

Jesus and Marriage

When did Jesus institute the sacrament of marriage? Some say that Jesus instituted marriage as a sacrament when He performed His first miracle at the wedding feast in Cana. The reason given is that Jesus' presence at the wedding confirmed the goodness of marriage and that just like the other sacraments, marriage will also be a sign of Christ's presence. Others say that it was when Jesus was questioned about divorce by the Pharisees; Jesus said, "From the beginning of creation, God made them male and female. For this reason, a man shall leave his father and mother [and be joined to his wife], and the two shall become one flesh. So, they are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore, what God has joined together, no human being must separate." (Mark 10:6-9; cf. Matthew 19:4-6)

The key point of Jesus' teaching in this Gospel passage is that the indissolubility of marriage has been the intent of God from the beginning of creation. Moses' concession to the hardness of human hearts was repudiated by Jesus, as He reaffirms the original will of God (unless the marriage is unlawful).

It is necessary for Christian preachers to reaffirm the good news that conjugal love has its foundation and strength in Christ, as St. Paul talks about so eloquently on the relationship of husbands and wives in Ephesians 5:21-33.



The indissolubility of marriage is rooted in the personal and total self-giving of the couple, and in the good of the children. God has given marriage to man as a fruit to be cherished and as a sign of the faithful love that He has for man and that the Lord Jesus has for the Church.

Christian couples are called to participate in the irrevocable indissolubility that binds Christ to His bride, the Church, which He loved to the end.

In Matthew's version, the disciples asked Jesus a follow-up question: "If that is the case of a man with his wife, it is better not to marry." Jesus answered, "Not all can accept [this] word, but only those to whom that is granted. Some are incapable of marriage because they were born so; some, because they were made so by others; some, because they have renounced marriage for the sake of the kingdom of heaven. Whoever can accept this ought to accept it." (Matthew 19:10-12)

Jesus agrees with the word "it is better not to marry," but He also says that not getting married is not for all but only for those to whom it is granted by God. Jesus mentioned three kinds of people who were incapable of marriage: (1) those who were eunuchs by birth, (2) those who were made eunuchs by castration, (3) those who have renounced marriage for the sake of the kingdom; i.e., those who have chosen a life of celibacy in order to devote themselves entirely to God.

What Jesus said here about marriage reminds me of the story of Martha and Mary; they were both in dutiful service to Jesus when He came to visit them. Both were doing good works; but Jesus said, "Mary has chosen the better part and it will not be taken from her." (Luke 10:42) When I think of the married life and children that I could have had and my life now after taking the vow of celibacy, there is no looking back and I can only think of it as having chosen the better part.

耶穌聖名華人天主堂

THE HOLY NAME of Jesus CHINESE CATHOLIC MISSION

5395 Light Circle NW, Norcross GA 30071 678-691-3261 hnojatl.org

每周公告 Weekly Bulletin

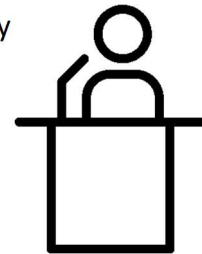
2024年十月六日 October 6, 2024

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

We will have our monthly faith workshop in the Conference Room immediately after Mass this morning. The topic will be the “The Message of the Book of



Hebrews.” At the same time, Fr. Bill will administer the sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick in the Sanctuary. Those who would like to receive the Anointing of the Sick, please come to the front of the Sanctuary right after Mass.



In commemoration of the Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi on Oct. 4, we will have the Blessing of Pets next Sunday, Oct. 8 after the 10:30am Mass. You may bring your pets for this special blessing!

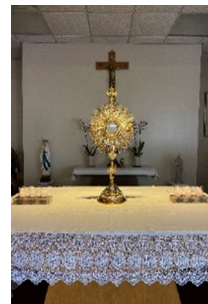


Reserve the date: Fr. Bill encourages all parishioners to make plans to participate in the Eucharistic Congress in Atlanta next year on June 20-21, 2025. Our church will host the first-ever Chinese Track in the Eucharistic Congress. This is an incredible opportunity for all of us to see and experience the great number of Catholics in Atlanta united under the One Body of Christ!

Attention children and parents: We will have Sunday School today. Parents are welcome to sit in the Sunday School classes.



Are you an adult and have not yet received the Sacrament of Confirmation? If so, we invite you to join our Confirmation program to prepare you for the Sacrament of Confirmation at the Easter Vigil in 2025. If you are interested, please contact Fr. Bill.



Please make a commitment to stay for an hour of Eucharistic Adoration every Sunday from 9:00 to 10:00am.

Prayer List: Eva Mullins, David Wang, Chen Jianxin, Liang Chenjing, Pan Bohao and Xu Taicheng.

Mass Schedule	Confessions	Bible Study
Sundays 10:30 AM (Chinese)	Sundays 9:00-9:30 AM	Wednesdays 10:00 AM (Chinese)
Sundays 2:00 PM (English)	Tuesdays 2:00-3:00 PM	Mondays 6:00 PM (English)
	By Appointment	
Mondays 12:00 PM (English)		Eucharistic Adoration
Tuesdays 12:00 PM (English)	Anointing of the Sick	Sundays 9:30 AM to 12:00 PM
Wednesdays 12:00 PM (Chinese)	First Sundays after 10:30 AM Mass	Tuesdays 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM
Fridays 12:00 PM (English)		
First Friday 7:00 PM (English)		
First Saturday 10:00 AM (Chinese)		