

**The three ministries listed below serve the church by undertaking an effort to help marriages grow in strength and holiness over a lifetime. They encourage this by including the realities experienced in relationships along with Catholic beliefs communicated by teams of married couples and priests. The couples whom they serve are given necessary tools to help them strengthen their relationships.**

### **Catholic Engaged Encounter**



#### ***Catholic Engaged Encounter***

- An effective marriage preparation program designed to provide engaged couples with the tools needed for a successful marriage relationship.
- An intense weekend offering engaged couples the time and opportunity to question, examine and deepen their relationship with each other and with god.
- C.E.E. invites the engaged/newly married to join the community of married couples and priests who promote and provide this ministry.

The couples actively engage in discovery and dialogue in three major areas:

**COMMUNICATION** - Looks at the importance of love and acceptance of self and our partner for effective communication.

**MARRIAGE** - Looks at the many aspects of the relationship formed by two individuals when they become husband and wife.

**SACRAMENT** - Emphasizes that each couple's marriage relationship is a visible sign to the world of God's love and presence. Couples are challenged to share their gift with family and community.

Catholic Engaged Encounter has been recognized and commended by Pope John Paul II for our work in forming and promoting strong, sacramental marriages.



#### ***Worldwide Marriage Encounter***

- Working in the Church to enhance the sacraments of Matrimony and Holy Orders.
- An experience to assist all married couples to live out their life in responsibility and intimacy.
- A Catholic experience open to couples of all faiths.
- Presentations given by experienced couples and a priest to help couples look at their marriage and relationship.
- It is a very private experience for the participants.

Teaches a communication technique that permits couples to explore important areas of their relationship in a spirit of love and understanding.



#### ***Retrouvaille***

Retrouvaille is a peer ministry in which struggling married couples are provided with experience, strength, and hope, as well as a variety of tools to help them deal with their difficulties.

The program consists of:

- **The Weekend**, an intense Friday night through Sunday program presented by three married couples and a Catholic Priest.
- **The Post Weekend** a series of 12 Two-hour presentations designed to reinforce and supplement the week end experience and to encourage and enhance long term positive changes.
- **CORE (Continuing Our Retrouvaille Experience)** an open ended periodic gathering of Retrouvaille couples who provide ongoing support and ministry for one another.

Contact Retrouvaille  
800-470-2230 or [www.retrouvaille.org](http://www.retrouvaille.org)



The International Organizations of Catholic Engaged Encounter, Worldwide Marriage Encounter and Retrouvaille in ministry support the Sacrament of Matrimony as a means of building strong and healthy marriages, which in turn builds strong and healthy families resulting in a strong and healthy Church.

**The Sacrament of Matrimony**

There are many signs of God's love for us. A Sacrament is a visible sign of the invisible love that God has for his people.

In the Catholic Church we recognize seven signs that are significant reflections of that love in our relationship with our God.

Of those seven, the Sacrament of Matrimony mirrors the covenant relationship of God and His people as seen in the married couple as husband and wife. A relationship where each pledges to the other an irrevocable love and commitment to remain faithful to the vows which they exchanged when they enter into their covenant on their wedding day.



**Mission Statement**

We the independent ministries of Catholic Engaged Encounter, Worldwide Marriage Encounter, and Retrouvaille, in partnership and with the grace of God, join our talents and individual gifts for the betterment of marriages, families, and the Church in answer to the call of the Holy Father's concern for the family.

**You Are Invited To Share Their Vision!**



**Encounter  
Life**

**Together**

**Joining Hands  
To Do  
God's Work**