



Original Marriage Encounter



Self Encounter



Sons and daughters Encounter



Self Encounter

- 03. 5-7. Original Marriage Encounter in the Hungarian speaking part of the Ukraine
- 03. 12-14. Engaged Encounter near Budapest
- 03. 26-28. Original Marriage Encounter near Budapest
- 04. 23-25. Sons and Daughters Returno in the Hungarian speaking part of the Ukraine
- 05. 14-16. Sons and Daughters Encounter in Budapest
- 06. 18-20. Self Encounter in the Hungarian speaking part of the Ukraine
- 07. 23-25. Family Encounter in Budapest
- 09. 24-26. Self Encounter near Budapest
- 10. 1-3. Engaged Encounter in Budapest
- 11. 12-14. Original Marriage Encounter near Budapest
- 11. 26-28. Engaged Encounter in Budapest
- 12. 10-12. Engaged Encounter in the Hungarian speaking part of the Ukraine



Father Gabriel Calvo, FIRES Founder

In 2005 we have had 7 Encounters:

- 01. 21-23. Self Encounter in the Hungarian speaking part of the Ukraine
- 02. 18-20. Sons and Daughters Encounter in Budapest
- 03. 4-6. Engaged Encounter in Budapest
- 04. 15-17. Sons and Daughters Encounter near Budapest
- 04. 22-24. Self Encounter near Budapest
- 04. 22-24. Engaged Encounter near Budapest
- 05. 27-29. Original Marriage Encounter near Budapest

The following Encounters are scheduled:

- 07.22-24 Engaged Encounter in Budapest, conducted in English for couples from European countries. Fr. Donnon Murray will present this very popular program with the hope that participating couples and priests will take it to their countries to enrich spiritual life and build CFM.
- 07.28-31 Sisters Encounter for Dominican Sisters in Budapest conducted by Fr. Donnon Murray.
- 08.8-11 Priests Encounter near Budapest presented by Bishop László Bíró.

Finally, let us share with you some Encounter feedback—taken from actual letters sent by Encounter graduates:

Engaged Encounter

The team couples' talks were excellent. Their lived experiences made a great impression on both of us. Their honesty was fantastic. I made it a point to thank them for it.

The Engaged Encounter meant a real lot to me. It touched me deeply. Perhaps that's why I find it difficult to speak about it. It was an intensive re-evaluation, a review of our relationship. It was an encounter with myself, with my girlfriend and with our God.

Original Marriage Encounter

Breaking free from the monotony of everyday life, the Original Marriage Encounter was a tremendous experience of looking at each other in new wonder... The dim feelings indicating that in some ways our marriage had not been working exactly as it should, mostly passed away. Whatever was left, we were able to express and share it with one another. We saw in wonder, just as if we had never been able to experience it before, how obviously the Lord Jesus is with us in our marriage. We were deeply touched by the freshness of the Holy Spirit shaking up our marriage as you give your pillow a good shake-up in the morning.

Self Encounter

The Self Encounter was a fantastic experience. It has meant an awful lot for me personally. It cleared up many things and showed me the right direction... Those kind people there, they each gave me something. By the way, we have been in contact ever since with the five people in my small group. Wonderful people. We have spent an evening together at a tea-house. Each one told the others how he/she proceeded in his/her life.

Sons and Daughters Encounter

I got a couple of new friends and the group sharings were fantastic.

I liked best that the topics were introduced by young people. I loved that they shared their own lived experiences ie. how they acted or what they felt in certain situations in their lives.

My relationship with my parents has improved since then. It had not been too bad before either, but it was not frequent enough. Also, I can look at unknown people with greater love now.

CFM OUTREACH—in unity with two great Pontiffs of the millennium

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

MFC Latin America
William and Esilda Cheng
Vice-Presidents, ICCFM and Presidents, MFC Latin America

The MFC of Latin America has a general objective which is "the evangelization and the promotion of the family, developing its human and Christian values, in order to enable it to fulfill its mission as trainer of people, educator in the

faith, promoter of the common good and defender of life." To fulfill this objective, FORMATION is a task of high priority of the Movement. As an organization, we do not promote charity understood as almsgiving, but we hope that in each formed person, the need and the urgency may arise to share everything that ought to be shared where it may be necessary and in a special manner—with the families, with the community, with those who most

in need.

In fact, in some of our countries, services have been provided to help the less fortunate. For example, in Guatemala and in Honduras, the MFC has medical centers with very reasonable costs for the poor. In several countries we have Centers for Family Orientation, Adoption Services and others.

It ought to be mentioned that

MFC Latin America, almost from its foundation for more than 50 years, has pledged two important services that are common in all the countries: Pre-Marriage or Marriage Preparation Courses and Conjugal Encounters. These services have been provided to thousands of people in our Continent, and the formation they have received allows them to make a difference, because they have become laymen committed to building the Kingdom of God.

CFM USA RESPONSE TO TSUNAMI DISASTER

Peter and Jane Buchbauer
Presidents, CFM/USA

On December 26, 2004, a 9.0 magnitude earthquake shook the earth and moved the waters in the Indian Ocean. Without warning, the massive wall of water inundated coastal and island communities, leaving in its wake the largest natural disaster known to modern history with the death toll above 150,000. Thousands more will likely die from hunger and disease in the wake of this massive destruction. Homes have been shattered.

CFM is often regarded as small groups of families in USA parishes. But CFM is greater than that. CFM exists over 40 countries and six



Nop and Elma Muangkroot, ICCFM presidents, presenting the \$2500 check on behalf of CFM USA to Dr. William Gerritz, head of the International School of Bangkok and leader of the ISB Tsunami Relief Project to build a new schoolhouse.

continents, including Thailand and Sri Lanka, areas hit hard by the tsunami.

CFM USA, consisting of English-speaking and Spanish-speaking groups (also known as MFC USA) has the means to reach out to tsunami-hit CFM Asia. CFM USA has established a fund through the International Confederation of Christian Family Movements (ICCFM) to aid in the disaster relief effort. The allocation of donations will be administered by the ICCFM Presidents Nop and Elma Muangkroot in consultation with the ICCFM leadership in the impacted countries. (CONTINUED TO NEXT PAGE)

Proposals for worldwide CFM projects completed

Initial ideas for the three CFM projects which ICCFM Presidents Nop and Elma Muangkroot intend to promote at the international level by 2005 have taken shape under the leadership of CFM Asia Presidents Mel and Emma Ricafente with the collaboration of CFM Philippines leaders. The projects and their corresponding project leaders are the following:

- ICCFM World Prayer Day – Tony and Tita Koska
- exchange home stay for CFM youths – Rene and Inday Pronstroller
- more conscious integration of CFM actions in the workplace – Loy and Trining Marquez and Pepe Lugay

According to Mel and Emma, the project objective of the ICCFM World Prayer Day is "for CFMers worldwide to be in solidarity through prayer,



Asia Continental Presidents Mel and Emma Ricafente

focusing on universal concerns but with local situations in mind." The goal of the exchange home stay is "to allow for closer interaction among CFM'ers of different countries in an informal home setting." One way to consciously integrate CFM actions in the workplace would be "to create a symbol that would serve to identify, remind and encourage, the wearer to think, say and act as Jesus Christ would."

Complete details of the proposals have been disseminated by e-mail, awaiting feedback from all CFM members for final decision by the CFM leadership. The proposals were translated into Spanish by Emilio and Yolanda Wong of Panama, members of the Latin American Executive Secretariat.