



Diocese of Pittsburgh

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Office of the Bishop

March 25, 2010

Catholic Engaged Encounter  
c/o Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Schulz  
4609 Ithaca Street  
Metairie, LA 70006

To Whom It May Concern:

It is my pleasure to add my voice to that of other bishops in support of Catholic Engaged Encounter.

This movement has long been active in the Diocese of Pittsburgh and has borne much fruit. The Mission Statement of our local Engaged Encounter program says it all:

*Drawing from the Catholic belief in the sacrament of matrimony, we affirm that our ministry is to offer a solid foundation for the vocation of married life. We commit to living this sacrament through strengthening our marriages. By sharing our sacrament we witness to the love of God revealed in Christ's love for his church. Through our discerned commitment to Engaged Encounter, we form a community that nourishes us for this purpose.*

The couples and clergy who serve as the program's instructors are grounded in Church teaching and in a deep respect for marriage and the family. To the participating engaged couples, they give powerful witness to the joys, struggles, happiness and sorrow that are part of every vocation and every marriage. But all these aspects of married life are shared, not in a vacuum, but through the prism of faith in God—which will nourish and sustain them throughout their married life, regardless of circumstance.

I offer my prayerful support to all involved in Catholic Engaged Encounter and hope for its continued expansion throughout the Church Universal.

Grateful for our belief that "Nothing is Impossible with God," I am

Your brother in Christ,

+ *David A. Zubik*

Most Reverend David A. Zubik  
Bishop of Pittsburgh

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