

There Is Concern for Couples And Their Life Together

Dear Special Lovers,

Congratulations! Couples planning to be married are so full of joy and hope — that's why we are calling you special lovers. We, too, are pleased about your upcoming marriage, and we share in your excitement and your hope. We are delighted you are choosing to be married in the Church, as we know that symbolizes a caring for each other and a commitment to each other and to God that is very special. We believe in Christian Marriage as a way of life, and we want the best for you and your future.

To help you in planning for your future, we urge you to take some time very soon to attend a Marriage Preparation Program. On the Pre-Cana schedule, appearing in this issue of the Courier-Journal and also obtainable from your parish, you will notice the dates and places of the sessions we have scheduled. There are one-day sessions included especially for those couples with different working times, or where one of the couple is out of town. Engaged Couple Encounter dates are listed too. This group has an excellent program which you may want to consider.

Also notice the special program — New Horizons — for those persons who have been previously married and have gone through the Church annulment process, as well as those persons entering a second marriage as the result of the death of a spouse.

“After all, your wedding is a day — your marriage is a lifetime.”

We recommend that you register for one of these sessions as soon as possible — participation six to eight months before your wedding date is ideal.

Marriage is a lifelong experience of challenges to grow as individuals, and as a couple. We who are involved in the ministry to engaged couples care about you and your marriage and we are anxious to share with you. We see marriage preparation as the opportunity for the two of you to get away from the hectic details of planning your wedding day, and to spend

time together with other engaged and married couples and a priest, to do in-depth thinking about marriage as a vocation. After all, your wedding is a day — your marriage is a lifetime.

Again, congratulations. Our prayer is that God will bless you as you prepare to celebrate your marriage and that His love will continue to shine upon you as you grow through your years together.

Peace, Love, and Joy
Jim and Donna Fitch
Pre-Marriage Coordinators

Rules for Youngsters

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.

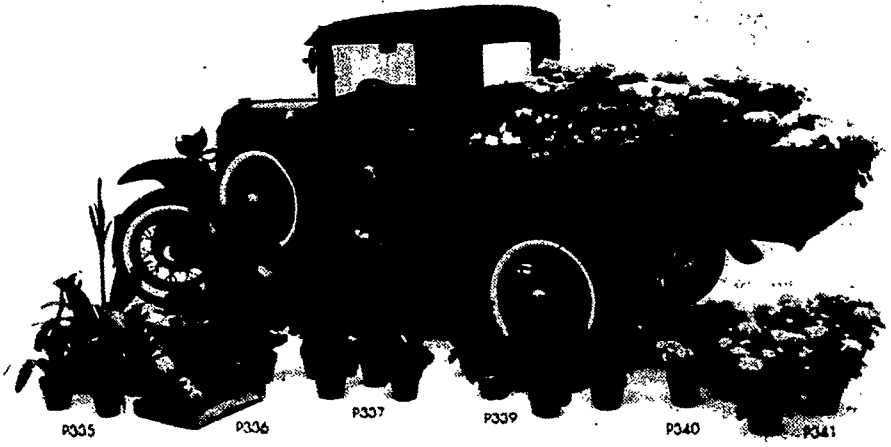
Remember that they, too, will be both excited and nervous about this big event, their chance to share some of your limelight, and that they will be doing their very best on your most important day to make it just a little bit more special.

... THE TOAST ...

Usually it is the best man who offers the toast to the wedding couple. However, others like a favorite uncle or long time friend may also be asked to toast the happy couple. The occasion can be a nervous one especially for the person who is not used to the limelight, and of course the person giving the toast wants what he says to be just right for the occasion. Throughout this bridal section there will be hints as to how to accomplish this, along with quotes and ideas to help the toast-giver.

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A W

Whenever someone becomes engaged there is a celebration as we talk with you about the usual questions: When? To whom? Are you going to have a big wedding? Have you ordered your tux? What about flowers, the altar decorations, is definitely emanated when the groom is coming to the altar.

Engagement

looked upon as a vocational step in which preparing to answer the questions also ask the engaged couple. What type of program will be participating in preparing and career, which several times working year prepare for beginning of a permanent relationship.

The Church couple to be prepared for Christ as possible. This marriage ministry preparation is important, in developing the direction of the Office of Marriage is designed to help couples in developing attitudes and prepare for the light of the Church preparation concern for the engaged couple.

Engaged c

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