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OPEN THURSDAY EVENINGS



The Best of Books On Married Life

(Continued from Page 11A)

education and counseling. Steimetz is on the same wavelength as the Birds, convinced that marriage can be the happiest of choices for those couples who will have it so. Without becoming trapped in the old stereotyped, trite list of psychological differences between man and woman, Steimetz focuses on the ability of each partner to develop fully as man or woman, and he shows how the achievement of sexual maturity contributes to the vitality of the marital union. His chapter on mutual respect is especially provocative.

6.—"Our Bed Is Flourishing" (1969, N.Y., Sheed & Ward) by Dr. Robert McCready, a Chicago obstetrician, is addressed to engaged couples and the newly married. The book balances the technical advice that is usually given in marriage manuals with the wisdom that comes from understanding the human experience.

7.—Jose De Vinck and Father John Catoir are the authors of "The Challenge of Love" (1969, N.Y., Hawthorn). The book is written for the engaged and young marrieds, and is significant for its pastoral insights and orderly presentation. The authors have anticipated the questions that young couples might ask, and they offer practical advice — always reminding the reader to form conscientious judgments that

take into consideration the rights of the other person and the responsibilities of the married state.

8.—Robert and Mary Joyce's "New Dynamics in Sexual Love" (1970, Collegeville, Minn., St. John's University Press) is a more philosophical-ly-oriented work. It attempts to consider marriage and sexual love against the background of Teilhard de Chardin's thought and the insights of other modern philosophers.

9.—For the couple considering interfaith marriage, "Protestant-Catholic Marriage Can Succeed" by Paul and Jeanne Simon (1967, N.Y., Association Press) is the best book around. The authors speak from personal experiences, and they bring to their work a good understanding of present-day ecumenism. At the same time, they write of the little things that come up so frequently in marriage, and whose proper handling is of more practical importance than theological consultations.

In conclusion, it's worth emphasizing again that no book or periodical has all the answers nor the easy solution to life's problems. The best that can be expected is that literature will represent the common problems and challenges encountered in marriage in an objective manner. Couples must use the perspectives and insights in their own way to feed the con-

Check - Off List For Wedding

1. Visit your parish priest at least six weeks before your intended wedding date. Do not arrange reception, vacation, etc., until you have confirmed your date with the priest.
2. If you share floral expenses with the other couples being married on the same day, it will save costs and avoid confusion between weddings. Be sure that the church is decorated according to the parish customs and traditions.
3. Inquire about the manner in which the organist is contacted and the customary offering. Do not insist on your own music as some is not suitable or permitted in church.
4. Instruct the photographer to consult the priest on what is permitted.
5. Impress the necessity of promptness on the part of the wedding party for both the rehearsal and wedding.
6. It is also suggested that you and the members of the wedding who will be receiving Holy Communion, go to confession beforehand. However, if this is not possible, the priest will hear confessions on the night of the rehearsal.
7. The Eucharistic Regulation:
No solid foods or liquids for one hour before Communion.
Water and medicine may be taken at any time.
The bride and groom may receive Holy Communion under both species.
8. The bride and her attendants should be most conscious of the rules of modesty and decency of dress. It is quite inconsistent to be asking God's blessing while ignoring His rule of modesty.
9. Each parish has its own regulations for the conducting of weddings. You will be expected to follow these rules as this will insure uniformity, dignity and propriety. Do not ask for exceptions to these as they are for your benefit. If you are not sure of the parochial customs and rules, inquire of the priest with whom you are making your arrangements.
10. It is now possible in this Diocese for couples in a Mixed Marriage to be married at a Nuptial Mass. It must be mutually agreeable to both parties and is to be requested by the couple, otherwise the ceremony will take place at kneelers in the sanctuary without Mass.
11. A non-Catholic Clergyman may be invited to participate in the Marriage ceremony. Arrangements for this should be made in advance with the priest marrying you.
12. The marriage should take place in the parish of the bride; for a justifying reason, it may take place in the groom's parish. Permission must be obtained from the pastor of the bride or groom to be married in another church.
13. A Baptismal Certificate, issued not more than six months before the wedding, must be presented to the priest by both bride and groom.
14. No marriage may be performed immediately before or after a regular scheduled Mass on Sunday or Holy Days.
15. The following is the schedule of offerings: Low Nuptial Mass \$15; Sung Nuptial Mass \$20; Wedding without Mass \$15.
16. Applicants for marriage license must present physician's statement certifying to a pre-marital blood test, signed by physician and applicant. Statement must show date the specimen was taken, test completed, physical examination and name and address of laboratory making the test.
17. For minors (males under 21, females under 18) consent of both parents or guardians is required, either in person or notarized statement. All under 21 must present proof of age. License issued in New York State may be used anywhere in the state.
18. The fee for the marriage license is \$3.00. This license is valid for 60 days from the date of issuance.
19. Marriage may take place 24 hours after the issuance of license, providing that 3 days have elapsed between date on which the blood specimen was taken and the date of the license.
20. License must be filled out by the officiating priest and signed by the two witnesses. The license is then forwarded by the priest to the issuing office. A copy will be sent to you. A Marriage Certificate may be obtained from the Church at which you are married.

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