

## **Matrimony – Additional Information**

### **What is the plan of God regarding man and woman?**

God who is love and who created man and woman for love has called them to love. By creating man and woman, he called them to an intimate communion of life and of love in marriage: "So that they are no longer two, but one flesh." (Matthew 19:6). God said to them in blessing "Be fruitful and multiply." (Genesis 1:28).

### **For what ends has God instituted Matrimony?**

The marital union of man and woman, which is founded and endowed with its own proper laws by the Creator, is by its very nature ordered to the communion and good of the couple and to the generation and education of children. According to the original divine plan, this conjugal union is indissoluble, as Jesus Christ affirmed: "What God has joined together, let no man put asunder." (Mark 10:9).

### **How is the sacrament of Matrimony celebrated?**

Since Matrimony establishes spouses in a public state of life in the Church, its liturgical celebration is public, taking place in the presence of a priest (or of a witness authorized by the Church) and other witnesses.

### **What are the effects of the sacrament of Matrimony?**

The sacrament of Matrimony establishes a perpetual and exclusive bond between the spouses. God himself seals the consent of the spouses. Furthermore, this sacrament bestows upon the spouses the grace necessary to attain holiness in their married life and to accept responsibly the gift of children and provide for their education.

*Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church, questions 337-338, 343, 346*