

Sharing the Complete Gift of Self

In the unity of the two," man and woman are called from the beginning not only to exist "side by side" or "together," but they are also called to "exist mutually one for the other." Pope John Paul II

Theology of the Body Made Simple, by Fr. Anthony Percy
<http://www.pauline.org>

This is simple introduction to the basic premise of Theology of the Body presents unambiguous reasons for the Church's teaching on premarital sex, contraception, homosexuality, pornography, and more.

Pope Paul VI Institute, www.popepaulvi.com *The Institute is committed to the development of a culture of life based on responsible parenthood, responsible fertility regulation, and ethical means for the treatment of infertility and related reproductive disorders.*

Couple to Couple League, Inc. www.ccli.org *Couples worldwide are choosing Natural Family Planning (NFP) for its healthful and marriage-building qualities, as well as its usefulness to plan or postpone pregnancy.*

Spirituality: Becoming Together a Domestic Church

The Christian home is the place where children receive the first proclamation of the faith. For this reason the family home is rightly called "the domestic church," a community of grace and prayer, a school of human virtues and of Christian charity. Catechism of the Catholic Church, #1666

Faith and Family Magazine www.faithandfamilymag.com
Every issue, Faith & Family brings you the best of Catholic Living for today's families. Log on for a FREE trial issue.

DomesticChurch.Com www.domestic-church.com *The role and mission of the family is to be the "first and vital cell of society" and a "community of life and love," that in its actions and by its example will transform the world.*

New Advent, www.newadvent.org
A multitude of Catholic resources, including the Catholic Encyclopedia and other references, and links to Catholic sites.

GODSPY – Faith at the Edge. www.godspy.com
An online magazine for Catholics and other seekers. From politics to the arts, science to the economy, sexuality to ecology, GODSPY explores the ideas and experiences that reveal God's presence in the world.



ARCHDIOCESE OF PHILADELPHIA
SECRETARIAT FOR EVANGELIZATION
FAMILY LIFE OFFICE

PREPARATION FOR THE SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

RESOURCES



*Though one may be overpowered
two can defend themselves.
A cord of three strands is
not quickly broken.*

-Ecclesiastes 4:12

Marriage: Icon of the Trinity

In the mystery of marriage, two people likewise give up their own lives in a complete commitment to one another, to become one new person. Each marriage, therefore, is a personal manifestation of the mystery of God's love for all. Light for Life Part Two: The Mystery Celebrated, God With Us Publications.

Covenant of Love, by Richard M. Hogan and John M. LeVoir
www.ccli.org

An excellent introduction to Pope John Paul II's teaching on marriage, family, sexuality, and human love.

Good News About Sex and Marriage, by Christopher West
www.ascensionpress.com

This easy-to-read, question-and-answer book by Christopher West offers a fresh, relevant, and convincing presentation of the Church's teachings on human sexuality and marriage.

I Do and Beyond, Planning the Catholic Wedding Ceremony, by Rev. Charles M. Wible. Cathedral Foundation Press, Baltimore, MD. To order call **1-888-768-9555**

A newly updated marriage preparation guide that provides "user-friendly" and essential resource tools for engaged couples. Included: Up-to-date Scripture readings, comprehensive guide for organizing wedding plans, Helpful planning worksheets, and the text of the Nuptial Mass and Wedding Ceremony Outside of Mass.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church, Ignatius Press, San Francisco. Place your order toll-free at 1-800-651-1531, or on the internet at www.Ignatius.com. Also found on the web at www.scborromeo.org
The first Universal Catechism in over 400 years, approved by Pope John Paul II and intended for all adult Catholics, this long-awaited historic document is a beautifully written and clearly stated synthesis of the Catholic Church's teaching on faith, morals, prayer, and the sacraments.

References to Marriage in the Catechism:

The Sacrament of Matrimony and Marriage in God's Plan: #1601-#1620

The Celebration of Marriage: #1621-#1624

Matrimonial Consent: #1625-#1637

The Effects of the Sacrament of Matrimony: #1638-1642

The Goods and Requirements of Conjugal Love: #1643-#1654

The Domestic Church: #1655-#1658

Summary: #1659-#1666

Communicating in Truth and Love

There is no relationship between human beings so close as that of husband and wife, if they are united as they ought to be...How difficult it is to have harmony when husband and wife are not bound together by the power of love! St. John Chrysostom

For Better...FOREVER! A Catholic Guide to Lifelong Marriage, by Gregory K. Popcak, MSW, LCSW
www.exceptionalmarriages.com

Drawing from his years of clinical practice, as well as his own experiences as a husband and father, Gregory Popcak explores the characteristics that create strong relationships and helps couples determine both their strengths and their weaknesses...Popcak offers down-to-earth ideas and suggestions for keeping marriages alive and vital long after the wedding ceremony.

7 Steps to Becoming Financially Free: A Catholic Guide, by Phil Lenahan
www.catalog.osv.com

7 Steps to Becoming Financially Free offers a solid Catholic perspective on how to make the most of God's generous gifts. In addition to understanding the necessary nuts and bolts of financial management, budgeting, and investing, discover how your Catholic Faith can be the base of a sound financial future!

Foundations – a bi-monthly newsletter for newly married couples published by the National Association of Catholic Family Life Ministers
(1-800-775-4757)

First Years and Forever – an e-newsletter (one-time \$5.00 fee) from the Cana Conference of Chicago (312-751-8264) or email: cana@archdiocese-chgo.org

The Five Love Languages: How to Express Heartfelt Commitment to Your Mate, by Dr. Gary Chapman

Dr. Gary Chapman uses real-life examples from over thirty years of marriage counseling to illustrate the five distinct languages people use to express love. You'll understand why you feel the way you do, and you'll acquire indispensable methods for helping your spouse feel loved.

Love is the gift of self. It means emptying oneself to reach out to others. In a certain sense, it means forgetting oneself for the good of others.

Pope John Paul II