

To Be A Vigil Hour Prayer Couple

This is an important ministry for those couples and priests making the Marriage Encounter Weekend.

Why do we need you to be a prayer couple?

As Jesus said “All things whatsoever you ask in prayer, believe in, you shall receive” (Mathew 21:22)

Prayer can work miracles, especially when offered unselfishly for the benefit of others.

As a Prayer Couple what could you do?

Start praying for the weekend when you agree to be a prayer couple for a vigil hour. A few suggestions for what you might do during the vigil hour are: read scripture, go to Mass, recite the rosary, dialogue, and celebrate your Sacrament.

After the Weekend

Show the newly encountered couples and priests that there are others that are choosing to live a new radical life style. Help us welcome the couples off of the weekend by being at the weekend facility on Sunday no later than 3:30pm, if at all possible, to greet the couples and priest as they finish the weekend.

Schedule of Weekends

2009

October 23-25

2010

February 5-7

April 30 – May 2

July 23-25

October 23-25

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Hints and Tips for being a Vigil Hour Prayer Couple



As a Marriage Encounter Couple you are called to a constant journey towards intimacy and unity in your spousal relationship. By being a Vigil Hour Prayer Couple for those making the weekend, you are helping them start on their journey and changing their world.

Thank you for volunteering to pray for the couples experiencing the weekend, the team couples and the Priest presenting the Marriage Encounter Weekend.

The Weekend Schedule helps you as a Vigil Hour Prayer Couple to focus on the couples and priest as they experience the weekend

Friday

7:00-8:00pm Pray for the couples and priests traveling to the weekend that they arrive at the weekend safe and sound and ready to work on their relationship.

8:00-8:50pm Introduction and Welcome - Pray that the couples be open to the team and discipline of the weekend.

9:00-10:00pm Communicating our Feelings - Pray that the couples have a clear understanding of feelings and may look within to find the deeply buried ones.

10:00pm – 7:30am – Pray that the couples have experienced a good introduction to marriage encounter and that they will wake up refreshed and ready to work on their relationship with one another.

Saturday

7:30-8:05am Morning Mass – Pray that all the couples use this time to be in relationship with each other and with God.

8:05 – 9:00am Breakfast – Pray that the couples have a good fellowship with the other couples at their first meal together.

9:00-10:15am Encounter with Self - Pray that the couples look inward to find their personality styles and write them with honesty.

10:15-12:00am Marriage in Today's World - Pray that a spark of urgency for dialogue may be kindled in the couples so they will be open as they write their first love letters;

and that they may find the closeness in their dialogue that the team couple has shared with them.

12:00-12:55pm Lunch – Pray that the couples have a good fellowship with the other couples as they break bread together.

12:55-2:00pm Listening - Pray that the couples may realize that in the past there have been many times when they did not really listen to one another, and that now, they may truly begin to listen with their hearts.

2:00-3:25pm Areas for Reaching out to Each Other - Pray that they will be willing to open up in sensitive areas and to accept each other's feelings in these areas.

3:25-4:25pm Break – Pray that the couples use this time to do what is most important for their relationship.

4:25-5:40pm God's Desire for Our Marriage - Pray that the couples may find happiness and joy in their marriage by living God's plan.

5:40-6:40pm Dinner - Pray that the couples have a good fellowship with the other couples as they break bread together.

6:40-8:10pm Risking to Trust in Dialogue - Pray that the couples may see the beauty and joy that comes with allowing themselves to become vulnerable to one another. Pray that they may overcome their fears and trust one another.

8:10-9:00pm Impact of Dialogue in their daily lives - Pray that the couples will truly experience one another in openness and love. Pray they see the value of daily dialogue for their relationship.

9:00pm-? Open-Ended Dialogue Time - Pray the tiredness of the day vanishes in the beauty of open-ended dialogue.

?-7:30am – Pray that the couples use this time together to work on their relationship and to arise rested and ready to continue the journey.

Sunday

7:30 – 8:25am Breakfast – Pray that the couples have a good fellowship with each other at breakfast.

8:25-11:35am Marriage as Sacrament (includes Extended Dialogue) - Pray that the joy and peace in living a sacramental way of life will blossom in the couples hearts and that their Extended Dialogue be a celebration of that joy.

11:35am-12:30pm Keeping our Relationship a Priority - Pray that the couples can begin to reevaluate their life and that they will have the courage to make changes in their attitudes and behavior that will allow them to live a sacramental way of life.

12:30-1:25pm Lunch - Pray that the couples have a good fellowship with the other couples as they share a meal for the last time.

1:25-2:20pm Sharing the Dream - Pray that they open their minds and hearts to give freely to God of their time, talent and treasure.

2:20-3:05pm Continuing our Journey - Pray that the couples see the value of being involved with others who share the same values.

3:05-4:05pm Mass - Pray that the couples may truly experience themselves as Church and that they may approach the Eucharist filled with the joy of being part of a community of love...the Church.

4:05pm -? – Pray that the couples and priest have a safe journey home and they continue to live the weekend in their daily relationship.

Thank you again for being a Prayer Couple