



Bukás-Loób Sa Diyos
“Open In Spirit To God”



Catholic Covenant Community

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

weekend



THE ROMAN CATHOLIC
DIOCESE OF PHOENIX

RENEW

REKINDLE

RESTORE



June 13-14, 2026



**Spirit in the Desert Retreat Center
7415 E Elbow Bend Rd - Carefree, AZ**



**Love Offering \$250/Couple includes 1-night
stay & meals throughout the weekend**

*Come and join a Spirit-filled weekend that will
help deepen and enrich your marital bond and learn
how to build a more fruitful marriage.*

SCAN ME



To Access BLD PHX

ME#22 Packet!

Marriage Encounter #22

Weekend Retreat

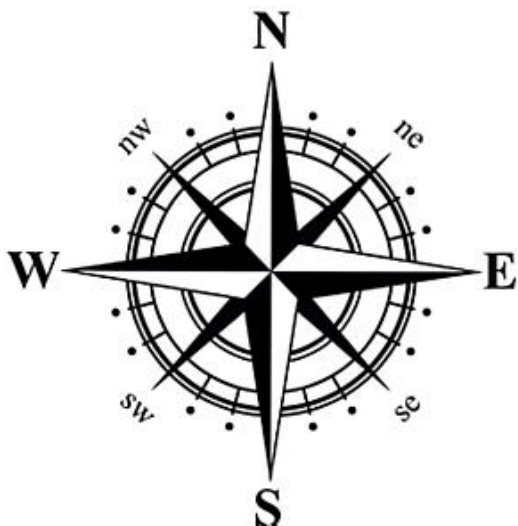


SCAN ME



To Access BLD PHX

ME#22 Packet!



THE ROMAN CATHOLIC
DIOCESE OF PHOENIX



BUKAS-LOOB SA DIYOS COVENANT COMMUNITY

"Open in Spirit to God"

*A Community of Encountered Couples and Families
joyfully invites you to share the fruits of a...*

Marriage Encounter Weekend #22

Dear _____,

With delightful hearts, we would like to invite you to a Marriage Encounter Weekend (M.E. #22) on **June 13-14, 2026**, at **Spirit in the Desert Retreat Center, 7415 E Elbow Bend Rd, Carefree, AZ 85377**. The Marriage Encounter Weekend is the most beautiful and rewarding experience we have had as a couple, and we would like to share it with you.

It is not a coincidence that you have been invited. The Lord is calling you. He wants to share His love with you and let you know that He is with you every step of the way. *"...Fear not, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name, you are mine."* (Isaiah 43:1)

God has a special plan for you during this Marriage Encounter weekend. Living in today's busy world leaves us with very little time to appreciate the gift of each other that we have received in marriage, the gift given to us by God. Wherever you are in your marriage, this weekend is meant to enhance and strengthen your relationship as a couple, with God in the center of your marriage.

We have enclosed, for your reference, an information sheet and application form. The suggested weekend donation is \$250 per couple, which covers 1-night stay and meals. Please return the completed information sheet, along with a copy of your Catholic Marriage Certificate before [date].

We look forward to the opportunity of sharing this wonderful experience with you.

In the love and service to Christ,

Joseph & Milrose Kodumal
Marriage Life Apostolate

James & Anika Laforteza
DCS- Evangelization Apostolate

BLD PHOENIX MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND

THE SUBSTANCE OF THE "ENCOUNTER"

The Encounter presented by Bukas-Loob sa Diyos (Open in the Spirit to God) is open to couples married sacramentally in the Roman Catholic Church. The Marriage Encounter is an invaluable experience of renewing our marriage relationship. It enriches the process of communication between husband and wife. It guarantees to make "good" marriages "better" and "not-so-good" marriages "good"! It is presented in a full weekend detached from the usual everyday distractions.

An "ecclesial team" trained and prepared for ministering the Encounter process conducts the weekend: a "Team Priest" and at least two "Team Couples" who manage together its instructional and experiential components. Most, if not all, who have received the Encounter experience have fully rediscovered their marriage relationships, strengthened their conjugal and family life and become fully aware of the living presence of God in their marriage and family life.

WHAT IS THE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER?

The Marriage Encounter Weekend is a positive and personal experience for a couple, which offers them a technique of loving communication that they can use for the rest of their lives. It is an opportunity to look deeply into their relationship with each other and with God. Also, it is a time to share their feelings, their hopes, fears, joys and frustrations.

Marriage Encounter is not a retreat, nor is it a marriage clinic or sensitivity course. It is not a time to look at the past, but rather to look to your future together. The weekend is a positive, simple, common-sense experience between husband and wife that revitalizes marriage by helping couples to see what their relationship could and should be.

WHAT IS THE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER FOR?

Marriage Encounter is for any couple who wants to enrich their marriage. The weekend is designed to expand and deepen the joys a couple share together whether they have been married for a short time or for many years. Marriage Encounter is also for priests and religious who want to revitalize their relationship with the people of God and develop an even deeper appreciation for their own vocation.

WHAT HAPPENS AT A MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER?

An atmosphere is created on the weekend in which the couple can concentrate exclusively on one another. A series of talks is given by a team of trained couples and a Priest. Each talk gives the husband and wife the opportunity to look at themselves as individuals and to look at their relationship with each other, with God and with others. Marriage Encounter starts with the love you have for your spouse and helps you build, expand and deepen that relationship. The weekend shows you the way to do this and provides you with the means - the rest is up to you! The only talent one must have to make a Marriage Encounter is the talent to love and a desire to make a good marriage even better.

BLD PHOENIX MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND

The following are some frequently asked questions from couples who may be unsure if the Marriage Encounter is for them, and our responses:

"We already have a good marriage."

Response: The difference between a "good" marriage and a BEAUTIFUL marriage is the Marriage Encounter experience. Even if many difficult marriages are made right in the Encounter, many more couples with already good marriages have received continuing blessings after the Weekend.

"We already have good communication between us."

Response: Please take a closer look. Can you truly communicate with each other about your intimate feelings, aspirations, fears, anxieties? Do you have oneness and accord in your major decisions?

"We're too busy. We don't have time".

Response: Isn't a weekend a small price to pay for the joy, the peace, the blessings and the power of a lifetime made fuller by the Encounter? All you have to do is give one weekend to each other.

"We're too young."

Response: That's wonderful! Wouldn't you want to prevent growing old too fast, growing old alone? Wouldn't you want to be trained in living fully with each other as early as possible?

"We're too old."

Response: Then, you can be young again! Don't you agree there's always something new in you? Isn't there something you may have missed because you were not always aware of what was really in your spouse's mind and heart? Wouldn't you want a fresh look at each other?

"I don't feel at ease in Spiritual Retreats"

Response: That's how many of us felt before (and even during) our Encounter Weekend. But when we saw and met others like us who had successfully coped with the initial "uneasiness" we soon felt very much at home with the "spirituality" of the encounter. And later, we wanted more of it.

HOW MUCH DOES IT COST

We are a non-profit organization, and we are willing to help anyone who is unable to meet the expense of the cost to attend this wonderful and blessed weekend. Please let us know of your special situation and we will be happy to accommodate your request with the utmost confidentiality.

The cost of the weekend is \$250.00 per couple, which covers meals and accommodation for one (1) night at Spirit in the Desert Retreat Center 7415 E Elbow Bend Rd, Carefree, AZ

BLD PHOENIX MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND

HOW DOES A MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER ENHANCE A MARRIAGE?

The fundamental difference between marriages that are good, average or poor is the level of communication between husband and wife. In all marriages, there are times when we take each other and our relationship for granted. The Weekend presents each couple with the opportunity to get off the "Modern World Treadmill", to stop and to take a fresh look at the "two of us, our marriage and our priorities". We learn a communication technique which shows and encourages us to explore the important areas of our life together in a spirit of love and understanding. The Weekend offers every couple the insights, the tools and the confidence to enrich their marriage and to strengthen their love for one another. For many couples, "Their Weekend" is one of the most significant experiences of their lives!

PROCESS AND CONTENTS

There is a "rhythm" in the encounter process

The presentation of a truth; The personal reflection; and The conjugal dialogue.

A truth drawn from Scripture or from Church teaching and made alive by shared experiences of the presenting team. The "encounter truths" build up in four stages:

The **"I"** stage.

The **"YOU"** and **"I"** (or **"WE"**) stage.

The **"WE"**, **"GOD"** and **"COMMUNITY"** stage.

The "total" truth about ourselves as persons, as spouses, as parents and as members of the Church, unfolds as the weekend progresses. After a truth is presented, we are given time for "personal reflection" on these truths. During these reflective times, we learn to commune with the interior life that each of us has.

Conjugal dialogue is the heart of the encounter process. We express our deep-rooted feelings and responses to our spouse and listen actively to our spouse's feelings and responses. The dialogue allows us to commune with our spouse and as we probe into the depths of each other in our relationship of consecrated love, we are given the opportunity to finally commune with the spirit of love – the apex of our marriage triangle.

The content of the encounter is the new covenant – the covenant of love – which is the core of Christian Life. It is in this new covenant which we receive and place as the foundation of our marriage, our family and our community. At the center of the encounter is a profound opening of our spirit to the Being who is Love – GOD.

Our process, therefore, is to be **"bukas-loob"** (open in heart/ spirit); Our Content -the One who "fills us" - is **"DIYOS"** - the person of God.



BUKAS-LOOB SA DIYOS COVENANT COMMUNITY
"Open in Spirit to God"

Husband's
photograph

Marriage Encounter Weekend # 22

June 13-14, 2026
 Spirit in the Desert Retreat Center
 7415 E Elbow Bend Rd, Carefree, AZ 85377

Wife's
photograph

COUPLE INFORMATION SHEET

Part 1: Basic Information

Husband's Last Name	Husband's First Name	Husband's Nick Name	Husband's Birth Date mm/dd/yy	
Wife's Last Name	Wife's First Name	Wife's Nick Name	Wife's Birth Date mm/dd/yy	
Street Address		City	State	Zip Code
Husband: Email Address		Wife: Email Address		
Husband: Phone number		Wife: Phone number		
Husband: Special Health Alert		Wife: Special Health Alert		
Catholic Church Marriage Certificate <input type="checkbox"/> Copy attached <input type="checkbox"/> Wedding Photo attached		Date of wedding	Place of wedding	
Current Parish	Parish Priest	Religious Affiliation and Prayer Group		
BLD Sponsor Name	BLD Affiliation	BLD Sponsor's Email Address & Phone Number		

Part 2: Additional Information

	Husband	Wife
Highest Educational Attainment		
Employers Name		

Part 3: Children Information

Child's Name	Age	Contact Info	Child's Name	Age	Contact Info

 Husband's Signature Date

 Wife's Signature Date

Instructions:

✓ At the back of Marriage Encounter#22 of the BLD-PHX (Flyer et All) Document there will be another Quick Responce (QR Code)

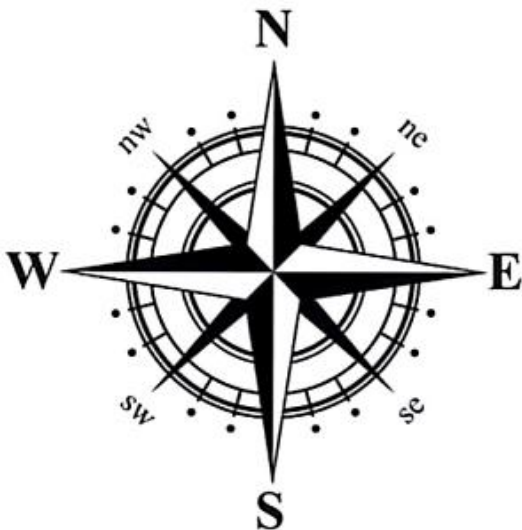
The BLD PHX Unit.Link Webpage



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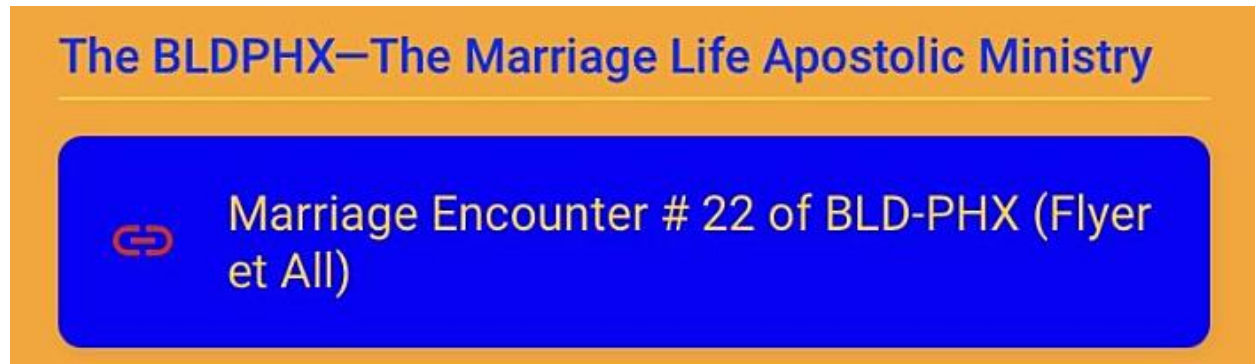
4 UNIT.LINK BLD PHX WEB PAGE



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✓ Scan the Quick Response Code (QR Code), it will bring you to the Unit.Link Webpage of the BLD Phoenix Webpage

✓ Go to the Section of: and click the Blue Link from the Webpage to have access to the Marriage Encounter#22 of the BLD-PHX (Flyer et All)



✓ Download the the ME#22 Flyer et All Document

✓ Fill in the Application Form of ME#22 of BLD-PHX

✓ Submit the filled Out Form by Email as an an attachment to any of the Directory Contacts from the section of the webpage that says: The BLD-PHX — The Marriage Life Apostolic Ministry or Mail-In the Filled Out Form to this Mailing Address:

The Kodumal Residence
% Joseph & Milrose Kodumal
43311North 43rd Drive; Maricopa County;
New River, Arizona 85076; USA

— With all the pertinent Requirements; the filed out Application Form of ME#22; A Scanned Copy of the Catholic

Sacramentally Marriage Certificate from the Parish the couple has been wed in; or a letter from the same parish; A couple of Wedding Pictures of the couple; and the suggested donation in personal check, or cashiers check, written out to: BLD Phoenix

— Also Include separate picture of the Groom, and a separate picture of the Bride

✓ All the information submitted and shared with BLD Phoenix will remain strictly confidential and will be stored by the Secretariat Apostolic Ministry, and the Marriage Life Apostolic Ministry, And BLD Headquarters in Manila, Philippines.