



Memo

Date: June 4, 2018

To: Priests, Deacons and Parish Bulletin Editors

From: Daniel West, Marriage, Family and Pastoral Care; Office of Formation & Discipleship

Re: Letter from Worldwide Marriage Encounter

Please see the attached letter from the Georgia and Tennessee representatives of Worldwide Marriage Encounter, including a testimony made available by Roger and Annie Borrello, a GA-TN Application Couple.

For more information, please contact me at dwest@archatl.com or 404-920-7631.

Thank you.

Dear wonderful priests, deacons, and servant-leaders of the Archdiocese of Atlanta,

We have had two Worldwide Marriage Encounter (WWME) Weekends so far, with four left this year. On those two weekends, there were 29 couples. No priests have attended as of yet, but we want to reiterate our invitation to all priests (and deacons) to consider attending a weekend with the couples. WWME weekends are meant both for couples and priests (and deacons) who minister to and with marriages and families. Please consider attending or sharing this invitation with your pastor and priests you know!

In this letter, we have two major appeals to you. The first appeal is to continue the ongoing invitational efforts by encouraging your Bulletin Coordinators to subscribe to our weekly bulletin announcements. We make them timely and appropriate to the liturgical calendar. This is the link that allows them to subscribe: <http://eepurl.com/dhtUMT>. If there's a problem getting to that, please have them contact us at the email address below.

The second request is that you read the below testimony from a widow who called us from a nursing home in Warner Robins, after seeing our WWME Bulletin Announcement in the St. Patrick's bulletin which an Extraordinary Minister to the infirmed brought to her. We put it in a blog post, but included the text below. <http://wwmeatlanta.com/2018/05/21/precious-memories-shared/>

As the GATN Encounter Application Couple, we "man" the WWME hotline to our area. Just yesterday it rang, and I (Roger) picked it up with my usual "Hello, Marriage Encounter. How can I help you?" A faint voice on the other end said, "Is this Marriage Encounter?" I affirmed her, and she started to explain her call. I asked her to pause while I put her on speaker so Annie could hear as well. I didn't want her to miss this! She introduced herself as Kathleen Kjeldgaard, and that she resides at her nursing home in Warner Robbins, GA where she is a member of Sacred Heart. She had the Eucharist brought to her by someone from St. Patrick's nearby, and she also brought the Sunday bulletin. Kathleen was looking through it and saw the WWME logo and bulletin announcement for the next Weekend. She said it brought back fond memories of when her and her husband Lewis, aka "Lew" attended in 1976 in Hawaii where he was stationed with the Air Force. They were raising five boys, and she said it was a wonderful and beautiful experience! While she and Lew didn't write love letters every day, she said they always ended the day saying the "Our Father" prayer while holding hands. He passed in 1997, but she still remembers the joy of their WWME experience. She wanted us to know and keep spreading the word of God to families!

We are seeking to **give you** the gift of stronger couples, which build stronger families, which build stronger communities and parishes. With God's help, we can change the world into a better place. Bulletin announcements and witness talks have proven to be our best method of inviting. Please contact us to set something up, and please have your Bulletin Coordinators subscribe. You never know whom they will touch! As always, we encourage our priests to attend, as well. There are so many good reasons to experience what WWME has to offer, and we are happy to talk to you to explain!

Thank you so much for your time!

Roger & Annie Borrello – 678-242-WWME – roger.annie.borrello@wwme.org
GA-TN Application Couple, Saint Brigid Parishioners