

Matrimony

A Sacrament in the Service of Communion

Sacraments in the Service of Communion

- the two Sacraments that are directed
toward _____ —
Matrimony and Holy Orders

Quick Written Reflection

1. Think about two people whom you believe have a good marriage. Explain what you think makes their marriage a good one.
2. Define a covenant.
3. What qualities of a marriage make it a covenant?

Marriage in the Bible

- At Jesus' time and before Jesus (and in some cultures today)
 - _____, social arrangement, nothing religious about it
 - Wife is _____ of husband
 - Husband can dismiss wife with bill of divorce
- Prophets (Isaiah, Hosea) speak of positive nature of marriage and God's fidelity to the people of Israel in the same way a husband is faithful to his wife
- Jesus' first miracle was at the _____ (water into wine) – Church takes this as Jesus' support of the ideal of marriage and its place in God's plan

Why is marriage a sacrament?

- _____
- _____: symbolizes God's unending love for all humanity
- unity: underlying understanding that _____ in their lives, they will always love and cherish one another

Realities celebrated in marriage

- _____
 - Communion of the whole of life
 - Union of body, mind and soul
 - The gift of self

Realities celebrated in marriage

- Faithfulness in **covenant**
 - Covenant reflecting God's relationship with His people.
 - _____ – loving loyalty
 - Permanence
 - _____ – commitment to grow, support, care and love through the ups and downs of life

Realities celebrated in marriage

- Receiving one's _____ through the intimacy of marriage
- A relationship of _____
 - Domestic church
 - Family is central unit of society

Marriage is a covenant because:

- it relies on the grace of God and the support of the church
- it is open to children and to being fruitful in love and service
- it is a lifelong commitment

Facts about Matrimony

- Ministers: _____
- Essential sacramental sign / action:

(symbolized by the ring)

Other term

- _____: a declaration by the Church that a marriage is null and void – that is, it never existed
 - Catholics who divorce must also have the marriage annulled by the Church to be free to marry again in the Church.