

*An Invitation to a
Marriage Encounter Weekend*



with
MATER DEI
Marriage Encounter Community



MATER DEI
Marriage Encounter Community
(A sector of the Marriage Encounter Foundation of the Phils.)
Unit 502, ELCO Bldg.,
202 E. Rodriguez Sr. Ave., Quezon City

Kindly make reservation for:

**MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER
APPLICATION SHEET**

NAME OF COUPLE - HUSBAND

(Name)

(Surname)

(Nickname)

WIFE

(Name)

(Surname)

(Nickname)

ADDRESS:

TELEPHONE: (Office)

(Residence)

DATE OF BIRTH - Husband

19 ____

DATE OF MARRIAGE:

19 ____

Wife

19 ____

PLACE OF MARRIAGE:

MEMBERSHIP IN RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS: (Position) Name of Promoter Couple:

Tel. _____

Tel. _____

Registration P _____

(enclosed/at site)

Note: Submit this as soon as possible to the MATER DEI M.E. COMMUNITY
Recruitment Committee. Upon receipt, we will send
you your acceptance letter.

Signature: _____



Q. What is this Marriage Encounter we are hearing so much about?

A. Marriage Encounter is a weekend experience designed to revitalize the interpersonal growth of the couple towards each other and toward God. Through a particular method of communication and dialogue, they discover in a new way their **COUPLENES** and their **COUPLE POWER**.

With this renewed couple-love that comes alive between them, the couple reach out to their children and their community. They strive to be a **COUPLE-FOR OTHERS**.

Q. Do you have to have a problem to take the M-E?

A. Definitely not; those who have profited most from the marriage encounter were already good marriages without any deep problems. But whether you have a problem or not, the M-E will do wonders for you, provided you enter it with correct attitudes of opening of mind and heart.

Q. Is there hope for a couple who are on the verge of a break-up or who have actually broken up for M-E to solve their problem?

A. The M-E is not a reformatory, panacea or a cure all for marital illness. But many couples on the verge of separation changed their attitudes drastically towards each other thru the M-E. No couple has ever regretted taking M-E?

Q. Why are couples who have made it so enthusiastic about it? What happens during the M-E?

A. During the M-E, the couples re-discover the meaning of their marriage as if they have re-discovered a lost paradise. The M-E stresses the positive and not the negative about married life. The motto of the M-E is "Today is the first day of the rest of our life." The M-E draws a curtain over the past. The past is not mentioned except to learn from it, never to be thrown at the face of the other spouse. No one has been trained for marriage, everyone makes mistakes. The M-E learns from the past, applies it to the present, in order to prepare for a happier future.

Q. During the M-E, are there confrontations and public revelations of a couple's marital problems?

A. Absolute not. Their attention is focused on each other as a couple and not on the other.

In the M-E there is no public discussion of particular problems like in-laws, money, children, etc.

The weekend is focused on deepening the love-relationship between husband and wife.

Q. How is this done?

A. By teaching the couples to communicate and dialogue in a deep and profound way that touches the heart of a person. In the short span of two days, the M-E, thru the most modern and yet ancient techniques transforms husbands and wives into sweethearts and lovers.

Q. Who gives the M-E?

A. Usually, a priest and two couples form the team. They take turns in giving the talks. They do not lecture; they share from life experiences.

Q. Is the M-E a live-in or a live-out?

A. M-E are of two kinds depending on the availability of the place.

- a) Live-in requires the couples to stay for 2 days and 2 nights in a place with individual rooms and a large conference hall.
- b) Live-out-in places where there are no facilities for a live-in, the M-E can be held in school houses or sometimes in big private houses with plenty of rooms, and the participants go home at night.

Q. Suppose a husband or wife refuses to take the M-E. Can one partner take it alone?

A. Unfortunately not, because benefits will not be reaped by a couple unless both partners are present. No substitutions allowed.

Q. Where can we make reservation or inquiries regarding the M-E in Metro Manila or outside Metro Manila?

A. Go to the office of the Mater Dei M.E. Community at Unit 502, ELCO Bldg., 202 E. Rodriguez Sr. Ave., Quezon City

SOME REACTIONS ABOUT THE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

- * "Our marriage moved forward faster in 2 1/2 days of the M-E than it did during the last 20 years."
- * "Throughout the 27 years of our married life I tried to find the formula for happiness in marriage but to no avail until I took the M-E and I discovered it was this... to make my wife happy is the secret to my own happiness."
- * "My husband has become more aware of my existence and needs as a result of the marriage encounter weekend. We have achieved an even greater closeness to each other."
- * "The most important thing I got out of the M-E is the importance of openness in communication between husband and wife. In other words **DIALOGUE**."
- * "Until we took the M-E we did not realize the mystery of God's plan in marriage."
- * "The most important idea that struck me in the M-E is that, "Today is the first day of the rest of our married life."
- * "The biggest thing I've learned in the M-E is to agree to disagree without being disagreeable."
- * "Before the M-E, my wife and I were skeptical. We asked, after 29 years of happy marriage and eleven children, what new thing could the M-E weekend teach us? We were mistaken. The M-E weekend opened our eyes to a new world of beauty and spirituality in marriage."
- * "Before the M-E weekend, my husband and I were not on speaking terms. After the first M-E dialogue, **NABUKSAN ANG LANGIT**."
- * "When we finally and reluctantly accepted the repeated invitation of a friend to attend the M-E weekend, we thought we were doing him a favor. After the weekend, we realized that he had done us a favor which we can never repay in material terms."
- * "After the M-E weekend, as a man craving for material success to the neglect of my wife and children, I came to realize that **NO OTHER SUCCESS CAN COMPENSATE FOR FAILURE IN THE HOME**."