

Retrouvaille Glossary

Continuing Our Retrouvaille Experience (CORE) – a monthly support meeting for couples who have attended a Retrouvaille weekend.

Dialogue – the writing/communication technique taught on a Retrouvaille weekend.

Discernment – the prayerful process by which community goals are set and new leadership is chosen for a Retrouvaille community. Leadership roles include but are not limited to:

- Community Coordinating Couple
- Weekend Coordinating Couple
- Post Session Coordinating Couple
- CORE Coordinating Couple
- Registration Couple
- Prayer Couple
- Supply Couple

Formation – a weekend meant to foster further healing and discern involvement in the Retrouvaille ministry for a couple who has completed their weekend and Post sessions.

Objectives include:

1. Promote personal and couple healing and growth
2. Provide an environment for spiritual growth
3. Create an empowering environment
4. Teach the technique of dialogue
5. Affirm couples and help build confidence and community
6. Help couples incorporate the values of Retrouvaille into their lives
7. Teach writing skills and develop the ability to write and present their story

Friday Night Couple – a hurting couple who has registered for but not yet completed a Retrouvaille weekend.

Greeting – welcoming and registering couples on the Friday night of their weekend by staffing the parking lot, carrying bags, escorting them to their room, etc.

Group Sharing – the term used to describe an open discussion during a Retrouvaille meeting. Individuals are always encouraged, but never required, to participate during open sharing questions.

ICM – International Council Meeting, an annual business and enrichment weekend for Retrouvaille leadership and alumni.

NCRG – North Central Regional Gathering, an annual weekend for the communities of Retrouvaille Region 8 featuring marriage enrichment workshops, a business meeting and several networking opportunities with couples from throughout the Region.

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NoIL/NWI – Northern Illinois and Northwest Indiana, the dioceses of Rockford, Chicago, Joliet and Gary together make up the larger community of “Retrouvaille of Northern Illinois and Northwest Indiana.”

Prayer Letters – notes of encouragement written to couples and presenters on a Retrouvaille weekend or Formation weekend.

Pulpit Talk – a 3 to 5 minute talk given during or after mass/service by the invitation of a priest/pastor to make others aware of the Retrouvaille program.

Region – The communities of Retrouvaille are grouped into Regions by state. NoIL/NWI belongs to Region 8 which encompasses communities in Iowa, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, Northern Illinois, Northwest Indiana, and Wisconsin.

Retrouvaille Servant Leadership (RSL) – the weekend workshop for alumni couples in leadership roles which teaches how to reach out to other hurting couples and develops leadership skills and attitudes.

Outlines – a series of documents that provide content and guidance for writing a Retrouvaille Weekend or Post Session presentation.

Personal Introduction – a 6 to 8 minute talk given by a couple that outlines how their marriage moved through the stages of romance, disillusionment, misery and awakening.

Post Sessions – a series of 12 two-hour workshops that follow a Retrouvaille weekend. Sessions in NoIL/NWI are scheduled in pairs (Post 1&2, Post 3&4, etc.) for six weeks (usually Sundays) following the completion of a weekend.

Stage Talks – the term used for the presentations given on a Retrouvaille Weekend. There are 3 sets of Stage Talks.

Weekend – a couple’s initial introduction to Retrouvaille whereby they learn a technique for improved communication within their marriage.

Workshopping – the process by which a prospective presenting couple’s writing is reviewed against Outlines in preparation for presenting on a Weekend or Post Session.

Writing to Heal (WTH) – a half-day workshop characterized by the promotion of personal and couple healing through deeper exploration of our stories and the writing of a Personal Introduction or other talk.