### COURIER-JOURNAL



## A Letter **To Newlyweds Everywhere**

## **Dear Lovers:**

Tenderly you' touch each other's hands. Gently you look into each other's eyes. Your voices often become hushed and you speak to each other in our midst. Special smiles pass between you ... your love for each other speaks to us so clearly and concisely. You are a living, breathing and very appealing invitation to fall in love with each other all over again . . .

We find ourselves looking into each other's eyes and saying: "Oh, yes, I remember. What a blessing your love for each other is for us.

Never let us tell you it is "kid stuff". Answer us that we need to be "kids" with you. Don't listen if we tell you that this will pass with garbage to be taken out and lawns to me mowed and dirty socks and diapers. Just smile and whisper to us that it doesn't have to. Help us believe that marriage is not the end of romance but a commitment to living romance as a lifestyle. Help us look at you and then turn to each other and say, can you hear us? We are telling you how very, very much we need you. You are the living memory of how we began . . . and you are the promise of how we can continue.

> Thank you, **Rochester Marriage Encounter**

# **Packing Woes Solved**

Here are some hints for together, evening wear packing carefully. together, lingerie together. It's easier to get at things that way

- Pack firmly. Loosely and easier to repack firmly. packed clothes will shift

# **Help Programs for Marriage**

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#### By FRANK AND SUE STAROPOLI Coordinators, Office of Family Life

Climbing divorce rates, continual stresses from social and economic forces of change and alternative life styles have raised questions in many circles about the viability of the family in the future of this society. Some have predicted the death of the family. But as Michael Novak, theological essayist, has written, "Choosing family life today is an act of courage and intelligence . . . marriage and family still express our highest moral ideals.

We salute you for your courage and intelligence and most of all for your desire to make a commitment to each other, to God and to the Church in an age where such promises are seen as un-necessary, passe. We know the love you have for each other, so vibrant and alive now, is a cherished possession. We also know as you must, that after the honeymoon that love will need to be constantly nourished and reaffirmed because it will be tested.

How will you keep it alive? How will you avoid the humdrum routine you see in so many marriages around you? How will you deal with the kinds of situations that are sure to test this precious love vou share?

First, choose your friends wisely. Seek common friends, hopefully other married couples who share your convictions about com mitment, family and faith. Such friends will be your support community in the years ahead. You will be

### Cutting **Expenses**

Marriage can be expensive, especially in the beginning when you're trying to stretch a budget to cover both everyday living expenses and new home furnishings.

> Here are some ways you may be able to economize without feeling the pinch.

- whenever possible cook from scratch. Convenience foods generally cost more than the basic ingredients needed to cook the same meal, and your personal culinary efforts are sure to produce a better tasting meal, as well.

enriched by them and in turn. will inspire them to live the beautifully idealistic life youenvision now. This may mean difficult choices about your present friends because you're entering a new life style and old ties can create pressures.

Wednesday, January 30, 1980

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Keep your priorities straight. Your husband or wife and the faith you share must be number one. Build your lives around that relationship and don't allow anything to take precedence - no jobs, or education, or friends, or even in-laws. Celebrate and renew that bond of love often. Work to keep it fresh and alive because when you don't it doesn't stay. fresh — it withers, slowly but surely.

Finally know that the Church is always ready to support you and to accept your support. There are programs in parishes and throughout the diocese to help you discover how to live the sacrament you will celebrate soon. We want to be a source of inspiration, hope, en-couragement and healing for you when you need it. We. also want you to share with us the freshness and excitement of your marriage. You can be inspirational for so many couples who may have lost some of the glow you radiate.

So keep in touch for our. sake, and yours. Become involved from the beginning in your parish. Learn about programs offered by the Office of Family Life (436-5450) and the Catholic Family Center.

The Family Enrichment program of Catholic Family Center was established to strengthen individuals and help families make the commitment to marriage and

been developed to assist individuals and families to cope and resolve the problems they face and to nurture and foster communication skills

The programs are led by family educators and marriage and family counselors from the Catholic Family Center and the Office of Family Life. They assist parish councils or other parish leaders in the designs which are appropriate to the needs of their people.

Programs presented by the Catholic Family Center are in the area of human relations. More specifically they are communication workshops; communication workshops; Human Sexuality; Changing roles: Pre-marriage Relationships; Marriage Communication; Discovery Workshops for Young Married Couples; Separation

family life. Programs have and Divorce; Family Growth and Relationshps; Parent-Child Relationships; Family Life Training for Counselors. Some programs require group participation; some develop skills for group leadership.

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The sessions of these programs are held in facilities provided by the parish' or sponsoring organization, or they are held at the Catholic Family Center at 50 Chestnut - Plaza.

There is a minimum of 12 persons necessary to conduct. any of these programs. The fee is generally \$25 a session.

If you wish more information, contact either Thomas L. Hanson or John Barnowski, 546-7720, or Frank and Sue Staropoli at the Office of Family Life, 436-5450.





around in transit and wrinkle more easily.

- Pack in sections and not in layers sportswear

- Distribute weight evenly on both sides of your suitcase (pack one heavy article at either end of the hinge), and it will be easier to carry.

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