when Chris Kelly came down with the stomach flu. You would never know that they only had 24 hours notice to prepare and join us for the weekend! Our community is so blessed to have some many members that will step up and fill in when needed!

As a reminder we are also in need of presenting teams for the April 20-22nd weekend – the weekend is full and the FLO has already started a waitlist...now we need presenting teams!!

Love to all –
Denver ♥ Camille

Special Request

We need couples to sign up for the 2007 weekends, especially the April weekend.

Please see the attached schedule and contact Denver & Camille (278-5393) to book your slots!!

Prayer Requests

- ♥ For our community discernment receive therapy for her hip.
- ♥ For the Preston family.
- ♥ For all of our priests.
- ♥ For the Engaged.
- ♥ For all vocations.
- ♥ For the Holloway family as they prepare for the arrival of their 4th child.
- ♥ For Anne Storch as she continues to

Contact Info

Thanks to those who have given me your updated info. If you notice anything that still needs to be corrected or need a new copy of the roster, please let me know.

Thanks,

Jamie Gehmann

jamie@joehmann.clearwire.net
641-7615

Love Taps

But God’s plan was seen from the beginning of creation, for “He made them male and female.” - Mark 10:6

Choose a good reputation over great riches, for being held in high esteem is better than having silver or gold.—Proverbs 22:1

March Meeting

The March meeting will be Discernment and it will be at St Joseph’s in the Cody Center on March 17th at 11:00am. See you there.

Excerpts of Love

We were both cynical about what the content of the weekend would be...we had reservations about being “told” what to believe or how to “live.” We couldn’t have been any more incorrect. We have experienced new depths in our understanding of one another, increase in knowledge of our roles within the family and the Family of God, and what our mission is; to both the world, one another and our soon to be family.

Josh ♥ Kristy—February 2007

We have gotten so much out of this weekend. I feel a great peace and calm love that has been missing from our lives for a while. This weekend gave us a chance to talk about a lot of hard issues that have been on our hearts and minds for a long time in a laid back, non confrontational way. We could truly open up to one another without fear of being rejected or hurt.

Jeffrey ♥ Amanda—February 2007

This retreat has given us the opportunity to quiet our minds and recognize flaws in ourselves and see how it effects our relationship. Sitting by the river slows down time and allows the mind to think more clearly.

Dallas ♥ Sarah—February 2007

Weekend Schedule 2007

Weekend	Priest	Senior	Junior	BTS	Registration	NFP	Prayer Coordinator	Follow Up Mtg
January 19-21	Fr. Walsh	Kelly's	Schretzmann	Granados	Oehmann's	Schretzmann		1/26/2006
February 23-25	Fr. Seamus	Pendelton	Anderson	Granados	Hutchinson	Schretzmann	Storch & Graves	
March	Discernment							3/17/2006
April 20-22	Fr. Murphy ?			Hutchinson	Marzluff & Carlson Training	Schretzmann		4/27/2006
May 18-20		Brodeur	Schretzmann	Granados	Carlson	Schretzmann		
June 22-24		Gibson	Anderson	Oehmann	Marzluff	Schretzmann		6/1/2006
June 29th - July 1st District III Convention Knoxville, TN "007 The Real Bond"								
July								Beach Party
August 24-26	Fr. Tim Lozier			Graves - BTS Training	Marzluff	Schretzmann		9/7/2007
September	Cancelled							
October 12-14	Fr. Sullivan		Klusman	Hutchinson & Bilbray		Schretzmann		10/19/2007
November 16-18	Fr. Bernie ??					Schretzmann		
December 15th	Christmas Party - home of Manny & Yvonne Granados 7pm							

Minutes From January Meeting

What a great Valentine's party we had! The room was packed with lovers! Our meeting began with a special Valentine's prayer which was followed by a fantastic Italian meal. The party had it all, and was made richer by the attendance of eight new couples.

Following the meal we played a game called "left, right, center". Our fearless leaders changed the rules whenever they got the whim and as a result this writer was promptly eliminated from the competition! Jim Wilkey was the ultimate survivor and won the grand prize. One of our new couples, Matt and Bri, won the prize for being married on the date closest to February 14.

After the prizes were awarded we had a short business meeting. The highlights are:

The recap of the last weekend was awesome. All couples devoted themselves to each other as they wrote and dialogued. Visions were positive and reflected the Christ filled atmosphere of the weekend.

Weekend schedules were passed out and each couple was encouraged to assist in filling in the many blank

spaces. It is important to fill the schedule NOW, so our leaders can move to more pressing activities.

Our March meeting will be our community discernment. New community leaders will be selected. When Denver and Camille succeeded Jim and Dawn they had some big shoes to fill. And now, whoever follows Denver and Camille will also have to fill some mighty big shoes. But the Lord has always blessed this community with loving and capable leaders. We have to be present if Christ is going to work through us. It is important that as many of us as possible participate in the discernment process. We are not just another ministry – we are a community – so, mark your calendar RIGHT NOW and plan to attend. It promises to be a spirit filled day – one in which we can all grow in relationships – relationships with our spouse, our community, and Christ.

The meeting ended with each couple adding a petition, or thanks, followed by Deacon Harry leading the closing prayer.

Happy St. Patrick's Day !!!

Have you ever thought of St. Patrick as the saint for Engaged Encounter? What great works he did traveling the countryside to convert the pagans to Christianity. He is known for the way he preached the Trinity, with the aid of the three-leafed shamrock. He used it in his sermons to represent how the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit could all exist as separate elements of the same entity "and the three shall become one". An icon like the three-leafed shamrock is so good for what we present on our weekends. That a strong marriage must be made of three parts, the husband, the wife and God.

This is a verse from the beautiful prayer of St. Patrick, popularly known as "St. Patrick's Breast-Plate",

**Christ with me, Christ before me,
Christ behind me, Christ within me,
Christ beneath me, Christ above me,
Christ at my right, Christ at my left,
Christ in the fort,
Christ in the chariot seat,
Christ in the poop [deck],
Christ in the heart of everyone who thinks of me,
Christ in the mouth of everyone who speaks to me,
Christ in every eye that sees me,
Christ in every ear that hears me.**

May Christ always be within our ministry.