

International Confederation of Christian Family Movements



WHAT MAKES A HAPPY MARRIAGE? A challenge to families By Mgr. Charles G: Vella (Italy) International chaplain ICCFM

We hear and read so much about marriage breakdowns, where unhappiness in daily life becomes very hard to bear. Unhappy marriages make news and often couples are driven to despair. The children are nearly always the innocent victims and the trauma of divorce becomes a life-long wound.

The media make money out of unhappy marriages. The emphasis is on what breaks the commitment of marriage: from sex, infidelity, money, conflict and many other evils.

Even in our teaching and pastoral approach we often stress more the negative, than the positive. What makes marriages click?

The pedagogy of Christ in the Gospel was positive and challenging. Though he cast the vendors from the temple and condemned the Pharisees, His whole emphasis was love and the Beatitudes