

Variety of Programs Available With Pre-Cana

The 30-year-old diocesan Pre-Cana program is in a period of transition.

The purpose of Pre-Cana Conferences remains the same: to prepare engaged couples for marriage by offering an opportunity to examine their love for one another in the light of the reality of married life.

But the traditional program is being de-centralized and specialized.

The standard lecture style Pre-Cana program, consisting of a priest speaking on the spiritual and sacramental aspects of matrimony; married couples relating secrets of success; and a physician relating physical, physiological information important for married people; is being replaced with small group discussion programs.

The first change of the diocese program came two years ago when Bishop Joseph L. Hogan

established new procedure for the marriages of minors.

The new regulations include intensive, small group sessions held in the homes of the Pre-Cana staff members (see more on that program below).

Since early 1973 another new method has been tested that will replace the old, large group sessions entirely.

The new program consists primarily of open discussions between the engaged couples and a team of five married couples, a priest and a doctor.

Registration is limited in both the intensified program for minors and the new group discussion program.

There are presently 10 teams of married couples operating the new program that is limited to 25 couples and meets for four sessions.

There is a registration fee of \$5.00 per couple to defray necessary expenses for the program.

A certificate of attendance is given to those who attend the conference. The certificate is to be shown to the parish priest when final arrangements are made for the wedding.

Father Robert Collins, director of the diocesan Office of Family Life, said the parish priest should be consulted for dates, places and times of the conferences which are held throughout the year.

All the pre-cana programs are four sessions.

The latest change in Pre-Cana is de-centralization of the programs. Regional directors have been appointed and each region is coming up with its own programs.

Father Collins, reports that "plan is to phase out the program at the Pastoral Office by the end of this year," and says he hopes

all programs will be regional by that time.

To register in a Pre-Cana program either call the Office of Family Life, at the Pastoral Office, 328-3210 or your regional director.

The regional directors for Monroe County Pre-Cana programs are: North Region, Father Bernard Dollen, 342-6686; Northeast Region, Father William Michatek, 872-3131; Northwest Region, Father Bernard Carges, 254-3221; Southwest Region,

Father John O'Connor, 247-2566; and Southeast Region, Father David Gaesser, 271-7240.

Other regional directors are: Livingston-Steuben, Father Richard O'Connell, 716-987-2700; Chemung-Schuyler, Father Vincent Panepinto, 607-732-1553; Cayuga-Seneca, Father John Clogowski, 315-252-9576; Ontario-Wayne-Yates, Father Gary Shaw, 315-923-3941; Tompkins, Father David Mura, 607-273-6121; and Tioga, Father Thomas Watts, 607-687-1555.

Regulations Governing Marriage of Minors

Since the fall of 1971, when Bishop Joseph L. Hogan issued a new set of rules covering procedure for the marriages of minors, the following regulations have been in effect:

1—The priest must interview the young man and woman individually using a lengthy, new questionnaire designed to inquire as to the couple's awareness of the responsibilities of marriage and to let them express their judgment of their fitness for marriage.

2—He then must interview the parents whom civil law requires to give permission for the marriage of their children.

(Before a marriage license can be obtained in this state written consent to the marriage is required from both parents if the man is between 16 and 21 and the girl between 14 and 18. If the parents of both are dead, written consent of the guardians of such minors is required. If the parents' marriage has been dissolved the consent of the one parent who received custody of the minor is sufficient.)

The priest must refer either or both parties to the Catholic Family Center for help from a psychiatrist, psychologist or social worker, if he believes it necessary for "any notable character deficiency."

4—He must then arrange for the couple to have intensive private or semi-private pre-marriage instructions provided by the diocesan Family Life Office.

5—The priest must put into writing his personal observations and judgment regarding the couple's ability to make a lasting marriage.

6—Finally he must file with the Marriage Tribunal the statements of the couple, the parents, the Pre-Cana staff members the social worker and his own.

Final approval for the wedding must come from the Bishop through the Tribunal after studying the full documentation on the case.

**HOUSE OF
HORS D'OEUVRES
and PREPARED FOODS**
Call us for your next Party or Reception
ELEGANT CATERING AVAILABLE
"THE SEIDBERGS"
2187 Clinton Ave. N. 467-2989

**Irondequoit
BRIDES SHOWCASE**
Ridge Hudson Plaza
Open Evenings (except Fri. & Sat.) 342-6160
For Brides, Attendants
Mothers of the Wedding
Formals Lodge Gowns

Alfredo's

Alfredo's has excellent facilities for weddings, showers and receptions for 50 to 400 guests.

Call 865-0900
4370 Dewey Ave.
at Latta Rd.



"Looks like I cooked a no-eater!"

SEE OUR HEAVENLY
Wedding Stationery
Thermographed or Genuine Copper Plate Engraved
Traditionally perfect and at a sensible price.
POSTAL Instant PRESS
Ridge Hudson Plaza 467-8360

It's smart to rent for your party

- Tents & Canopies
- Table & Umbrella Sets
- Garden Chairs (Alum.)
- Lawn Equipment
- Hurricane Lamps
- Banquet and Card Tables - Linens
- Folding Chairs - Bars
- Punch Bowls - Silver
- Glassware - China
- Dance Floors

Free party consultation

PHONE FOR PROMPT DELIVERY
663-1300
469 Ridge Road West

ABEST

ROCHESTER INTERNATIONAL TOURS LTD.
presents an
ADVENTURE TOUR
—WEEKLY HAMILTON DEPARTURES EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT
SUNDAY TORONTO DEPARTURES AVAILABLE
a new concept...
BEGINNING MAY 4th including
airfare, breakfast dinner and hotel for 8 days
bahamas \$199 only!
Children Under 12 - \$50 Less

plus: free golf, tennis cocktail parties and transfers

WE HAVE SPACE ON EVERY FLIGHT
FOR INFORMATION AND BROCHURE ON DEPARTURE OF YOUR CHOICE
CALL 385-1020

Many other Vacation and Honeymoon Packages to other destinations available at prices everyone can afford.