

Prekeysis Schedule

3/26/08

Sacraments at the Service of Communion

How do you see people serving one another?

Rd Jn 13:15?? (Jesus washes the feet of his disciples)

How does the Church follow Jesus' example today?

Sacraments at the service of communion

- Matrimony and Holy Orders
- Communion describes the intimate and loving fellowship that characterizes all the People of God.

Marriage

- From the very beginning, man and woman were created as partners to share their lives in faithful love (Gen 2:24)
- The Bible also ends with a wedding.
- God must really like marriage

What do we know about sacraments:

- They were instituted by Christ
- Efficacious signs of grace
- All sacraments point us to heaven, like road signs
- How does marriage fit in?

Review: Marriage in the beginning

- The only "sacrament" that existed. Why?
- By our very nature, our bodies make visible what is invisible.
- When two flesh become one, it is the most revealing part of the communion of persons, the trinity.
- We were so closely united to God as "love" that we didn't need the sacrament to give us grace. We were already filled with grace
- Marriage was perfect love

Our relationship fractured by sin:

- Love is no longer perfect. Rd Gen 3:16
- We need special grace from God to repair the damage. Jesus gave us the sacraments to repair the damage
- Marriage had to be elevated to a sacrament

Marriage still reveals God

- Rd Eph 5:21, 25-33
- How did Christ loves his bride?
- He gave himself:
 - Free: no one made you participate
 - Total: no middle ground; had to sit, took faith
 - Faithful: once you sat hopefully you didn't bail out
 - Fruitful: if you gave all of the above, the game was fruitful

Christ's Example of Love

"I lay down my life...
No one takes it from me, but I lay it
Down of my own accord" (Jn 10:18)

"I am with you always to the close
Of the age" (Mt 28:20)

"I came that they might have life and
Have it more abundantly" (Jn 10:10)

Spousal Vows of Love

Have you come here freely to give
yourselves to each other in marriage?

Will you love and honor each other as
man and wife for the rest of your lives

Will you accept children lovingly
from God and bring them up accord-
ing to the law of Christ & His Church

Watch Shrek

The sign of the sacrament:

- What is the sign of the sacrament of marriage? The couple.
- The speak a language with their bodies when the two become one—I give myself freely, totally, faithfully, and fruitfully
- Without speaking, they renew their wedding vows. Their bodies speak a language.
- Can we lie with our bodies? Yes!

Anti-sacrament:

- If joining together in a marital embrace reveals the mystery of the three persons of God, what happens when you speak this body language outside of marriage.
- You lie with your bodies.
- Sex is sacred, so sacred that the devil spends the most time attaching it

The Sacrament of Matrimony:

- Celebrates the marriage between a baptized man and a baptized woman.
- Permanent, exclusive & open to children
- This is why we don't allow divorce (MT 19:3-9)
- Sets apart and strengthens the married couple to live as a sign of the unity and love between Christ and his Church

- Called and receive the grace to be a mirror of God's love for us and Christ's love for his Church.
- Gives the spouses the grace to love each other with the love which Christ loves his Church.

Why are there so many divorces today?

- Don't know what marriage really is
- Have a "try it out" mentality
- Don't save sex for marriage, live together—aren't committed
- Annulments