

Matrimony

God is the Author of marriage

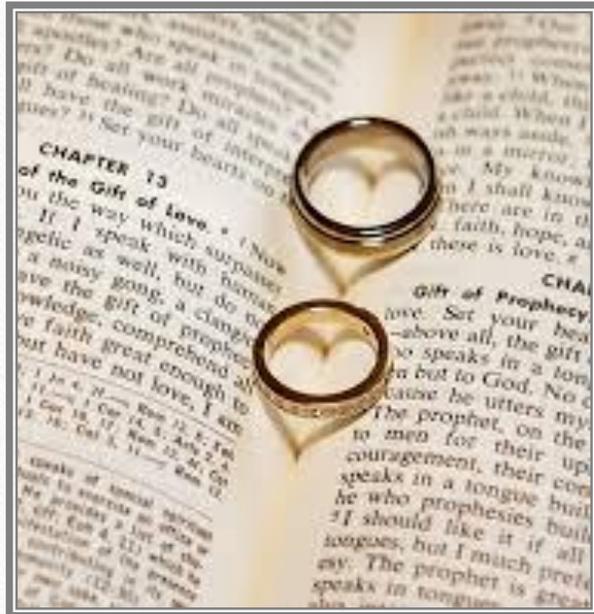
God is the Author of Marriage

- Matrimony is a **Sacrament of Service**
- Marriage is a **liturgical act** held in public liturgy at a church.
- By their marriage, the couple **witnesses** Christ's spousal love for the Church.
 - In the Latin Church, the spouses are the **ministers of the Sacrament**
- The family is the **Domestic Church**: where children receive their 1st proclamation of the faith and where they become a community of grace and prayer, a school of human virtues and of Christian charity

CCC 1600-1666



Where is Marriage in the Bible?



- Genesis 2: 18-24: Creation and the union of man and women: and 2 become one (Adam and Eve)
- Jesus talks about God’s plan for marriage: for its permanence and fidelity (Matthew 19:8) which also reflects God’s covenant relationship and unending fidelity (Hos 3, Ez 16: 59-73)
- The Books of Tobit and Ruth are witnesses of ideals of marriage. They show the tenderness and fidelity that should exist between spouses.
- Song of Solomon (Sg 8: 6-7): pictures a human love that mirrors God’s love which “many waters cannot quench.

Signs and Symbols

The symbols of the Marital Ceremony are all quite different and share different views of Marriage in the Roman Catholic Church.

- The **white wedding dress** that the Bride wears symbolizes the purity of her heart and it is also a reverence to God. In the Book of Revelations 19: 8 it says, “To her it has been granted to be clothed with fine linen, bright and pure”. This is referring to the gown of the bride and the symbol of the pure white gown has been carried out throughout the Roman Catholic Church Wedding tradition.
- **The bouquet** is a symbol of the life, growth and fertility that will be shared between the couple as they journey on through their marriage.
- The symbol of **the rings** that the couple place on each others' fingers are a symbol of their unity as one flesh but also a sign of the love and faithfulness of the one who gives it. The ring is an ongoing reminder of the promise that your spouse made to you and it represents the commitment, love and loyalty of your wife/husband to you.





The Purpose of Marriage

- A permanent bond with love and fidelity
Mk 10: 9: “What God has joined together; no human being must separate.”
- Marriage is meant to be unitive and procreative
CCC 1652
- Fruitfulness of marriage includes the moral, spiritual, and faith life the parents hand on to their children.
They form a Domestic Church
- Those unable to have children should nevertheless have a conjugal life full of meaning... (and) radiate a fruitfulness of charity, of hospitality, and of sacrifice.
CCC 1654

The Effects of the Sacrament



- The gift of the bond between the spouses CCC 1639: This stems from the mutual consent mutually given.. Sealed by God himself.
- The grace for the Sacrament perfects the love of husband and wife and binds them together in fidelity and helps them to welcome and care for children.
- Christ is the source of this grace which dwells with the spouses supporting and sustaining them

Holy Orders



- **Orders:** comes from its use in the Roman Empire where it referred to a governing group.
- **3 degrees of Holy Orders:** Bishop, Priest, Deacon (which are essential for the life of the Church).
- All the baptized share in the priesthood of Christ in the “**common priesthood** of the faithful”, however the “**ministerial priesthood** of bishop and priest is different because it confers a power for the service of the faithful”

Bishop, Priest, Deacon

- **Bishops** receive the fullness of the Sacrament of Holy Orders. They are the chief **teachers, sanctifiers, and shepherds** in their dioceses.
- **Priests** are united with the bishops in **priestly dignity** and at the same time depend on them in the exercise of their pastoral functions; they are called to be the bishops' prudent **co-workers** CCC 1595
- **Deacons** receive the Sacrament of Holy Orders, but not the ministerial priesthood. They are conformed to Christ, who came to serve. Deacons in the Latin Church **may baptize, read the Gospel, preach the homily, assist the bishop or priest in the celebration of the Eucharist, assist at and bless marriages, and preside at funerals.** They are dedicated to the charitable endeavors of the Church.
- The essential rite of the Sacrament of Holy Orders for all 3 degrees consists in the bishop's **imposition of hands on the head** of the ordained and in the bishop's specific consecratory prayer CCC 1573 It confers a permanent sacramental character
- Only men may be ordained and only bishops may confer the Sacrament of Holy Orders (He is in **Persona Christi, the person of Christ** both in the Mass and when administering Sacraments)
- Normally in the Western Church, ordination to the priesthood is conferred only on those men who freely promise lifelong **celibacy**.



Symbols of Holy Orders



In the ordination Mass, priests are anointed with **Sacred Chrism Oil**, the men say words of obedience to the Bishop prostrate themselves before the altar and have hands laid upon them by the Bishop and other priests

Imposition of hands- Biblical with the laying on of hands to confer grace

Stole- In the Roman Catholic Church it is a symbol of immortality. It is generally considered the unique badge of the ordained ministry and is conferred at ordination. It is the “yoke” of Christ symbolizing the bonds and fetters Christ was bound at his crucifixion.

Mitre- headdress of the Bishop, that descended on the heads of the apostles at Pentecost. The bishop wears the mitra pretiosa on high festivals, and always during the singing of the Te Deum (Latin hymn to God the Father and Christ the Son, traditionally sung on occasions of public rejoicing), and the Gloria at mass. The mitre symbolizes the “tongues of fire” (The Holy Spirit).

Zucchetto- the modern zucchetto is most commonly made of silk. The design utilises eight **gores** or triangular panels that are joined at the tips to form a hemispherical skullcap

The color of the zucchetto in Catholicism denotes the office held by the wearer:

- the **pope's** zucchetto is **white**;^[14]
 - members of religious orders with white habits (e.g., **Norbertines**) also may wear a white zucchetto made of wool.^[8]
-  those worn by **cardinals** are **scarlet**;
-  those of **archbishops**, **bishops**, **territorial abbots** and **territorial prelates** are **amaranth**;
-  non-territorial **abbots**, **priests** and **deacons** wear a **black** zucchetto.

Some **Franciscans** have adopted the practice of wearing a brown zucchetto to match their brown habit.

Communion- The bread and wine are typically brought forth by the relatives of those being ordained at the ordination Mass

Pastoral Staff- symbol of the Bishop’s role as the Good Shepherd