

# Catholics decide marriageability

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) — In an attempt to curtail the rising divorce rate, the Roman Catholic Diocese in Orlando has set a three-month cooling off period for anyone under the age of 19 wishing to marry in the church.

Under the "Youthful Marriage Policy," priests also will scrutinize teen-agers to see if they are mature and financially stable enough to make a success of marriage.

Adopted Tuesday by the diocese's policy-making board, the program was drawn up by a committee of priests and laymen headed by the Rev. John Bluett, director of the Diocese's Family Life Department.

The diocese, which includes 13 Central Florida counties, has more than 140,000 members.

Father Bluett estimated that about 100 to 120 cases a year

would be affected by the policy.

He said the right of couples to marry who gave evidence "of required minimal maturity" would be guaranteed.

"The right to marry is a natural right of high priority," the committee said. "It is not, however, an unrestricted right. Both Church and State can establish legitimate restrictions."

"Such restrictions must be founded in serious causes, whereby the proposed marriage is shown to be in conflict with Christian revelation, or

posing a threat to the common good of society."

The committee said the goal is to fight divorce "where it begins — in hasty or ill-advised marriages, particularly among the young."

It said 33 percent of all divorced couples are teen-agers and "seven out of 10 marriages involving teen-agers end in separation. In teen-age marriages where pregnancy was a factor, 90 percent break up . . ."

"Many priests feel helpless where the legal and the minimal spiritual requirements are

met by the couple, but their youth and-or pregnancy factor leads the priest to believe that marriage has little hope for success."

Under the policy, couples seeking marriage "when either party has not yet reached his or her 19th birthday" are required:

— To wait three-months from the time of their first interview with a priest to the date of their marriage.

— Have in-depth interviews with the priest dealing with family background, parents' at-

titudes, desire to escape an unpleasant home situation, pregnancy, degree of infatuation.

— To submit to a study by the church of the couple's financial status and its ability to handle money.

— To attend special instruction and counseling sessions.

— To get written permission from the diocese's marriage court before the ceremony could be performed.

— To delay setting a firm wedding date until complying with all sections of the marriage policy.

# Left-overs salute graduating boots

The Corps of Cadets salutes its graduating members Saturday at Final Review.

A unique military formation, the review is a bitter-sweet event at which cadets assume their positions, rank and privileges for 1975-76.

On the first go-around of the Memorial Student Center drill field, Corps salutes will be taken by U.S. Marine Corps Lt. Gen.

Samuel Jaskilka. Seniors will be on the reviewing line for the second corps march-by. Each unit's seniors will step forward for "eyes right" as their company or squadron passes.

Col. Thomas R. Parsons, commandant, said corps units will be assembled on the drill field by 3:20 p.m. "Adjutants call" sounds at 3:30 p.m.

## TIA asks for funds

The Trinity Improvement Association (TIA) delegation was in Washington to appear at hearings April 30 before the House and Senate Subcommittees on Public Works.

Congressman Olin E. Teague met informally with the delegation on April 29 and then accompanied the group to the House Subcommittee hearing.

The TIA delegation asked the subcommittee to appropriate the following monies for a 15-month period including fiscal year 1976:

— \$7.3 million for Aubrey Lake;

— \$265,000 for flood control on Johnson Creek in Arlington and Grand Prairie;

— \$6.23 million for Lakeview Reservoir;

— \$4.26 million for enlargement of Lake Lavon;

— \$1.1 million for the Trinity River Project which includes a multiple purpose channel, the Tennessee Colony Lake, West Fork Floodway and the Dallas Floodway Extension;

— \$248,000 for routine maintenance and operation of the Trinity River Navigation Channel from the mouth of the river to Liberty, Texas.

## Board to hear school budget

A public hearing on the A&M Consolidated School District's 1975-76 budget will be held Thursday at 7 p.m. during a specially called school board meeting.

The meeting will be held at the A&M Consolidated High School cafeteria at 701 West Loop South.

Due to miscalculations in the mailing process, the public will not be notified through the mail.

A tentative budget will be presented by Bill Lancaster, chairman of the budget committee, during the hearing.

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