

What is Engaged Encounter?

Engaged Encounter is a weekend where couples planning marriage have the time together to concentrate on each other, free from the tensions, pressures, and interruptions of daily life. It is designed to give couples an opportunity to dialogue intensively and honestly about their future life together. Self identity, role expectations of each other, money, sex, children, family and religion are some of the topics of face-to-face dialogue with one's partner.

Engaged Encounter is one of the instructional programs for Marriage Preparation sponsored by the Catholic Dioceses of Lubbock and Amarillo.

What Happens During the Weekend?

Through a series of talks on the lived experiences of the team of married couples and a priest, the engaged couple is encouraged to discuss privately all the aspects of married life — always from the viewpoint of their own unique relationship. Each talk is followed by a private reflection time — and this is followed by dialogue with one's fiancée. The focus is on the couple and their private sharing; group sharing is minimal and never mandatory.

During the weekend there is time provided for questions, open discussion, prayer, reconciliation, and the Sunday Liturgy.

Is There an Ideal Time to Attend?

Marriage guidelines for the State of Texas require that the marriage preparation be **COMPLETED AT LEAST 6 MONTHS BEFORE THE WEDDING** if either of the parties will be under 19 years of age at the time of the wedding. If the couple is 19 or over, the marriage preparation must be **COMPLETED 60 TO 90 DAYS BEFORE THE WEDDING**. Allow as much time as possible to attend the weekend before the wedding. **DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE!**

Who is Engaged Encounter For?

It is for engaged couples of any age, who are committed to marry within the guidelines of the Roman Catholic Church, and are mature enough to believe that their good relationship can become even better. Teaching better communication is a vital part of the weekend.

When is it Held?

Please refer to the registration form for dates. The Encounter begins Friday evening at 7:30 p.m. and it is completed on Sunday afternoon about 4:00 p.m. A weekend stay is necessary in order to keep the atmosphere of the weekend free from distractions. Separate accommodations are provided for men and women during the weekend.

WEEKEND LOCATIONS:

Amarillo Diocese
Bishop DeFalco Center
2100 Spring St.
Amarillo, Texas 79110
(806) 383-1811

Lubbock Diocese
Mercy Retreat Center
605 S. 19th St.
Slaton, Texas 79364
(806) 828-6428

What is the Cost?

Amarillo Diocese:

\$160.00 per couple – pay in full with registration

Lubbock Diocese:

\$150.00 per couple – pay in full with registration

This includes room and meals. When registering, send your money (check or money order) which is refundable only if cancellation is made within two (2) weeks before the weekend:

Make check or money order payable to:

MARRIAGE PREPARATION PROGRAM

For registration or information please contact your pastor or one of the couples listed below:

MAIL COMPLETED FORM TO:

AMARILLO

Marriage Preparation Program contacts:
Agnes & Jerry Ballard
6913 Kingsbury
Amarillo, Texas, 79109
(806) 353-0907
(806) 353-0907 Fax

SLATON

Jeanette and Darris Linder
755 South 20th Street
Slaton, Texas 79364
(806) 828-5662
(806) 828-3856 Fax
e-mail: jlinder@door.net

Print form: www.mercymessenger.com

Registration Form

(Print Clearly and **MAIL THIS SECTION**)

HIS NAME: _____

Address: _____

City & Zip: _____

Phone: Home: _____

Other: _____

Email: _____

Religion: _____ Age: _____

HER NAME: _____

Address: _____

City & Zip: _____

Phone: Home: _____

Other: _____

Email: _____

Religion: _____ Age: _____

WEDDING DATE: _____ LOCATION: _____

AFTER WEDDING PHONE: _____

PRIEST: _____ PHONE: _____

2010 Schedule

At Mercy Retreat Center for the **Lubbock Diocese**

Jan. 15-17	<input type="checkbox"/>	Please indicate	June 04-06	<input type="checkbox"/>
Apr. 16-18	<input type="checkbox"/>	your selection ✓	Oct. 01-03	<input type="checkbox"/>

At Bishop DeFalco Retreat Center for the **Amarillo Diocese**

Feb. 19-21	<input type="checkbox"/>	Please indicate	July 23-25	<input type="checkbox"/>
May 14-16	<input type="checkbox"/>	your selection ✓	Nov. 19-21	<input type="checkbox"/>

OFFICE USE ONLY:

Date _____ Deposit \$ _____ Bal \$ _____

Deposit Date: _____ Confirmation Sent : _____

His Room: _____ Her Room: _____