
Important Don'ts.
(From previous Bulletins.)

1. Don't confuse lust with love. Love is essential to marriage; wanton lust is its greatest enemy. Passion aroused, but unsatisfied, leads to many of the physical ills of woman and so degrades her moral sense that she is incapable of instilling virtue into her children--if she has any. Its effect on man is to make him coarse and licentious (like those who loudly guffaw in the dark at a suggestive movie); it inclines him to insane jealousy, suspecting in his wife a continuance of the incontinence that marked their courtship.

The world takes no account of the evils of courtship. These evils are stock jokes for the funny papers. But neither does the world sanctify marriage as a Sacrament, nor does it hold you to one wife until death. And neither does the world light a candle or breathe a prayer at your grave. The world knows all about lust, very little about love.

2. Don't marry a girl to reform her. Infatuation may lead you into this stupid experiment, but cold reason argues against it. It doesn't work out. And don't run around with young widows, grass or sod. Leave widows to the widowers. Widows may make good wives, but they make fools out of freshmen, and still bigger fools out of seniors.

3. Don't get married unless as a venture in self-sacrifice. Love is love only when it is willing to sacrifice. Selfishness kills more marriages than anything else. Saint Joseph, the model husband, was a perfect exemplar of unselfishness. The Blessed Virgin, his divinely appointed spouse, was equally a model of self-renunciation. Perfect sacrifice and the grace of God made the Holy Family the perfect pattern of married life. Christ raised marriage to a Sacrament because He saw the special needs that it creates.

4. Don't rush headlong into marriage. If a girl, hurries you, suspect her motives. If you want to rush marriage, suspect your own motives. Emotion generally gives the first impulse to love, but emotion must be checked by reason. Divorce courts are full of the fruits of unchecked emotions. Emotions will bring you together in a hurry; it won't hold you together for long. Have your golden wedding in mind when you pick your wife.

5. Don't shun good counsel. Your father knows a lot about marriage. Take him into your confidence. He knew how to pick a good mother for you, and he will be able to help you pick a good wife.

Your mother will give you ten times more help. It takes a woman to size up a woman. If, by intuition, she picks out an important flaw and says, "Thumbs down," better let it be so.

Get the judgment of your best pal. When your own head is swimming in emotion, his head, and eyes, remain clear. He may see things that you yourself would only see afterwards.

6. And don't forget to try out her cooking. A woman who can't cook can't run a house, can't even superintend somebody else's cooking. Plan to save your wife from all labors, if you will, but remember, household duties keep wives out of troubles and keep them out of their husband's hair. A good housekeeper is not far removed from a good homemaker.

PRAYERS: (deceased) Rev. Paul L. Dillon (South Haven); anniversary tomorrow of brother of Matt Sholey (Fresh.); friend of Chris. Matthews; father of Rupert Mills '15. Ill, Floyd Graziop (Brow.); (seriously ill) father of Barney Curtin (Lyons); father of Charlie Morrison (Lyons); father of Conal Byrne (How.); mother of Felix Wiatrowski.