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**For immediate release**

### **Worldwide Marriage Encounter - United States Selects New Leadership**

The United States Secretariat Board of Worldwide Marriage Encounter recently chose new national leadership. **Tony & Cathy Witzak** from **Wayne, Pennsylvania** and **Fr. Emile Frische** from **New York, New York** were selected as the U.S. Secretariat Ecclesial Team. They also represent the United States on the World Council, which consists of seven Secretariat Teams. The selection of new national leaders is held every three years.

**Worldwide Marriage Encounter** (WWME) supports the Sacrament of Matrimony and the Sacrament of Holy Orders by providing a weekend enrichment experience and ongoing community support for couples and priests. Since its introduction in 1968, WWME Weekends have been presented throughout the United States, in English, Spanish and Korean. Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekends are presented on a regular basis in over eighty-five countries around the world. Since 1968, over 2 million people in the United States have experienced the Weekend.

**Tony & Cathy Witzak** were married in 1967 and have four grown children and seven grandchildren. They experienced their Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend in 1979. Since then, they have been active in presenting the experience and have held several leadership roles in Pennsylvania, Florida and Kentucky. They have been instrumental in training and preparing materials for presenting teams, executive teams and the regional and area community experiences, and have been part of the support staff for the United States Secretariat Board. The Witzak's are active members of St. Isaac's Parish in Wayne, PA, where they are Eucharistic Ministers and previously coordinated an Adult Education Program. Cathy and Tony are retiring this summer from careers in education and human resources.

**Fr. Emile Frische, MHM** was ordained in 1970 for the Mill Hill Missionary Order. He served as a missionary priest in Borneo for 14 years and at St. Joseph's College, Mill Hill, London for 10 years. During his last 6 years at St. Joseph's, he served as rector of the seminary. Since his Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend in 1998, Fr. Frische has served as Ecclesial Team Priest for the Archdiocese of New York and also Section 2 (New York). He is currently the Coordinator for Special Ministries for the Archdiocese of New York, residing at Holy Family Parish, the United Nations Church. In addition to his duties for the Archdiocese of New York, Fr. Frische currently serves as President of Disaster Chaplaincy Services for New York City.

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