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Here is your monthly update from National Marriage Encounter (Detroit area). The primary purpose of this email distribution is to promote National Marriage Encounter events. **This email database of over 7,500 contacts covers the Detroit, Flint, Toledo, and Lansing areas.** Thank you for your ongoing support of marriage!

- You may [UNSUBSCRIBE](#) if you no longer wish to receive our emails.
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NATIONAL MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

**Monthly Announcements for Marriage Enrichment
(Southeast Michigan Area)
February 2010**

Upcoming National Marriage Encounter Weekends (Detroit area)

[Manresa Retreat
House](#)

Bloomfield Hills

March. 12-14, 2010

19 of 21 rooms reserved

Sept. 24-26, 2010

3 of 21 rooms reserved

[Capuchin Retreat
Center](#)

Washington Twp.

August 6-8, 2010

6 of 18 rooms reserved
Only 1 of 2 wings open

Nov. 12-14, 2010

2 of 31 rooms reserved
BOTH wings open!

Monthly Enrichment
Gatherings for all Couples
[DOWNLOAD FLYER](#)

View, print, and share our:
[CONTACT CARDS](#)
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Dear [Firstname],

Staying connected "heart to heart?"

Years ago I remember when Rich was working for United Parcel Service. He worked long hours. We didn't have cell phones then, but every afternoon around 2:30 he would always seem to find a phone and call me to see how I was doing. I would make sure that I cleared my schedule to be available to take his call so that we stay "connected." I felt uplifted and re-energized for the rest of the day!

On our Marriage Encounter weekend, we were encouraged to form a habit; to take 20 minutes a day to write for 10 minutes (Personal Reflection) and then come together to share with each other for 10 minutes (Couple Dialog). We would write on a question or situation that pertained to our personal lives. For a while we kept this up daily, then eventually we let the busyness of our lives take over. We eventually realized what a "gift" this was to each other and began again.

Just recently, on the Dr. Oz show there was a marriage therapist commenting on how important it was to turn toward each other and spend 10-15 minutes a day to talk about your concerns, feelings and needs in order to stay "connected." This is a secular show on national TV!

Question (for dialog): Are we too busy to carve out 10-20 minutes in our day to stay connected "heart to heart?"

By Rich & Fran [EMAIL](#)

Don't miss the opportunity to share a National Marriage Encounter weekend with your spouse and discover God's plan for YOUR marriage! Since personal referral and bulletin announcements are our most popular forms of advertising, we sincerely thank all those "encountered" couples and church staff members who recommend our beautiful weekend experience!

WORLD MARRIAGE DAY - 2010
Dinner, Dancing & Prayer Celebration
Make a Date to Celebrate Valentine's Day!

<p style="text-align: center;">----- We value our: <u>SUPPORTERS</u> ----- <u>OUR NATIONWIDE NME WEBSITE</u> ----- <u>WORLD MARRIAGE DAY - 2010</u> -----</p>	<p>THEME: "Men Are from a Galaxy Far, Far Away; Women Are from Heaven-Knows-Where" DATE: Sun., Feb. 14, 3:00-8:00 p.m. (Doors open at 2:30) LOCATION: Troy, <u>San Marino Club</u>, <u>MAP</u> COST: \$55 per couple by 2/9/10. \$65 per couple after 2/9/10. CONTACT: Rich & Fran 586-838-4447 or Mike & Donna <u>EMAIL</u> MORE: Guest speakers Dominick & <u>Teresa Tomeo</u> Pastore and couples from marriage ministries will give short and sometimes humorous testimonies about their "differences". Some topics include: Communication, Couple Prayer, Intimacy, Parenting, etc. Entertainment provided by: <u>Rennie Kaufmann</u> - musician & vocalist ----- Can you donate a <u>video projector</u> to National Marriage Encounter? We are now sharing 2 special videos on our weekend encounters. Your donation would be a blessing to our marriage ministry.</p>
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[RETROVILLE PROGRAMS](#)
A Lifeline for Troubled Marriages

DATES & LOCATIONS: February. 19-21, DeWitt, [Bethany House](#), [MAP](#), [Lansing's webpage](#)
 March 5-7, Troy, [Ramada Plaza Hotel](#), [MAP](#)

CONTACT: Call 800-470-2230 (Troy area) & 517 290-5596 (Dewitt / Lansing area)
MORE: If your marriage is tearing the two of you apart, if there is little or no meaningful communication, if you are considering separation or divorce, Retrouville can help you. [MORE](#)

[Marriage: God's Love Made Visible Series](#)

TOPIC: The U.S.S. St. Anastasia sails on February 13th! Don't miss the boat!!
DATE: Saturday, February 13th.
LOCATION: Troy, [St. Anastasia Church](#), in the Davidson Center [MAP](#)
COST: \$30.00 per couple! (Wine & beer available for a donation.)
CONTACT: Linda Spranger at 586-573-7765
MORE: Ahoy all married and engaged couples! Join us as the third voyage of the U.S.S. St. Anastasia leaves port in February! Captain J.J. Mech, our First Officer Fr. Mark Prill and the Marriage: God's Love Made Visible are busy making the boat ready for this fun cruise! The ship's gangway will open at 6:30 p.m. for boarding (open seating). Entertainment begins at 6:45 and dinner is served at 7:15 pm sharp! Delicious dinner, desserts, games and an evening of fun are on the itinerary! Bookings are limited and we are taking them on a first come first serve basis, so make it a date with your spouse or fiancé and don't miss this fun evening with your Valentine.

[Weekend Valentine Retreat for Couples](#)
The Three Intimacies of Marriage

DATE: Friday, February 12 – Sunday, February 14, 2010
LOCATION: Detroit, [St. Paul's Retreat Center](#), [MAP](#)
COST: \$225 per couple; reservations are necessary.
CONTACT: Marcia Guerra, Events & Marketing Coordinator, 313 535 9563 ext. 202 [EMAIL](#)
MORE: [FLYER](#) Come and experience an inspiring weekend retreat for couples. Rediscover the couple you once were and enhance the couple you can be. Learn to explore the three basic foundations of intimacy in marriage: emotional, sexual and spiritual. We are pleased to have Fred

Cavaiani present this program. Fred is the Founder of the Marriage Growth Center in Troy, Michigan, and has presented programs in over 190 parishes and at three major retreat houses in the area.

[St. Valentine's Day Dinner & Evening for Married Couples](#)

DATE: Saturday, February 13th, 2010 at 6pm

LOCATION: Lake Orion, [St. Joseph Catholic Church](#), [MAP](#), in Marian Hall

COST: \$25 per couple

CONTACT: [Kathy Hasty](#), 248.693.0440

MORE: Mark your calendars! Join us for a lovely Valentine's Day dinner and an inspiring message on marriage by Pat and Tom Cooney-Hathaway. Their topic is "Christ for Each Other: The Courage to Change." Click [HERE](#) for further details!

[COUPLE PRAYER SERIES](#)

The Couple Prayer Series involves six evening sessions (one per week). Couples learn to pray together safely, comfortably, and consistently. Sessions scheduled in the Michigan area include:

- St Johns, [St Joseph](#), [MAP](#), Saturdays: 6:30-8:30pm starting Feb 13, 2010
- Brooklyn, [St Joseph Shrine](#), [MAP](#), Saturdays: 7-9pm starting Feb 20th, 2010
- Livonia, [St Michaels](#), [MAP](#), Sundays: 7-9pm starting Feb 21st, 2010

DETAILS: Experience the deep spiritual intimacy of praying with your spouse in lovingly safe, close, comfortable, and consistent ways. Experience the joy of having a soul mate. Listen to this short audio about the [blessings of Couple Prayer](#).

Home Edition: Couples without access to the Couple Prayer Series through a church or small group can now experience the same series with print, audio, and video at home.

Facilitator's Package: This package enables you to offer the Couple Prayer Series to your own church or small group!

[FIREPROOF MOVIE NIGHTS](#)

-with Follow-up Discussion Groups-

LOCATIONS AND INFORMATION:

- Saint Clair Shores, [St. Joan of Arc](#), [MAP](#), [Sr. Carol Juhasz](#), 586-777-3670

MORE: What is [Fireproof](#)? This powerful film hit the theatres for a surprising four to five week run and was in the top five for two weeks. It is an excellent movie about a fire chief and his wife who are in the midst of marital problems. The focus is not only on their situation but also on their relationship with God. Find out more about how love and forgiveness can help build or rekindle a lifelong, enduring marriage.

Contact us by [EMAIL](#) so we can list your Fireproof related events at your church community!

[A NEW RESOURCE TO SHARE MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT EVENTS](#)

In the next few months, [GodgivenUS](#) will be launching a website that will serve as the clearinghouse for people, groups and organizations interested in fighting to protect the values of life, liberty, and family. It will act as the connective tissue that will help to combine the once fractionalized voices into a single, unified and powerful voice. **Using this new website, people, groups and organizations will be able to cross-connect and cross-promote.** They will be able to quickly and easily educate, inform, coordinate, organize and shape our culture utilizing the technology and features built into this

future web site.

STAY TUNED, This newsletter will migrate all listed events to this new resource starting in June!

[Order Your DVD Now!](#)

“A Hedge of Protection – Safeguarding Your Marriage & Family”

10% of all sales will help benefit [National Marriage Encounter!](#)

Four powerful and motivational talks addressing the dangers of pornography and how we can combat it. For complete event details and updates, please use the following link: [BandofBrothers.biz/](#). This fantastic [Band of Brothers](#) event was hosted by three different men’s groups from St. Fabian, St. James, and Our Lady of Sorrows. Professional event taping and DVD production was done by [Saint Michael's Media](#). A sincere thank you to all those involved. The four speakers include:

- **Dr. Dennis Sugrue**, clinical psychologist and Associate Professor of Psychiatry at the University of Michigan's Medical School. He discusses the **psychological** effects of “Pornography & Sexual Addiction in Today's Society”. [MP3 AUDIO sample.](#)
- **Lieutenant Ray White** of the Oakland County Sheriff's Department. Lt. White presents “Our Children at Risk” in the electronic age of internet and cell phone/text messaging, physical and sexual abuse. He highlights the importance of parental awareness and prevention. His talk will include the **prevalence** of pornography happening all around us! [MP3 AUDIO sample.](#)
- **Tim & Ann Mauro-Vetter**, President Couple for National Marriage Encounter (Detroit Affiliate). They cover the **relational** impacts and share their testimony of “One Couple’s Journey” from darkness to healing, forgiveness, and freedom! [MP3 AUDIO sample.](#)
- **Fr. Brian Chabala**, Pastor of St. Fabian Catholic Church, discusses the **spiritual** effects on our souls and eternal salvation.

Click [HERE](#) to download the [Family Research Council's](#) 30 page report just released on Dec., 2010. This report covers the [Effects of Pornography](#) on Individuals, Marriage, Family and Community.