

NECESSITY IS THE MOTHER OF INVENTION

by
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When I passed the entrance examination to enter the junior seminary, they sent us a prospectus with a long list of what to purchase. When Mr. Okafor looked at it, he was devastated, because he could not afford to buy all the items. Mama offered to help him. She said that she would produce the two bed sheets and the pillow cases. She used to buy big bags of salt that she sold in cups. She sat down and began to dismantle all the empty bags. I helped her. We washed them several times until the stamped trade mark went off. Then she carefully sewed them together. That was how she made my bed sheets and pillow cases. They were special. Today, patch-work is in vogue and young people wear patched jeans. I just laugh. This was what Mama did for me a long time ago.

The above was an anecdote that he told as part of the homily during his celebration of the golden wedding anniversary of Papa and Mama on the 12th of November 1983. He used it to illustrate how a couple should be committed to marriage and work together even when things are hard.