

Part 4.

Conception

Matrimony is for the CONCEPTION of SAINTS in the COMMUNION of Saints

Two other sacraments, Holy Orders and Matrimony, are directed towards the salvation of others; if they contribute as well to personal salvation, it is through service to others that they do so. They confer a particular mission in the Church and serve to build up the People of God. (CCC n. 1534)

Catholic Marriage is the Sacrament of Matrimony, meaning “making mothers”. Only a woman can be a mother. Only a man can make her so. Its purpose is to populate the earth with images of God and to populate Heaven with saints. The word “marriage” is from Latin *maritus*, a married man, i.e. a husband, from *hus*, a house, and *band*, bound, in other words, “bound to a house”, not meaning “hen-pecked”, but bound by solemn pledge to a home, to wife and their children.

THE CONCEPTION OF CHILDREN

God’s master plan was revealed to Adam and Eve:

And God blessed them, and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion... over every living thing that moves upon the earth” (Genesis 1:28).

And after their Fall came the difficulties:

To Adam He said, because you have listened to the voice of your wife, and have eaten of the tree of which I commanded you, “You shall not eat of it,” cursed is the ground... in toil you shall eat of it... thorns and thistles it shall bring forth... In the sweat of your face you shall eat bread till you return to the ground, for... you are dust, and to dust you shall return.” (Genesis 3:17-19)

To the woman He said, “I will greatly multiply your pain in childbearing; in pain you shall bring forth children, yet your desire shall be for your husband, and he shall rule over you.” (Genesis 3:16)

Truth, Beauty, Goodness and God in matrimony can defeat the sexual deviations of contraception, divorce, perversion, pornography, abortion, euthanasia

CONTRACEPTION — negating the conception of a child

From the early 1960s, before *Humanae Vitae* on 25th July, 1968, many Catholics began practising contraception by pills, condoms, inter-uterine devices, interrupted intercourse and other deviations.

Contraception is closely linked to many other evils against marriages — fornication, adultery and divorce; and, due to a perverted idea of man’s sovereignty over his life, to the perversions of the sexual powers ranging from masturbation to sodomy, and others.

The greatest damage of contraception is a deeply spiritual crisis in faith, hope and charity, plus psychological and physical damage. It ignores the spirituality of asceticism and mortification (CCC n. 2015). It is disastrous for union of husband and wife. It rejects acceptance of one’s sexuality (CCC n. 2333).

Dissenting seminary lecturers and visiting “experts” bullied bishops and priests into silence. This was detrimental to their own chastity, ministry, and encouraging vocations. It engendered in clergy and laity a revolt against the magisterium in many other matters. It is spiritually fatal.

Yet Blessed Paul VI accurately prophesied four outcomes of defying God, His plan and His law:-

- (1) **infidelity** in marriage and general lack of morality;
- (2) **men**, especially youth, with little respect for women, treating them as things for selfish enjoyment;
- (3) **governments** promoting or enforcing immorality;
- (4) **man making up his own morality** and losing his self-discipline and capacity to bring up the youth of the nation as morally responsible to God. (*Humanae Vitae* n. 17)

Today, we can add another five to his list:-

- (5) **Divorcing motherhood and fatherhood** from true femininity and masculinity, from home and family. Wives opt for paid work over being full-time home-makers, husbands cease to be head of family and primary bread winners.
- (6) Feminist **unisex doctrine** declares the sexes are inter-changeable; hence much psycho-sexual confusion in adolescents, and a flood of immoral attitudes and sinful practices.
- (7) **Sodomy**, by social engineering, is now “political correct”, equated with marriage and reducing it to nothing: it can’t procreate children or unite man and woman, and spreads diseases of body and soul to practitioners and society.
- (8) Abortion is brazenly claimed as “a woman’s right”, whereas it is a **human wrong**; and “terminating a pregnancy” is in fact **terminating a baby** which is wilful murder. (*Handouts* n. 102, February, 2014)
- (9) **Sinful communions**, few children; most Catholics lapsed, few for lay apostolate, marriage, priesthood, Rel. life.

PERSUASIVE REASONS — *rationes convenientiae*

Spouses who do not contracept need to tell bishops that Christians in earnest find it quite practical.

Contraception is divorcing what God has joined, namely the procreative primary essential purpose, and the

secondary essential purpose of uniting husband and wife in a permanent and self-sacrificing complementarity. In George Bernard Shaw's blunt language, contraception is mutual masturbation, a disordered sexuality. Indeed, this was the view of all Christians before 1930 and even many till the 1950s.

Sinners need encouragement to recognize contraception as an addictive erroneous attitude, and to confess sins of contraception. It is like giving up smoking, and requires a big struggle.

PUBLIC WITNESS — lest vice triumph due to the silence of the otherwise virtuous

Professor Jordan Peterson from Canada says he is agnostic and not a Christian. His *12 Rules for Sanity and avoiding chaos* are a good start. Christians are even better off with God's Ten Commandments. We must emulate the professor in his courage and courtesy in confronting the aggressive bullies on the TV panels. He practises *assertive confrontation without any lack of courtesy*. He openly rejects the errors of feminist unisex and femspeak. We can take to heart the challenge set for St Paul, in Acts 9:15-16.

COMPLEMENTARITY of the sexes — say "NO" to unisex interchangeability!

Everyone, man and woman, should acknowledge and accept his sexual identity. Physical, moral, and spiritual difference and complementarity are oriented toward the goods of marriage and the flourishing of family life. The harmony of the couple and of society depends in part on the way in which the complementarity, needs, and mutual support between the sexes are lived out. (CCC n. 2333; also n. 2393)

DIVORCE and attempted re-marriage

- divorce flows from false ideas of individualism, unisex, and emotional affection without justice;
- it ignores the keeping of promises even with intolerable consequences ("for better, for worse"), and observing prohibitions, "Thou shalt not commit adultery" — these truths are in Sacred Scripture and found even in fairy stories.

PERVERSION is nourished by PORNOGRAPHY and sexual miseducation in school

In 1965, VCII referred briefly to sex-education (*Gravissimum Educationis* §1):

As they grow older they should receive a positive and prudent education in matters relating to sex.

The context was an upbringing at home. Sydney's Catholic Education Office usurped the home and applied it to schools. Since then, "Sex-education" (even in some "Catholic" schools) began by reducing human sexual love to mere plumbing, plus "safe-sex" to avoid diseases — *such as pregnancy(!)*. Soon sex-education elevated fornication to a national sport in a *fully fornicating society*. Currently, sex education defends sodomy and same-sex "marriages". But worse is coming... with gender-bending.

MATRIMONY better word than MARRIAGE — and a radical suggestion...

In the CCC, "sacrament of marriage" and "sacrament of matrimony" occur about 15 times each without obvious distinction. However, the Australian Government has now effectively abolished marriage by *reducing it to a loving relationship*. The Church might avoid Anti-Discrimination Commissions by decommissioning priests as civil celebrants. Catholics could receive the Sacrament of Matrimony in church and not bother with civil marriage, yet enjoy the legal and financial rights of the *de facto*.

PREPARATION for the SACRAMENT of MATRIMONY, Holy Orders and Religious Life

1. Living virtuously — a minimum standard is the Ten Commandments, then add the Sermon on the Mount.
2. Growing in virtue — minimum is trying to grow each day, along with the mortification of saying "no" to oneself.
3. Devout, enlightened and frequent reception of Holy Communion and making regular Confession.
4. Seeking to discern one's vocation from God's Will revealed in one's talents and the needs of others.

(CCC nn. 2226 parental help; 784 baptismal priesthood; 1603 marriage, 2369 parenthood & 1656 family; consecrated life of Religious 915).

Matrimony & Family

O MERCIFUL GOD, pour out Your graces on husbands and wives united in the holy covenant of sacramental matrimony, so that in all life's difficulties, by giving and forgiving, they may grow in patient kindness as they co-operate with You, eternal Father, in forming saints for this world and the next by sanctifying each other and their children, and to bring Your light and love into many blind and loveless lives, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Blessed Mary, Mother of God,
and Blessed foster father, Joseph, pray for us.
St Joachim and St Anne, pray for us; St Monica, pray for us.
St Stephen of Hungary, pray for us; St Edward the Confessor, pray for us.
St Margaret of Scotland, pray for us; St Louis of France, pray for us.
St Elizabeth of Portugal, pray for us; St Thomas More, pray for us.
St Louis and St Zélie Martin, pray for us.

Integrity

FATHER, keep me mindful that all my powers of body and soul belong to Thee Who created them, and at the price of Christ's Cross I was bought back to make me by my Baptism a living temple of the Holy Spirit: grant me mastery of my passions, appetites and mental life, respect for the opposite sex and esteem for my own; grant me integrity in the virtues for my Christian state of life, to consecrate my body and soul to Thy service in all purity, and may Mother Mary ever-Virgin watch over me, through Christ our Lord. Amen.
I am not my own, but bought at a price and must glorify God in my body. (cf. 1 Cor 6:20; & 3:16)