 ***St Luke’s Catholic Church***

***Our Faith Beliefs***

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***Marriage-Holy Matrimony***

***Fr Tim Says this:***

“Marriage in God’s plan is a **covenant**, a solemn freely made life long promise between one male and one female, made before God. Here is the vow expressed at a covenant marriage:

Priest. (Name), do you take (name) for your lawful wife (Husband), to have and to hold, from this day forward, for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, until death do you part? (A yes from both constitutes mutual consent and marriage). God’s graces (gifts) flow to the couple in a covenant marriage because it is a Sacrament instituted by Christ to give grace.”

**The What-*Our Catechisms State This:***

**USCCB version: “**Sacred Scripture begins with the creation and union of man and woman and ends with “the wedding feast of the Lamb” (Rev 19:7, 9). Scripture often refers to marriage, its origin and purpose, the meaning God gave to it, and its renewal in the covenant made by Jesus with his Church. God created man and woman out of love and commanded them to imitate his love in their relations with each other. Man and woman were created for each other. “It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a suitable partner for him. . . . The two of them become one body” (Gn 2:18; 24). Woman and man are equal in human dignity, and in mar-riage both are united in an unbreakable bond.” Quote from p309 (Digital version) (p279 book version) of United States Catholic Catechism for Adults.

View more Digital p305-321 (Book p277-292) at this link: [https://www.usccb.org/sites/default/files/flipbooks/uscca/files/assets/basic-html/page-305.html#](https://www.usccb.org/sites/default/files/flipbooks/uscca/files/assets/basic-html/page-305.html# )  At popup screen that reads United States Catholic Catechism for Adults, key on the X in upper right corner.

**Vatican version : 1 Marriage in God’s Plan**  **1603** "The intimate community of life and love which constitutes the married state has been established by the Creator and endowed by him with its own proper laws.... God himself is the author of marriage." The vocation to marriage is written in the very nature of man and woman as they came from the hand of the Creator. Marriage is not a purely human institution despite the many variations it may have undergone through the centuries in different cultures, social structures, and spiritual attitudes. These differences should not cause us to forget its common and permanent characteristics. Although the dignity of this institution is not transparent everywhere with the same clarity, some sense of the greatness of the matrimonial union exists in all cultures. "The well-being of the individual person and of both human and Christian society is closely bound up with the healthy state of conjugal and family life."

View other provisions 1601-1665 at <https://www.vatican.va/archive/ENG0015/__P51.HTM>

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***The Why-What God Revealed in Scripture:***

**Mt 19:4-6** ‘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.”

**Mt 19:9** I say to you,[\*](https://bible.usccb.org/bible/matthew/19#48019009-1) whoever divorces his wife (unless the marriage is unlawful) and marries another commits adultery.

See also Gn 3:24, Mk 10:2-12, Rom 7:2-3, & 1 Cor 7:1-24 in your bible or at [www.usccb.org/bible](http://www.usccb.org/bible)

**Note:** An annulment is a determination by the Catholic Church that a covenant marriage never existed. A divorce is a civil proceeding that dissolves a contractual none covenant marriage.

***Further Study Resources:***

The following marriage related features are available free on our St Luke’s FORMED subscription, listed by the headings found at the menu button on the FORMED.org home page. Registration: Key on Ministries-Formed.org at [www.stlukesparish.com](http://www.stlukesparish.com)

**PROGRAMS: “Beloved**”, A two-part video series The Mystery and Meaning of Marriage & Finding Happiness in Marriage.

**Audios:** 26 CD/MP3s on marriage are avaible for listening.

**Family:** What is Marriage**?** 6 min.Direct link: <https://watch.formed.org/marriage/videos/what-is-marriage>

**Marriage 911 by Greg & Julie Alexander.** Excellent book about God’s plan for marriage, available for purchase online.

**Marriage Suggestions:** One page paper can be obtained from Bill Sweeney, email address below.

**Marriage Encounter: Uncover the secrets to a lasting, supportive, transformational marriage!** For more than 50 years, **Worldwide Marriage Encounter** has helped over 3.5 million couples in almost 100 countries unlock the power of their relationships with new ways to do the “I do.” The Marriage Encounter experience helps you listen, share, and connect more deeply. There’s no group discussion. It’s just about the two of you learning to be the best, most loving and thriving couple you can be. Nine in ten couples who attend a Marriage Encounter recognize a long-lasting positive effect on their lives.[**www.wwme.org**](http://www.wwme.org)

Questions or suggestions contact Bill Sweeney at [wds27j@aol.com](mailto:wds27j@aol.com)