



Engaged Encounter Notes



Diocese of St. Augustine

A Love Letter From Our Leaders

May 2007

Volume 14, Issue 4

Dearest Community,

We want to thank everyone for all the congratulations and support we have already felt. As your newly discerned leaders, we have many different goals we would like to accomplish in the next two years. Let's start small – old and new. If you are a couple that has been in our community awhile but not active lately, we would love to see you back again. We are always looking for teams for the weekends. We are going to make a strong effort to get some of the couples who have recently experienced an EE weekend and said they wanted to get involved to come around and join us for various events.

We still have several

“Joy Jobs” available including recruiting, priest liaison, and Church Contact Couple, so please let us know if you want to help out. Remember, many hands make light work.

We would like to encourage anyone who can to go to Conference and we are excited that so many people have already signed up. Remember the community is paying \$400 towards each couple's trip.

As part of our Enrichments over the next year, we are going to do a series of sharings at each meeting called “a cup of our story”. We think that it will benefit our community to know the couples in our community and the story that each of them have that brings so

much to our Engaged couples. This month's installment will be the story of how you met.

We hope that everyone can join us for our “summer's here picnic” on Friday, June 1st at 6:45pm at the Cody Center at St. Josephs. We will provide the Subs and Drinks if everybody can bring your favorite Picnic side dish.

Summer's here and that means that our Annual EE Beach party is not too far off. Mark your calendars for Sunday, July 29, 2007 for the Annual EE Beach Party at Anne's. More details to follow next month.

Love to all –
Jamie ♥ Dawn

O Lord, we thank you for this wonderful gift of our love which You have generously granted us and which allows us to build a true communion of persons between us— provided we remain ever open to You, the source of all love. Help us to continue to love each other and accept each other unconditionally. Enable us to communicate to one another all of our joys, sufferings, and desires and all of our hopes, sorrows, and difficulties. Give us the power of Your love that we may forget self and live for each other so that we may have truly one spirit. Amen.

Prayer Requests

For the Day family as Eliana undergoes testing and they prepare for the arrival of their 2nd child in November.

For Camille's friend and father as they continue to recover from their surgeries.

For the Preston family.

For all of our priests.

For all vocations.

For Anne Storch as she continues to receive therapy for her hip.

For the Patty's mom as she recovers from surgery.

For the Engaged.

For the Holloway family as they prepare for the arrival of their 4th child.

For the Wilkey's, as Donna retires from teaching.

For Oehmann family as they lead our community.

For the families that will be traveling to Knoxville for the District Convention.

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,

Matthew Graves

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Meeting Recap

Minutes from April's Meeting "Cinco de Mayo" Party

What a joy filled celebration we had. We began with a Prayer from John where Christ reminds us that it is He that chose us to serve others and love as He loved. It was a thank you good and faithful servant's celebration for Denver and Camille as they moved from local leadership to leadership at a higher level and welcome to Jamie and Dawn as they assumed leadership of our local ministry. Then the Cinco de Mayo party started and the food was simply fabulous! Everyone ate their fill of Mexican cuisine - Florida (or Tennessee) style!

Following the meal and festive conversation - we had a short business meeting where the following items were discussed.

Convention - Knoxville TN - June 29-July 1. The convention will enrich and rejuvenate us as we share the love of our ministry with others that share our values through fellowship and fun. As an incentive to have as many attend from our community, it was decided that the community would reimburse actual expenses incurred up to \$400.00 family. The reimbursement includes Registration, Room, and Travel expenses (not a standard mileage rate - but actual expenses). So, if you want to go and do not have a registration form - contact Jamie and Dawn. Hotel reservations must be made by May 15, 2007 - Holiday Inn Select - 865.693.1011.

Fr. Tony Palazzolo requested that we consider restructuring our weekend format to better accommodate divorced and older couples. We discussed the opportunities we have on the weekend to do this and agreed to continue to seek ways to serve all who attend our weekends. There is a "roundtable discussion time" set aside at the upcoming convention - may be a topic for that group.

Weekend update - another absolutely fabulous weekend. From beginning to end it was very Christ filled. The NFP presentation by William and Marie netted the

most positive response yet - Approximately 40% responded "yes" to NFP. God is so good! William mentioned that our vision letters were all positive and one couple owns a production company and volunteered to use their talents to help the ministry - William is contacting them both for EE and for NFP possibilities. Once this is done William will discuss options with the Family Life Office.

There is a waiting list for our May and June weekends.

Jim Wilkey shared that a father of a groom to be on an upcoming weekend made a contribution of \$1000 to the ministry.

Pat and Megan announced that it is official - they are moving to New Brunswick, Maine - a sad announcement for our community, but all of our best wishes will go north with them!

Joy Jobs update - Harry and Norma will continue as Priest liaison for a while

Ron and Patty will contact Fr. Seamus - follow up on idea to visit Deaneries.

Our meeting closed with us going around the table sharing recent happenings in our lives and families. The events shared ranged from the joy of a child celebrating his first birthday to the anticipation of new job possibilities to the concern for the health of a parent undergoing surgery. You really need to be at a meeting to share these special moments. See you at our June 1 meeting. You need to come because our enrichment activity will be to share how you met your spouse.

Thanks Denver and Camille for all your hard work. Your leadership has touched all of us and made us family!



May Meeting

Love Taps

You hold my hand for a while, but you hold my heart forever.

The perfect marriage begins when each partner believes they got better than they deserve.

The heart is happiest when it beats for others.

The May meeting will be a picnic theme and at St Joseph's in the Cody Center on June 1st at 6:45pm. See you there!

Excerpts of Love

The first night we got here we went straight to the beautiful grounds and knew that this was going to be a special weekend. More importantly though was our discovery together of the beautiful chapel. We began this weekend on our own, with prayer. It was as if your prayers led us there. From the start Christ became our focus.

Justin ♥ Amanda—April 2007

Thank you for what we consider the most wonderful and inspirational weekends of our relationship. We have both learned more than we ever expected.

Thomas ♥ Katie—April 2007

We've realized now more than ever that love is a decision, not merely emotion, and we pledge to make the choice to love one another every day of our life long journey.

Joe ♥ Pat—April 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		1/26/2007
February 23-25	Fr. Seamus	Pendleton	Anderson	Granados	Hutchinson	Schretzmann	Storch & Graves	
March	Discernment							3/17/2007
April 20-22	Fr. Murphy	Pendleton	Schretzmann	Hutchinson	Marzluff & Carlson Training	Schretzmann	Graves	4/27/2007
May 18-20		Brodeur	Schretzmann	Granados	Carlson	Schretzmann	Graves	
June 22-24		Gibson	Anderson	Oehmann; Graves BTS Training	Marzluff	Schretzmann	Graves	6/1/2007
June 29th - July 1st District III Convention Knoxville, TN "007 The Real Bond"								
July 29	Beach Party - home of Anne Storch							
August 24-26	Fr. Tim Lozier	Geinosky	Morrissey	Graves	Marzluff	Schretzmann		9/7/2007
September	Cancelled							
October 12-14	Fr. Sullivan		Klusman	Hutchinson & Bilbray	Helgeson	Schretzmann		10/19/2007
November 16-18	Fr. Bernie		Preston	Wilkey		Schretzmann		
December 8th	Christmas Party - home of Manny & Yvonne Granados 7pm							