



PONTIFICIUM CONSILIUM
PRO FAMILIA

Prot. N. 45/95

Vatican City ~~State~~
January 23, 1995

Mr. and Mrs. Ron Trudell
Catholic Engaged Encounter International
Executive Team
281 Peachtree Circle
Warner Robins, Georgia 31088
United States of America

Dear Ron and Ann,

This year you celebrate twenty years since the founding of the Catholic Engaged Encounter movement. I write not only to extend my congratulations on all that has been achieved but also to support the expansion of your work.

We live in an age when marriage and the family are placed under much stress. Men and women are not always prepared for the *commitment* of married life together. This is why the Church must offer engaged couples the best preparation for marriage and the mutual commitment of life and love involved in this "great sacrament".

That is precisely what you are doing. You are providing a unique marriage preparation ministry of priests and married couples, based solely on Catholic teachings and values. I was pleased to take part in your International Meeting at Omaha, Nebraska, in 1991. Therefore I know from experience that the work you do is of such great value for the future of marriage and the family.

I hope that Catholic Engaged Encounter, already found in forty countries, will continue to be welcomed and expand throughout the world. May the Lord of Life bless your work for couples and make it prosper!

With every prayerful wish, I remain

Yours sincerely in Christ,

A. Card. López T.
Alfonso Cardinal López Trujillo
President