



Marriage & Consecrated Life



Husbands,  
love your  
wives  
as Christ  
loved His Bride  
the Church.

Ephesians 5:25-26

“This is my body, given up for you.”



The Body is a **sacrament** of the Person.

# “Eschatological Sign”



Religious life is the “flowering of the Baptismal Consecration”



THREE VOWS:

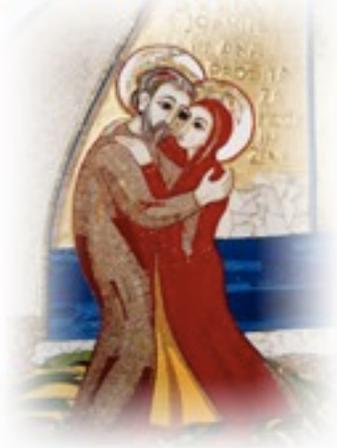
- Poverty
- Chastity
- Obedience

“This is my body, given up for you.”



The Body is a **sacrament** of the Person.

# Marriage, Family & the Sacrament of Matrimony



## THE FAMILY



The Basic Unit  
of Society

The purpose of the institution of **Marriage** is to provide for the official and public foundation of a **Family**.

# The TWO purposes of Marriage:

- 1) The good of the spouses
- 2) The procreation & education of children

## Be Fruitful...

- "Fecundity is a gift, an end of marriage, for conjugal love naturally tends to be fruitful."
- "For just reasons, spouses may wish to space the births of their children."



CCC 2366-2368

"Matrimony" means



"to make a mother"

## The FAMILY is CENTRAL

1. Strong families create a strong SOCIETY

2. Strong families need strong MARRIAGES

3. Strong families create strong and happy INDIVIDUALS



## Marriage must be

1) Heterosexual

2) Indissoluble

3) Exclusive

4) Stable

“This is my body, given up for you.”



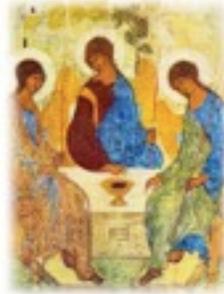
The Body is a **sacrament** of the Person.

The faithful love of marriage  
images God's own way of loving -



husbands and wives  
learn to love as

God loves



Marriage under the regime of sin-

...Their union has always been threatened  
by discord, a spirit of domination,  
infidelity, jealousy, and conflicts that can  
escalate into hatred and separation. ...  
According to faith the disorder we notice  
so painfully does not stem from the *nature*  
of man and woman, nor from the nature  
of their relations, but from sin.

CCC 1606-1607

In his mercy God has not forsaken  
sinful man. The punishments  
consequent upon sin,  
"pain in childbearing" and toil  
"in the sweat of your brow,"  
also embody remedies that limit  
the damaging effects of sin.

CCC 1609

After the fall,  
marriage helps to overcome  
self-absorption, egoism, pursuit  
of one's own pleasure, and to  
open oneself to the other,  
to mutual aid and  
to self-giving.

CCC 1609

## Minister

- The husband and the wife confer the Sacrament on each other by
  1. Giving their consent to be married to the other
  2. Receiving the other's consent to be married
- Latin Rite: priest must witness the conferral of the sacrament. (can. 817)
- Eastern Rite: priest must witness and bless for validity of the sacrament. (can. 828)

CCC 1623

## Matrimonial Consent

- Exchange of consent / "exchange of vows"
- Is **INDISPENSABLE**; it is what **MAKES** the marriage
- The baptized man and the baptized woman who exchange consent must be doing so in a manner that is completely free
  - Free from all coercion/ constraint (fear, sorrow, pressure from others; free from ignorance)
  - Free to marry by natural and ecclesiastical law

CCC 1625 ff

**An ANNULMENT is  
NOT a “Catholic divorce.”**

*Annulment –the root of the  
word is “nullus” —meaning  
“no,” or “none.”*

An annulment is an official  
Church declaration (after  
thorough investigation of a case)  
that there is NO marriage bond,  
because something prevented  
the bond from being formed at  
the time they attempted to  
contract a marriage.

## **Matter & Form**

- The form of this sacrament is the man and woman conferring the sacrament upon each other (through the words that express the exchange of consent/vow) as witnessed by the Church.
- The matter of this sacrament are BODIES of the spouses (“This is my body, given up for you”)— “the consent that binds the spouses together finds its fulfillment in the two ‘becoming one flesh.’”

# Effects

- “From a valid marriage arises *a bond* between the spouses which by its very nature is perpetual (indissoluble) and exclusive.”
- “...established by God Himself in such a way (as) can never be dissolved.”
- “...grace (to) help one another attain holiness in their married life and in welcoming and educating children.”

CCC 1638 ff

## Marriage is



- ~ life-giving
- ~ faithful
- ~ permanent