

# THE SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE OR MATRIMONY

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 33 DAYS PREPARATION for TOTAL CONSECRATION to Jesus thru Mary  
 Entrance into the City of Mary by Architect Marie Borromeo Cancio

## The Truth on Marriage Spoken by Our Savior Jesus Christ

God sent prophets into the world as messengers to reveal the Truth- the Word of God. Finally He sent His only Son Jesus Christ to complete His revelation and to teach it in greater detail but not to change it. The Word of God taught by our King and Savior Jesus Christ includes truths about marriage which promote true love and happiness between the married man and woman and are necessary for the love and care of children that God gifts them with. These clear and simple truths have been recorded in the Holy Bible to guide us in our day-to-day lives, filling them with love, peace and joy.

If any man or prophet, claiming to speak in God's name, says that the Word of God needs to be adapted to modern men's needs and problems, watch out and do not accept that the Word means something else entirely. No one, including those who serve God, has the authority to change the truth. The road to hell is paved by those who twist Jesus' words and teach falsehoods such as the promotion of abortion, divorce or LGBT unions, the equality of all religions leading to the one world religion, and disregard for the Sacraments by giving absolution and Holy Communion to divorced and remarried persons.

Remember the simplicity and straightforwardness of Jesus. He taught the Truth in simple ways but who accepted His teachings? Only those who humbled themselves or changed their lives to conform to them. The rest including the proud Pharisees rejected the Truth and ordered Jesus to be crucified. The reason persons teach falsehoods is because they refuse to change their lives to obey Jesus. It is much easier to convince oneself and others that what is false is the truth.

So how shall one see and follow the truths of Jesus in the midst of so much confusion nowadays on what's good and evil, right and wrong? Simple. Consider that you will die one day and Jesus will judge you according to the Truth. How you lived will determine whether you will be punished forever in hell or rewarded eternally in heaven.

Where do you want to go? Live accordingly now. Don't think it's ok, I will change before I die. Death comes unannounced, so how a man lives is how he dies. One life is short and all we have to prove ourselves. Oh the eternal happiness of heaven, the New Paradise! Going through trials and sacrifice to follow the Truth is so little compared to that never-ending joy of being with God and all our loved ones who followed the Truth.

Jesus, open my mind and heart to Your Truth as I read your holy Word. Cover us with Your Precious Blood so we may be converted. Give me the graces of discernment so that I will never deny the Truth contained in the Holy Bible, regardless of falsehoods presented as the truth to make me turn my back on your True Word. Feed me with the Truth that sets me free. Fill me with courage and love to stand up and declare the Truth at all times.

## **Indissolubility of Marriage**

Matthew 19:4-9

And there came to him some Pharisees, testing him, and saying, "Is it lawful for a man to put away his wife for any cause?" But he answered and said to them, "Have you not read that the Creator, from the beginning, made them male and female, and said, 'For this cause a man shall leave his father and mother, and cleave to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh'? Therefore now they are no longer two, but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let no man put asunder." They said to him, "Why then did Moses command to give a written notice of dismissal, and to put her away?" He said to them, "Because Moses, by reason of the hardness of your heart, permitted you to put away your wives; but it was no so from the beginning. And I say to you, that whoever puts away his wife, except for immorality, and marries another, commits adultery; and he who marries a woman who has been put away commits adultery."

## **Adultery**

Matthew 5:27-30

"You have heard that it was said to the ancients, 'Thou shalt not commit adultery.' But I say to you that anyone who so much as look with lust at a woman has already committed adultery with her in his heart. "So if thy right eye is an occasion of sin to thee, pluck it out and cast it from thee, for it is better for thee that one of thy members should perish than that thy whole body should be thrown into hell. And if thy right hand is an occasion of sin to thee, cut it off and cast it from thee; for it is better for thee that one of thy members should be lost than that thy whole body go into hell.

## **Divorce**

Matthew 5:31-32

"It was said, moreover, 'Whoever puts away his wife, let him give her a written notice of dismissal.' But I say to you that everyone who puts away his wife, save on account of immorality, causes her to commit adultery; and he who marries a woman who has been put away commits adultery.

## **First Commandment: Love, Honor and Serve God First Above All**

Exodus 20:1-3 "I am Yahweh your God who brought you out of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. You shall have no gods except me."

God wrote His Law, the Ten Commandments in the intellects or conscience of all men to guide us. However, knowing our sinfulness and how we can change or discard them, God made sure we get them right so He revealed them also thru Moses and Jesus Christ.

God tells us, "You shall have no gods except me." Other gods include not just money or immoral pleasures but men who worship their thinking and beliefs even if it goes against God's Word. By the first commandment, God tells us to honor Him first and place Him before all that is. We cannot ignore the Word of God. We must obey the Word of God, which was laid down in the beginning and never deviate from it, for it will never nor can it ever change. God's Word is final.

*Our Lady of Fatima to Sr. Lucia:*

**"More souls go to Hell because of sins of the flesh than for any other reason."**

When Cardinal Caffara of Bologna was appointed by Saint John Paul II to create a ministry specifically for the family, he wrote to Sr. Lucia asking for her prayerful support. He was shocked to receive a handwritten response from her, which is kept in the Vatican archives. In it she said:

"The most Holy Virgin told me that the devil is in the mood for engaging in a decisive battle with the Virgin. And a decisive battle is the final battle where one side will be victorious and the other side will suffer defeat. Also from now on we must choose sides. Either we are on the side of God or we are on the side of the devil. There is no other possibility... **the final battle between the Lord and the reign of Satan will be about marriage and the family.** Don't be afraid."

She added: "Anyone who operates for the sanctity of marriage and the family will always be contended and opposed in every way because this is the decisive issue."

Then she concluded: "However, Our Lady has already crushed its head."

#### **From "Catechism of the Catholic Church":**

1601 "The matrimonial covenant, by which a man and a woman establish between themselves a partnership of the whole of life, is by its nature ordered toward the good of the spouses and the procreation and education of offspring; this covenant between baptized persons has been raised by Christ the Lord to the dignity of a sacrament."

#### **Marriage in the order of creation**

1603 "The intimate community of life and love which constitutes the married state has been established by the Creator and endowed by him with its own proper laws.... God himself is the author of marriage." The vocation to marriage is written in the very nature of man and woman as they came from the hand of the Creator. Marriage is not a purely human institution despite the many variations it may have undergone through the centuries in different cultures, social structures, and spiritual attitudes. These differences should not cause us to forget its common and permanent characteristics. Although the dignity of this institution is not transparent everywhere with the same clarity, some sense of the greatness of the matrimonial union exists in all cultures. "The well-being of the individual person and of both human and Christian society is closely bound up with the healthy state of conjugal and family life."

1604 God who created man out of love also calls him to love the fundamental and innate vocation of every human being. For man is created in the image and likeness of God who is himself love. Since God created him man and woman, their mutual love becomes an image of the absolute and unfailing love with which God loves man. It is good, very good, in the Creator's eyes. And this love which God blesses is intended to be fruitful and to be realized in the common work of watching over creation: "and God blessed them, and God said to them: 'Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it.'" (Genesis 1:27-28)

1605 Holy Scripture affirms that man and woman were created for one another: "It is not good that the man should be alone." The woman, "flesh of his flesh," his equal, his nearest in all things, is given to him by God as a "helpmate"; she thus represents God from whom comes our help. "Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and cleaves to his wife, and they become one flesh." The Lord himself shows that this signifies an unbreakable union of their two lives by recalling what the plan of the Creator had been "in the beginning": "So they are no longer two, but one flesh." (Matthew 19:4-6)

### **The Celebration of Marriage**

621 In the Latin Rite the celebration of marriage between two Catholic faithful normally takes place during Holy Mass, because of the connection of all the sacraments with the Paschal mystery of Christ. In the Eucharist the memorial of the New Covenant is realized, the New Covenant in which Christ has united himself for ever to the Church, his beloved bride for whom he gave himself up. It is therefore fitting that the spouses should seal their consent to give themselves to each other through the offering of their own lives by uniting it to the offering of Christ for his Church made present in the Eucharistic sacrifice, and by receiving the Eucharist so that, communicating in the same Body and the same Blood of Christ, they may form but "one body" in Christ.

1622 "Inasmuch as it is a sacramental action of sanctification, the liturgical celebration of marriage . . . must be, per se, valid, worthy, and fruitful." It is therefore appropriate for the bride and groom to prepare themselves for the celebration of their marriage by receiving the sacrament of penance.

### **Matrimonial Consent**

1625 The parties to a marriage covenant are a baptized man and woman, free to contract marriage, who freely express their consent; "to be free" means: - not being under constraint; - not impeded by any natural or ecclesiastical law.

1626 The Church holds the exchange of consent between the spouses to be the indispensable element that "makes the marriage." If consent is lacking there is no marriage.

1627 The consent consists in a "human act by which the partners mutually give themselves to each other": "I take you to be my wife" - "I take you to be my husband." This consent that binds the spouses to each other finds its fulfillment in the two "becoming one flesh."

1628 The consent must be an act of the will of each of the contracting parties, free of coercion or grave external fear. No human power can substitute for this consent. If this freedom is lacking the marriage is invalid.

1629 For this reason (or for other reasons that render the marriage null and void) the Church, after an examination of the situation by the competent ecclesiastical tribunal, can declare the nullity of a marriage, i.e., that the marriage never existed. In this case the contracting parties are free to marry, provided the natural obligations of a previous union are discharged.

## **The unity and indissolubility of marriage**

1644 The love of the spouses requires, of its very nature, the unity and indissolubility of the spouses' community of persons, which embraces their entire life: "so they are no longer two, but one flesh." They "are called to grow continually in their communion through day-to-day fidelity to their marriage promise of total mutual self-giving." This human communion is confirmed, purified, and completed by communion in Jesus Christ, given through the sacrament of Matrimony. It is deepened by lives of the common faith and by the Eucharist received together.

1650 Today there are numerous Catholics in many countries who have recourse to civil divorce and contract new civil unions. In fidelity to the words of Jesus Christ - "Whoever divorces his wife and marries another, commits adultery against her; and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery" The Church maintains that a new union cannot be recognized as valid, if the first marriage was. If the divorced are remarried civilly, they find themselves in a situation that objectively contravenes God's law. Consequently, they cannot receive Eucharistic communion as long as this situation persists. For the same reason, they cannot exercise certain ecclesial responsibilities. Reconciliation through the sacrament of Penance can be granted only to those who have repented for having violated the sign of the covenant and of fidelity to Christ, and who are committed to living in complete continence.