

# CATHOLIC ENGAGED ENCOUNTER

**A weekend retreat approved by the  
Diocese of Joliet Diocese for  
marriage preparation.**



***A chance to step away from your  
hectic schedule to give you and your  
fiancé the focus and the time your  
relationship deserves.***

## ***Comments from couples who have attended Engaged Encounter in the Diocese of Joliet***

"It really has opened our communication with one another. This was the missing piece in our relationship. This will enable us to grow stronger as a couple."

"I really believe this retreat brought our faith back into our lives."

"Every couple should experience this encounter weekend! It has made us grow so much as a couple and made us connect on such a deeper level! I recommend to all!"

"Before we arrived, we thought we had talked about everything. We were SO wrong!"

"The time away was GREAT. We were really able to focus on ourselves and our upcoming marriage"

"This is one of the greatest weekends we've had; we heard about marriage in a positive way."

"We appreciated the way the team couples shared some of their own lives with us. The real life examples made us feel more prepared for our marriage"

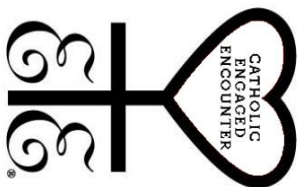


**CENTER FOR FAMILY MINISTRY  
DIOCESE OF JOLIET**

Blanchette Catholic Center  
16555 Weber Road Crest Hill, IL 60403  
(815) 838 -5334

**A wedding  
is a day...**

**A marriage  
is a lifetime.**



## What is Engaged Encounter?

It is a weekend away, with other engaged couples, which allows plenty of private time to plan your MARRIAGE, not your wedding day. It is designed to give you the opportunity to talk honestly and intensively about your prospective life together—strengths and weaknesses, desires, ambitions, goals, attitudes about money, sex, children, family, and your role in the Church and in society—in a face-to-face way.

## Who would benefit from attending the weekend?

It is for engaged couples who have a definite commitment to one another. The weekend is primarily for couples being married in the Catholic Church, including those planning an interfaith marriage. The weekend is also open to couples planning a Christian marriage in another Church, and is approved by the Joliet Diocese as a marriage preparation program.

## Is it a sensitivity course? A group retreat?

Definitely not. It is very low key with the emphasis on quiet time with your fiancé. There are very limited mandatory group dynamics. The Encounter is specifically designed for communication between the two of you.

Through a series of ideas presented by a team of married couples, an environment is created to allow you to talk privately with each other on all aspects of married life—always from the viewpoint of your own relationship. Personal reflection and communication are the main focus with some interaction with other couples.

## Where and when is the weekend?

Weekends are currently held at the Portiuncula Center for Prayer in Frankfort, IL. Reservations are limited to approximately 15 couples per weekend. The website listed below will provide dates and space availability. All parishes are advised of the yearly schedule. The Encounter weekend begins at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, and ends no later than 5:00 p.m. on Sunday. An overnight stay is necessary to maintain the atmosphere generated by the Encounter, which frees you from distractions. For information on or reservations for **Spanish Engaged Encounter retreats**, contact Gabriel y Lupita Mendez @ 815-351-9687.

## What is the cost?

Please visit [www.jolietee.org](http://www.jolietee.org) or leave a message at (815) 277-1112 to receive current cost information. The fee covers your rooms for one night, meals for each of you, and all supplies needed on the weekend. **There is an additional fee for SINGLE occupancy requests.** A voluntary donation request will be made at the end of the weekend for the continued growth of the program.

## For More Information

Contact CEE Joliet  
ceejoliet@gmail.com  
(815) 277-1112 (leave message)

**To register and pay online, visit  
[www.jolietee.org](http://www.jolietee.org)**

## CEE Reservation Form

*Please print clearly. All fields required.*

### Requested retreat date:

|   |           |      |
|---|-----------|------|
| <b>Bride</b>  | Name:     |      |
|   | Address:  |      |
|   |           |      |
|   | Phone:    |      |
|   | E-mail:   |      |
|   | Religion: | Age: |
| <b>Groom</b>  | Name:     |      |
|   | Address:  |      |
|   |           |      |
|   | Phone:    |      |
|   | E-mail:   |      |
|   | Religion: | Age: |
| circle 1: <b>Single occupancy or Double occupancy</b>   |           |      |
| <b>Note:</b> women and men are separated for sleeping- choosing double occupancy you will be assigned a roommate of the same gender |           |      |
| circle 1: send correspondence to <b>bride or groom</b>  |           |      |
| circle 1: send correspondence <b>email or US Mail</b>   |           |      |
| <b>Wedding date:</b>  |           |      |
| <b>Ceremony location</b> (church name, city, & state) :   |           |      |
| Full name of <b>priest/deacon</b> handling arrangements:  |           |      |
| Food allergies or dietary restrictions? Please describe   |           |      |

Visit [www.jolietee.org](http://www.jolietee.org) or call (815) 277-1112 for current cost information and upcoming retreat dates. Make deposit payable to **CATHOLIC ENGAGED ENCOUNTER**.

### **Detach this form and mail along with your deposit to:**

Mike and Karyn DiNovo  
Attn: Catholic Engaged Encounter  
1702 Wintercrest Lane  
Shorewood IL 60404