



The Anchor

Book Review

By Dan Beauchamp

Clean Love In Courtship

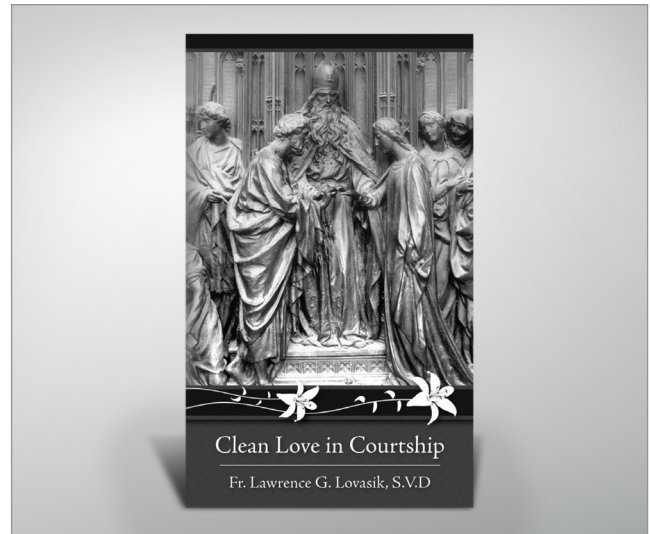
by Fr. Lawrence G. Lovasik, S. V. D.

...is a priceless gift bestowed to the Catholic Church for all who desire to have the purest, holiest and most virtuous of courtships. This wonderful little book of 80 pages written by celebrated author and Catholic Priest: Father Lawrence G. Lovasik (1913-1986) is beautifully adorned with an image of the betrothal of the Blessed Virgin Mary and St. Joseph for its front cover and is published by TAN Books with an imprimatur of 1948.

Father Lovasik explains that marriage is a serious life-long career, so important and so sacred, that God made it a sacrament. He further explains **the primary and secondary purposes of marriage:** the bringing of children into the world and the mutual help of husband and wife in the care of the family and the allaying of concupiscence or the desire of nature. He teaches that since marriage is beautifully sacred, so should be the courtship that proceeds it. He reminds the reader that a courtship should always be pure if it is to be happy. How wise! Father writes on the virtue of purity and how beautiful it is, not only in courtship but also in marriage. He describes how impurity is forbidden not only in natural law but in God's moral law as well. Father prompts the reader to remember that Christ Himself has forbidden impurity and that this nauseating and revolting vice brings about the death of the soul and a tarnish on one's courtship.

Jesus must always be the centre of all courtships and marriages. Pleasing Him should be our life long desire and we should live that desire wholeheartedly in our behaviour during courtship. How should this be done? Father Levasik throws light on the 6th and 9th commandments and what may be venial sin, mortal sin or no sin at all during courtship. He calls to mind that temptations are not a sin. He expounds on **the eight pitfalls in company-keeping (and how to avoid them!):** *passionate kissing, "petting" or*

"necking", improper liberties, the parked car, drinking, indecent entertainment, immodest conversation and dangerous reading. He then brings forth the remedies for these eight pitfalls by deciphering **the six aids to company-keeping (and how to keep them!):** *regular confession, frequent holy communion, prayer, self-denial, avoiding occasions of sin and love of Jesus and Mary.* Father Lovasik gives also **three general principles on**



courtship dates: *always keep your courtship on a high plane, follow a "hands off" policy and plan your courtship dates (what to do and what not to do during them).* He divulges to the reader three important points on **the care and common sense of choosing a marriage partner:** *friendship, agreement and self-sacrifice.* Father ends is little masterpiece on courtship with four prayers (to the Holy Spirit, for vocation, for purity and how to find a good husband or wife).

Clean love in courtship is a short and easy read but packs quite a punch! I highly recommend this little book for all those who want to seriously please God by making of their Catholic courtship something so pure and so beautiful that its fruits will be so holy and virtuous! Who will glorify God by a holy marriage like St. Louis and St. Zelig Martin? Who will imitate the Blessed Virgin Mary and St. Joseph in marriage? Please visit St. Clement Gift Shop and Bookstore and purchase or order your copy today!

"The greater the friendship, the more solid and long-lasting the marriage will be, as we are united not only in flesh but in domestic activity." -St. Thomas Aquinas (1225-1274), Doctor of the Church.