

## The Sacrament of Marriage Sacred Heart 2021

### **Marriage as a sacrament**

outward sign instituted by Christ to give grace

reveals God's never-ending love

reveals God's creative power

reveals God's saving power

### **Trinity and Marriage--(with thanks to Peter Drilling, *Trinity and Ministry*)**

**distinct identity in relationship--**

**radical equality of persons**

**mutual sharing of life**

### **Marriage as a central sacrament in the Church--allows us to live the other sacraments in a very tangible way and those sacraments support marriage**

**Baptism--**immersed into the life of the Trinity

immersed into Jesus' death and resurrection, rhythm of our lives

dying to self

to other unions

to alienation

to independence

to other priorities

to status quo

to independence

rising to communion

to exclusive, permanent relationship

to reconciliation

to interdependence, cooperation

to marriage relationship

to growth

to communion

**Reconciliation--** loved sinner

**Eucharist--**gratitude--for the other, among many other things

forgiveness,

strength--bread for the journey

communion--makes us one

here is my life given for you

## What makes a Catholic marriage?

- Have you come here to enter into Marriage without coercion, freely and wholeheartedly?  
[Do you come here freely and without reservation to give yourself in marriage?]
- Are you prepared, as you follow the path of Marriage, to love and honor each other for as long as you both shall live?  
[Do you believe marriage is a lifelong and exclusive union?]
- Are you prepared to accept children lovingly from God and to bring them up according to the law of Christ and his Church?  
[Are you open to children and will you raise them in the practice of the faith?]

## FINAL BLESSING

May almighty God, with his Word of blessing,  
unite your hearts in the never-ending bond of pure love.  
May your children bring you happiness, and  
may your generous love for them be returned to you, many times over.  
May the peace of Christ live always in your hearts, and in your home.  
May you have true friends to stand by you, both in joy and in sorrow.  
May you be ready and willing to help and comfort all who come to you in need.  
And may the blessings promised to the compassionate be yours in abundance.  
May you find happiness and satisfaction in your work.  
May daily problems never cause you undue anxiety,  
nor the desire for earthly possessions dominate your lives.  
May your hearts' first desire to be always the good things  
waiting for you in the life that is lasting.  
May the Lord bless you with many happy years together,  
so that you may enjoy the rewards of a good life.  
And after you have served God loyally in his kingdom on earth,  
may God welcome you to the eternal kingdom in heaven.  
And may almighty God bless you all,  
the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. AMEN