New Horizon Program Views Second Marriages

With the recent interpretation of Church laws regarding marriage, many more Church annulments are being granted. This means that some persons find themselves coming to the Church and asking to be married for the second time. This presents a new concern for the Marriage Preparation Ministry.

Are there "special problems" in second marriages different from those encountered by persons marrying for the first time? And if there are, shouldn't there be a different kind of preparation for marriage separate from Pre-Cana that can reach out and deal with these unique issues?

These are some of the questions the Office of Family Life presented to a group of couples who are already experiencing second' marriages. Using these basic questions as a starting point these couples, along with a priest and single persons there has developed a premarriage program for persons who will be entering marriage for the second time and fortheir spouses to-be, even if they have not been married previously.

Entitled New Horizons, this program covers the following topics: Self-awareness, communication, sexuality, attitudes, present and future children, former spouses, in-laws, past and

present, finances, and the importance of our sacrament in the Church and society today.

This program is for those persons who will be marrying in the Church, having gone through the divorce and Church annulment process. Couples who have experienced the program have benefitted from it. Some of their comments: "I feel this program was fantastic and really went into depth for second time marriages with or without chiktren. — "It makes you think and talk about things that maybe you woukn't know how to express."

Realistically, problems will

Make Showers Interesting

There are many ways to make a wedding shower easy and fun for the bride, for the guests and especially for yourself. One way is to give the shower a theme—an idea that will also guide the guests toward, gifts the bride and groom will appreciate.

A kitchen gadget shower might be headlined as "cook's delight", or a bath theme, "decorate the bath". And for those who love old-fashioned treasures and homespun natural goods, think "country shower", and carry through the theme with cards of calico, or artwork of pattery and baskets.

exist in a second marriage, but solutions are possible with rich. and rewarding relationships resulting. The next, New Horizons session will be April 28,30 and May 1, at the Pastoral Center, 1150 Buffalo Road. Registration can be made by obtaining a registration card from any parish, and sending it to the Office of Family Life. For more information, call Jim and Donna Fitch, Pre-Marriage Coordinators, 716-136-1450

Exciting Day For the Young Guests

If there are going to be small children in your wedding procession, a flower girl, ring bearer or both, make sure they know what they are going to do.

If necessary go over what will be happening several times so that both you and the youngsters will be comfortable and confident.

Remember that they too will be both excited and nervous about this big event, their chance to share some of your limelight, and that they will be doing their very best on your most important day to make it just a little bit more special.



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