Revolution In Pre-Cana

By ARTHUR and ELLEN MAURER Pre-Cana Chaircouple

A quiet revolution is taking place in the Diocese of Rochester.

Pre-Cana, the program of marriage preparation for engaged couples, is undergoing massive changes in content and purpose. Since any engaged couple complete the series only once, few are aware the change is taking place.

Pre-Cana has been in existence for twenty years. It has been traditionally a four-session program with two of the sessions run by priests, one by a doctor, and one by a group of couples. The couple groups ran lecture oriented sessions concentrating on "how-to" in areas such as finance, insurance, in-law relationships and consideration of each spouse for the other.

Pre-Cana couples felt a need for a change. A new purpose was developed to have married couples share their experiences on the level of feelings with the engaged couples. The four sessions were rearranged to include one priest session, two couples' sessions, and one doctor's session.

A new set of guidelines was developed. More time is now allotted for discussion among engaged couples and work

Apr. 2, 16, 23, 30

Apr. 6, 13, 20, 27

May 2, 9, 16, 23

May 9, 16, 23, 30

June 6, 13, 20, 27

Aug. 8, 15, 22, 29

Sept. 5, 12, 19, 26

Oct. 1, 8, 15, 22

Nov. 7, 14, 21, 28

May 9, 16, 23, 30

Apr. 18, 25; May 2, 9

Oct. 10, 17, 24, 31

May 7, 14, 21, 28

Oct. 1, 8, 15, 22

May 16, 19, 23, 26

Sept. 12, 19, 22, 26

May '16, 23, 30;

Sept. 12, 19, 26; Oct. 3

Apr. 25; May 2, 9, 16

June 6

Nov. 28; Dec. 1, 5, 12

July 11, 18, 25; Aug. 1

is also in progress to improve the priest's session and better coordinate engaged couple instructions on the parish level with the Pre-Cana Program.

Is Pre-Cana satisfied? In a word—No!

To improve the program for college students, a program similar to that used in the Archdiocese of Montreal is being piloted in Brockport with the help of the Family Life Committee of the Rochester Association of Catholic Laymen.

Development of a totally revamped Pre-Cana has begun. Its purpose is to have engaged couples explore their feelings together about the decisions they have made to get married, to marry each other, their expectations of marriage, and how their expectations were formed.

Lead couple preparation will require an intensive eight week program and each series will be developed by the bindividual couples leading it.

Eventually, Pre-Cana programs run by lead couples in their homes will be feasible.

An objective of the Office of Family Life is to make Pre-Cana a fascinating, relevant program for the engaged couple—to the point that they will come because they want to, not because they're

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Pre-Cana Schedule

8 p.m. St. Francis, 401 Orange St.

8 p.m. St. Theodore, 170 Spencerport Rd.

3 p.m. St. Francis

5:30 p.m. St. Francis 8 p.m. St. Francis

4 p.m. St. Charles, 3003 Dewey Ave.

3 p.m. St. Francis 4 p.m. St. Margaret Mary, 400 Rogers Pky.

5:30 p.m. St. Francis 8 p.m. St. Francis

p.m. Corpus Christi, 880 Main St. E.

8 p.m. St. Francis

4 p.m. Christ the King, Kings Highway S. 8 p.m. St. Francis

3 p.m. St. Francis p.m. St. Ambrose, 31 Empire Blvd.

5 30 p.m. St. Francis 8 p.m. St. Francis

3 p.m. St. Francis Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24

4 p.m. Sacred Heart, 296 Flower City Pk. 5:30 p.m. St. Francis

8 p.m. St. Francis

8 p.m. St. Francis

3 p.m. St. Francis

5:30 p.m. St. Francis 8 p.m. St. Francis

Nov. 5, 12, 19, 26 8 p.m. St. Francis

8, p.m. St. Thomas More, 2617 East Ave. Nov. 8, 15, 22, 29

3 p.m. St. Francis Dec. 5, 12, 19, 26

p.m. St. Pius X, 3000 Chili Ave. 5:30 p.m. St. Francis

8 p.m. St. Francis

AVON

3 p.m. St. Agnes, Prospect St.

3 p.m. St. Michael, 320 S. Main St.

3 p.m. St. Michael

ITHACA -

8 p.m. Immaculate Conception

8 p.m. Immaculate Conception

HORNELL 3 p.m. St. Ann, 29 Erie Ave.

Apr. 18, 21, 25, 28

7:30 p.m. (Wed.)

8 p.m. Our Lady of Lourdes, West Church Street

8 p.m. Our Lady of Lourdes

8 p.m. Our Lady of Lourdes

AUBURN

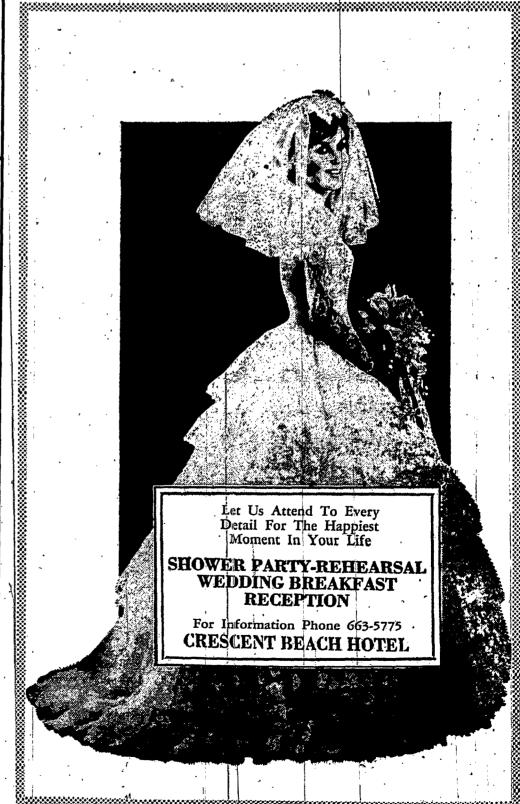
3 p.m. Holy Family School

North Street

3 p.m. St. Alphonsus School 95 E. Genesee St.

SENECA FALLS

3 p.m. St. Patrick's School, W. Bayard St.



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