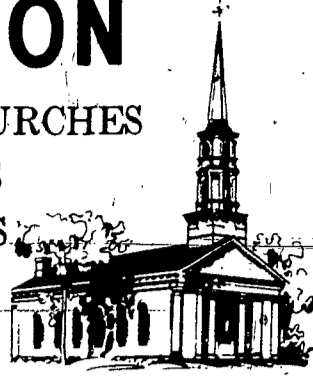


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Exchange of Felicitations

Bishops McCafferty and Hickey exchange congratulations at the door of Sacred Heart Cathedral after yesterday's ceremonies.

Married Couple

Offers Fresh Ideas on Prayer

Saratoga, Calif. (CPF)— If daily prayer should be simply a "conversation" with God and if daily prayer is important to married life, what should husbands and wives say?

Joseph and Lois Bird, parents of nine children, have found time and topics for numerous such talks—and, as a kind of conversation starter for other married couples, the Bird's have put many of these talks into a book called "Love Is All—Conversations of a Husband and Wife with God."

Written in short, staggered lines, as if it were a book of blank-verse poetry, "Love Is

All" shows how the Birds talk to God about their love for each other, about their children, about the world around them, in startling coffee-fresh phrases.

"Each day, Lord, we offer You our works, our sufferings, and our joys. But today was pure joy. We called a babysitter and took the day off. Just the two of us. It was a day we've repeated many times."

First, the drive into the city sitting close, touching, watching people, and cars, and signs, talking of everything—and nothing, sharing thoughts—and cigarettes.

"And then the city, our city in the way we've come to know it best: walking, hand in hand, shopping the store windows, smiling at strangers, browsing book shops, strolling art galleries, discovering that restaurant that's just right, and that flower cart with fresh violets, two bunches, one for her coat, one to carry and laugh with."

It was our kind of day, a day of romance, laughter, and wonderful foolishness. A day of pure joy! Dear Lord, may we offer You this day? It's been a lot of fun."

Even when all is not carts and flowers—after an argument, for instance—there is food for prayer: "We pass each other, we smile, we speak. But we're strangers. Lord, it aches. It hurts like hell. It is hell—of course it is. You are love. I know You are, and if hell is separation from You, then this feeling, this agony of emptiness, must be hell."

Although none of the prayer-conversations are signed, some are obviously Mrs. Bird's ("Cleaning his house is also making love. It also is part of the sacrament we share and live") and some are his, but many are written together and some could be either the wife or the husband ("Climbing out of bed each morning is simply awful. . . You've given us another day, Lord, but right now I can't appreciate it, not enough").

Second Book

"Love Is All" is the second

book written by Mr. and Mrs. Bird (he is a clinical psychologist and psychotherapist who has written many articles for professional journals and Catholic periodicals), the first being "The Freedom of Sexual Love—A Christian Concept of Sexuality in Marriage."

Published last year with a laudatory foreword by the late Msgr. J. D. Conway, who was once the Bird's pastor, the marriage manual-ish book tempted some newspapers to headline their review: "The Birds Talk About the Bees."

Some of the prayer-conversations in "Love Is All" are, in fact, about love-making: "We've prayed and embraced in sleep on this bed. It's been a retreat, a private chapel, and a mirror of Your love."

Turning to their children, the Birds write of the value of a gift from one of their children: "There's nothing impersonal in a six-year-old's gift. All that he has he gives. That, and all that he is. That drawing taped on the kitchen door is his gift of You, and his offering of him. I can learn a lot, dear Lord, from a six-year-old. His gifts have no price tag."

In a moment of quiet, when most of the children are at school, Mrs. Bird thinks about the moments when they are all about her, with their laughter and noise and clamor.

"Something wonderful happens at these times. It's as if You walk in the door and all the lights go on. Faces shine, laughter and words become rain-drops of sunshine. And dear Lord—the world of a home turns to fun, a jumping-up-and-down, hugging-one-another world of fun. We're a family! And, dear Jesus, there's nothing can touch us when we're a family. It's everything of joy, everything of love, and, so much, everything of You."

But at another time she complains: "Why can't You make my cross grand enough that I can take consolation when I fall? Lord, I'd like, just once, to believe I failed heroically. Why must I fail in responding to a child's voice, or in sweep-

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The Legion of Mary ACIES

Announce that there will be a Comitium at
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on March 24th with Bishop Dennis W.
Hickey speaking.

also

On the same date the Monroe (Senior) Curia
will meet at St. Anne's Church at 5 P.M.
with Bishop Kearney speaking.

The Junior Legion is Cordially invited to
attend either one of these talks.



Learn the seven
warning signals of cancer.
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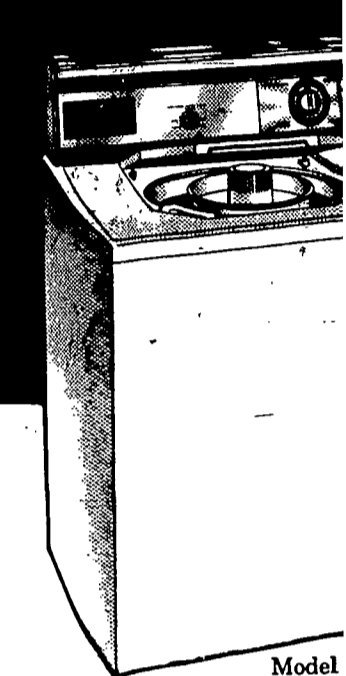
1. Unusual bleeding or discharge.
2. A lump or thickening in the breast or elsewhere.
3. A sore that does not heal.
4. Change in bowel or bladder habits.
5. Hoarseness or cough.
6. Indigestion or difficulty in swallowing.
7. Change in a wart or mole.

If a signal lasts longer than two weeks, see your doctor without delay. It makes sense to know the seven warning signals of cancer. It makes sense to give to the

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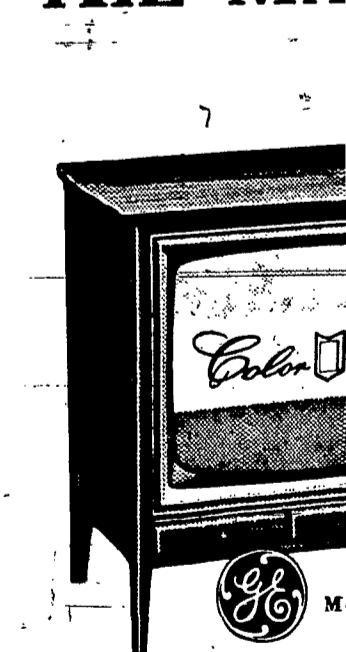
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