



Engaged



Newlyweds



Married



Very Married

# Living in Love

Electronic Newsletter of the Pastoral and Matrimonial Renewal Center

November 2008

## Latest News:

### Four Fabulous Weekends!

**October and November Living in Love weekends, 4 in the last 5 weeks, have unleashed incredible enthusiasm for new parishes, drawn priest involvement, empowered new rookie presenting teams, and recruited new mentor candidates.** Some of the highlights included the largest crowd ever, 42 couples and 5 presenting teams at Christ the King parish in Ann Arbor, MI. Yes, that is 94 people for the Saturday night Romantic dinner! Since it was pouring rain on Saturday the team had to literally pray for a miracle in order to do the burning ceremony out doors. The Lord provided just enough sunshine at just the right time! Why are we surprised?

**Both NJ weekends and the St. Thomas of Villanova weekend had young priests attend and participate with enthusiasm.** Fr Phil Hurley has already given a presentation to his parish staff at Old Saint Joe's in Philadelphia about bringing LL and PLL to center city. Our "tell a priest" campaign is working! Please, keep it up and invite a priest to dinner today!

**So many wonderful comments from weekend participants** - One young wife said that Saturday night skin to skin was like making love for the first time! Another young wife commented that she prayed for ambition in her job everyday and never realized that she could pray for ambition in her marriage. A young husband shared that the affirmation exercise was the greatest experience of his life. An older husband shared tears in the closing prayer as he thanked God for the opportunity to write so graced a loveletter to his wife asking forgiveness Saturday night and then experiencing the joy of reconciliation and healing. Two young sisters who made the same weekend with their husbands shared that their parents had made them promise at their wedding to make a retreat every year. What wise parents!

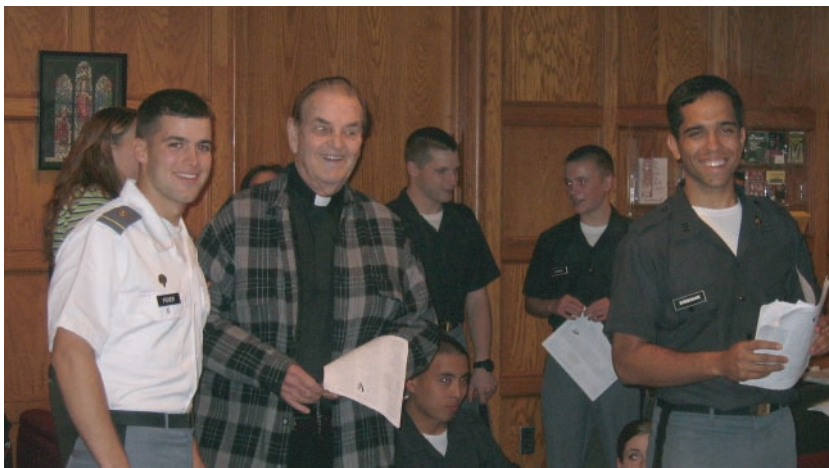
### Survey! - Everyone's response can make a difference

This is the easiest survey you will ever take, but it will help us greatly to formulate an effective way to reach more couples. Please, just hit reply to this email and type in your answers to the following questions. It will only take a minute.

- Why did you attend Living in Love?
- What did someone say or do that attracted you to Living in Love?
- What was the deeper reason for your actually attending?

### Fr Chuck speaks to cadets at West Point!

**On 23 September, Fr Chuck spoke about the gift of sexuality to a group of 30 catholic cadets at the United States Military Academy at West Point.** Responding to an invitation from 2nd year Cadet Ron Feher, son of Ron and Kathy Feher, Fr Chuck challenged the young men and women to be authentic and sincere in all their relationships, to date as part of their fidelity to their wedding vows and a commitment to their future spouse. **"When you are used to just 'having sex', its hard to learn how to make love,"** said Fr Chuck. Going on, he explained that "sex" is an isolated action while "making love" is intimate communication an a fundamental expression of your integrity as a man or as a woman. The call of the church is to greatness. We can adopt the world's view that sex is available and that you're a fool not to get as much as you can, or embrace the church's view that you have a pearl of great price that is yours to give to your beloved.



Cadet Ron Feher with Fr Chuck Gallagher and Jeff Bordenave among other cadets at a meeting of the West Point United Catholic Fellowship

### Franciscan University to adopt Preparing to Live in Love

In a great breakthrough opportunity, the Campus Ministry of the Franciscan University at Steubenville, Ohio has decided to offer Preparing to Live in Love to the University Community and especially to those undergraduate students who become engaged prior to graduation. Steve and Tasha Feher will pilot the first mentoring beginning in January 2009, and the first Living in Love weekend at Steubenville is being planned for March or April.

## Preparing to Live in Love

Parish based pre-marriage mentoring with a 7 session experiential curriculum that seamlessly integrates Catholic Sacramental preparation, Theology of the Body life skills, and relevant relational skills training

**Please Pray for all engaged couples preparing for marriage and specifically for those being mentored through Preparing to Live in Love**

#### Engaged Couple:

Elena Perez and Robert Philips  
Megan Hager and Kurt Moldhuff  
May Kaye Jacono and David Anthony  
Katherine O'Leary and Bryan Mancini  
Anne Graulich and Daniel Grutter  
Carla Guzman and Charles Stappenbeck  
Karen Walker and finance  
Nicole Arnor and Dan Tallon  
Erin Taylor and Greg Vizza  
Cara Coulter and Steve Cardella  
Stephanie Madden and Steve Snyder  
Stephanie Hannigan and Matt Abbonizio  
Esther Arriata and Phil Tomasello  
Joann Tetreault and John Heiser  
Joanna Raymundo and Freddy Velazquez  
Kristin Dormuth and Michael Killoren

#### Mentors:

Chris and Jennifer McGlenn  
Lee and Carol Megow  
Gary and Joy Shugrue  
Ron and Kathy Feher  
Jeff and Amy Randolf  
Bob and Jean Blaisse  
Frank and Karen Onesti  
Joe and Kathy Tamney  
Jim and Liz Clark  
Tony and Carrie Zahm  
George and Nadia Smith  
Bob and Ruth Arata  
Tim and Christine Coleman  
Bob and Mistie Whalen  
Paul and Diana Hennesey  
Gary and Karen Farley

## Upcoming Weddings

**The following couples who were mentored through Preparing to Live in Love will marry this month or early next month.**

Parish:	Wedding Date:
<b>St Thomas of Villanova, Rosemont PA</b>	
Jennifer Barrett and Patrick Guana	1 Nov
Lindsey Barkauskie and Jay Stippoli	15 Nov
Mary Kaye Jacono and David Anthony	6 Dec
<b>Holy Family, Syracuse NY</b>	
Erin Staub and Dan Hallinan	13 Dec
<b>Christ the King, Ann Arbor MI</b>	
Hannah Dahl-Hansen and Steve Hansen	21 Dec
<b>Our Lady of the Mount, Warren NJ</b>	
Nancy de'Marsi and Craig Andrews	7 Dec
<b>St James, Basking Ridge NJ</b>	
Michelle Jones and James Dooley	19 Dec
<b>St Pius X, Philadelphia PA</b>	
Lauren Bilotti and Russell Fellman	21 Nov
<b>St John the Apostle, NJ</b>	
Carolyn Pecoraro and Paul Tomasello	27 Dec

Coming up in 2008

### 1st Living in Love in Richmond This Weekend

St Edward, Richmond VA 15-16 Nov

### Living in Love 1st National Convention

June 6, 2009

Malvern Retreat House, Malvern, PA  
Early registration, dinner and mass

Friday, June 5

Note that this is a change of date and venue from previous communications; so, **mark your calendars and make your plans now** to spend a glorious day with each other and other couples who are "Living in Love"

### Holiday Cards

#### Save Money and support Marriage

Purchase all your holiday and occasional cards online and receive 25% off the total cost with proceeds going to the PMRC to continue the Lord's work of enriching marriages and preparing the engaged for the Sacrament of Matrimony.

**Order Your Christmas Cards Online Now!**  
<http://www.HolidayCardwebsite.com/Affairs>

Browse the large selection of Holiday Cards, suitable for Business or Personal use. Pick the card, verse, and color of your choice and see an instant online color proof with your verse and personalization. The site is easy to shop; so, selecting your Holiday Cards will be fast, convenient, and then your order can be submitted electronically.

Thank you in advance for supporting strong marriages and have a blessed Christmas.

### Urgent Reminder

If you have not yet responded to the fundraising mailing sent out in October, please give it your prayerful discernment and respond in some way to show your support for the PMRC and our efforts to make Living in Love and Preparing to Live in Love available to every couple in the United States. More than ever, we are talking to parishes across the country, and our ability to travel to them will be determined by the generous donations of those who have already experienced the blessings of living in love. We will never turn anyone away from Living in Love or Preparing to Live in Love because of their financial situation, but we can only do so as long as others provide the financial resources we need to continue to operate. **Make a donation online at [www.pmrcausa.org](http://www.pmrcausa.org) or establish a monthly direct deposit to the PMRC. It is easy to do and a little each month adds up.**