

## Engaged Encounter of North Texas

Congratulations on your engagement! We look forward to seeing you at the Engaged Encounter Weekend. The cost for the Engaged Encounter weekend retreat is \$175.00 per couple.

The weekend begins Friday night at 8:00 PM and will end at approximately 1:00 PM on Sunday afternoon. The weekend will be held at the Catholic Renewal Center, 4503 Bridge Street in Fort Worth, which is located next to Nolan High School (map & directions are enclosed). Please park in the parking spots across from the Renewal Center. Please DO NOT park in the Nolan High School parking lot.

Plan to arrive at the Renewal Center by 7:30PM on Friday night. If you anticipate arriving after 7:30 PM, please call the Renewal Center after 6:00PM - phone 817-429-2920.

**Please Eat Dinner BEFORE Arriving Friday Night! If you have any special needs or dietary concerns, please notify us immediately.**

### Items to bring for the weekend:

- Sheets for a twin-sized mattress, pillow, blanket or sleeping bag. Towels, toiletries, casual/comfortable clothes.
- Change for the soda machine - iced tea and coffee will be provided.
- Any other personal items, as there will be no time for you to leave the Renewal Center during the weekend.
- A snack to share with the group during the weekend. (A snack table will be out all weekend.) Some popular items: chips, crackers, fruit, candy or cookies.

We hope that your weekend will be an enjoyable and fulfilling part of your marriage preparation. We have attached an information sheet explaining more about what to expect during your weekend. You will be receiving a confirmation phone call from one of the presenting couples. You may direct any other questions to them or you may call me at any time.

Sincerely,

Engaged Encounter of North Texas

Phone: 817-346-9320

## **Engaged Encounter of North Texas**

Welcome to Engaged Encounter! We hope this will be an important part of your marriage preparation. This program will be beneficial for both of you, whether you are Catholic or not. The following information is included so that you know what to expect during the weekend retreat.

### **Purpose.**

Our Catholic Community considers Christian marriage a unique calling. The married couple - in their love for one another - models Christ's unconditional love. A couple's loving relationship becomes a sign of God's love, visible to the world around them. The ultimate goal of marriage preparation is to provide couples with skills that will enable them to live such a marriage.

Good communication between a husband and wife helps to make such a marriage possible. It is the glue that bonds a marriage together. We will help you enhance your communications skills this weekend through the use of the W.E.D. technique: Write - Exchange - Dialogue.

### **Presentations.**

Your weekend team - all volunteers - is committed to the Engaged Encounter ministry. The presenting couples will introduce a series of topics related to your new life together. They will also share some of their own life experiences and help develop your own personal communication skills. After each presentation, couples will have private discussion time to share thoughts with each other.

### **Sleeping Arrangements.**

Upon check-in on Friday night, each of you will be assigned a room. The sleeping arrangements are in a dormitory-like setting and you will be sharing your room with at least one other person.

### **Private Couple Time.**

Upon check-in on Friday night, you will also be assigned a location for private discussions - called the Dialogue Room, for you and your fiancé.

### **Meals and Snacks.**

Meals will begin Saturday with Breakfast, then Lunch and Dinner. Sunday Breakfast will also be provided. Coffee and tea will be provided along with the snacks that couples bring for the weekend. Sodas may be purchased from a machine at the Renewal Center. Please bring change for the machine. You are also welcome to bring your own snacks/water/soda/juice to keep in your room.

### **Facility Rules.**

The Catholic Renewal Center is a non-smoking facility. Breaks are scheduled throughout the weekend for you to spend time outside. Please plan to stay at the Renewal Center during the entire weekend from Friday night to Sunday afternoon. We also remind you that alcoholic beverages are not allowed.

### **Book Store & Gifts.**

The Catholic Renewal Center Book Store will be open on Saturday. The Book Store supplies books of all interests, gift items, cards and CD's. You will have time during your break to visit the Book Store. The Catholic Renewal Center and Book Store is a non-profit entity and your generous support is appreciated.

We hope you enjoy your time together at the Engaged Encounter Weekend!

## Engaged Encounter of North Texas

### Directions to the Catholic Renewal Center:

The Catholic Renewal Center is located at 4503 Bridge Street on the east side of Nolan High School in Fort Worth. Phone: 817-429-2920. MAPSCO: 64Z

### Route Options:

1. From Fort Worth: Take the Oakland Street exit off I-30 East. This is several miles east of downtown. Turn left onto Oakland, cross over I-30, and then turn right onto Bridge Street (this is the service road along I-30). Go about 1/2 mile. Nolan High School and the Catholic Renewal Center are on the left.
2. From Denton / Gainesville / or north of the Metroplex: Take I-35W South to Fort Worth. Take I-30 East and follow the directions in #1 above.
3. From Dallas: Take I-30 West and take the Oakland Street/Bridge Street exit. Stay in the left lane of the exit ramp and take a left onto Bridge Street (this is the service road along I-30). Go about 1/4 mile. The Catholic Renewal Center and Nolan High School are on the right.
4. From Arlington: Take I-30 West and follow the directions in #3 above.

If you are driving from South Arlington or Grand Prairie, take I-20 West and then 820 North. Take the John T. White / Bridge Street exit and turn left onto Bridge Street. Follow Bridge Street for about 3 miles through Woodhaven and pass the Channel 11 studios. Look for a water tower on the right. The Catholic Renewal Center and Nolan High School are on the right just past the water tower.

5. From HEB or other Mid-Cities: Take 820 South to I-30 West and follow directions in #3 above.

