

## *How to say Happy Easter with Style:*

English: Christ is risen!  
He is risen indeed!

Latin: Christus surrexit!  
Vere surrexit!

Greek: Christos anesti!  
Alithos anesti!

Slavonic: Christos voskrese!  
Voistinu voskrese!



# The Sacraments of Matrimony & Holy Orders

St. Ambrose PREP  
April 11, 2021 AD

Brent Potteiger  
brentp7@hotmail.com

## *Zoom protocol:*

- During the presentation:
  - Please keep yourself muted and (suggested) your video turned off
  - If you have a question, feel free to send me a chat, and I will address it as soon as (reasonably) possible
- During discussion time:
  - You will be placed in “breakout rooms”
  - Feel free to turn on your video and unmute to share
- Recording
- Thank you!

## *“Regina Coeli”:*

*(Traditionally prayed at morning, noon & evening during Easter time)*

Queen of Heaven, rejoice! Alleluia!

For He whom thou didst merit to bear, Alleluia!

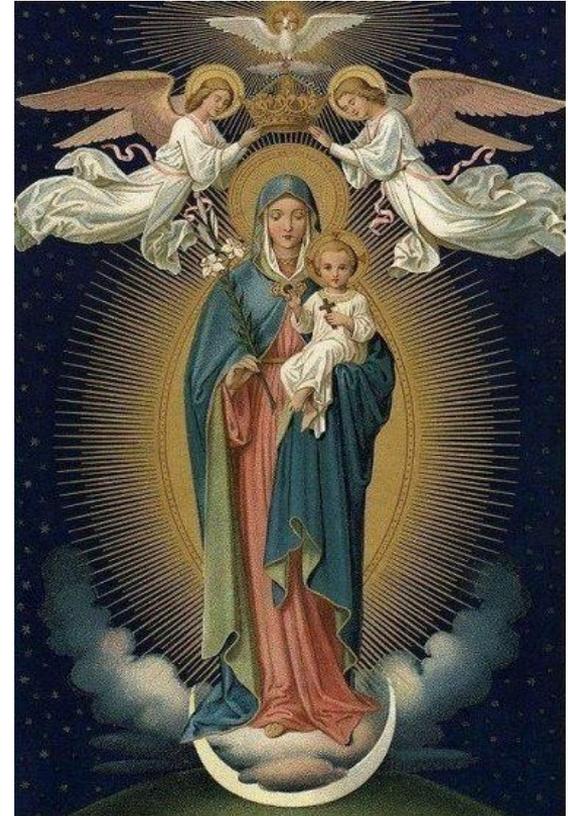
Hath risen as He said! Alleluia!

Pray for us to God! Alleluia!

V. Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary! Alleluia!

R. Because the Lord has truly risen! Alleluia!

Let us pray. O God, who gave joy to the world through the resurrection of Thy Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, grant we beseech Thee, that through the intercession of the Virgin Mary, His Mother, we may obtain the joys of everlasting life. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.



## *Sacraments at the Service of Communion:*

- Any **community** needs **order** to function properly
- Order requires **structure/authority**
- 2 Sacraments provide structure/authority:
  - **Holy Orders:** for the **universal Church**
  - **Matrimony:** for the **domestic church** (the family)



## *Sacraments at the Service of Communion:*

- “Sacraments at the Service of Communion”:  
equip us for the **service of others**, especially to  
work towards the holiness & salvation of others
- Build on the Sacraments of Initiation: living our  
Baptismal call more deeply & in unique ways -  
serving as Jesus by **giving our lives** for the  
good of others
- Include a **vocation** (“calling”)



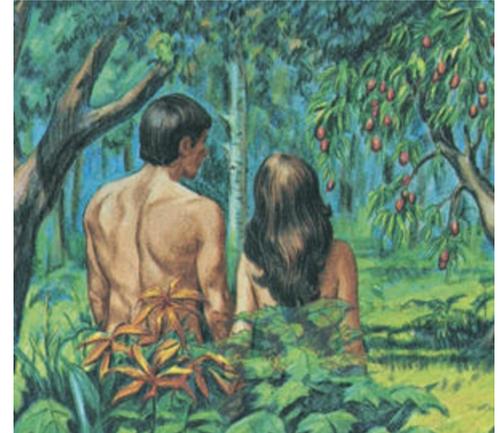
## *Matrimony:*

- God's plan of marriage goes back to the beginning
- In Mark 10: 1-9, Jesus refers to Genesis teaching that God established marriage with Adam & Eve
- "It is not good for the man to be alone." - man as **social creature**
- "I will make a helper suited to him." - man & woman as **complementary**
- "This is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh!" - man & woman **equal in nature**



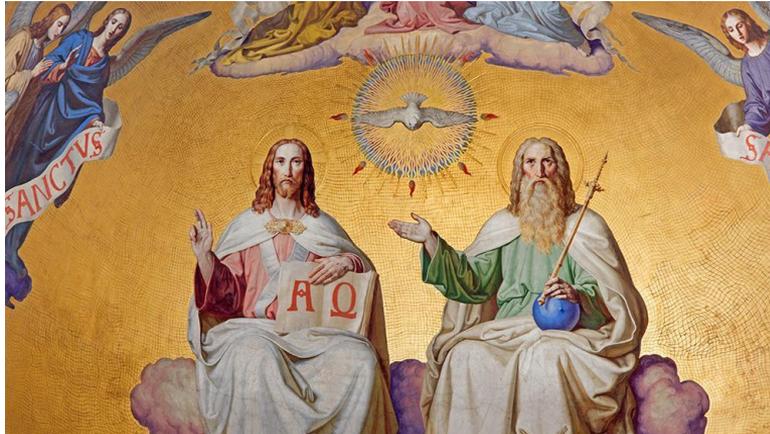
## *Matrimony:*

- “A man leaves his father and mother and clings to his wife, and the two of them become one body.” - marriage as ***unitive***
- “Be fertile and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it.” - marriage as ***procreative***
- “Therefore, what God has joined, let no man put asunder.” - marriage as ***permanent***



## *Matrimony:*

- Reflects the Trinity as a “**community**” of love
- Throughout the Old Testament, God refers to ***His relationship with Israel*** in marriage terms
- ***Song of Songs*** as sublime expression of this



## *Matrimony:*

- Jesus elevated marriage to a Sacrament
- Came to earth in a family
- Worked His first public miracle at a wedding
- Restored the understanding of original dignity of marriage
- By referring to Himself as the Bridegroom & the Church as the Bride, gave example of what marriage should look like, especially as a sacrifice
- Ephesians 5: 21-33 gives a beautiful lesson about marriage by comparing with relationship of Jesus & the Church



## *Matrimony:*

- **Ministers:** the man & woman getting married
- **Sacramental action:** exchange of consent (expressed outwardly)
- Some **conditions** for valid marriage:
  - Couple must be free to marry
  - Must freely consent
  - Must have intention of being married for life & being faithful
  - Must be open to children
  - Must give consent in presence of 2 witnesses & minister of the Church



## *Matrimony:*

- ***First Sacrament affected by sin***
- ***Most frequently attacked today***
- Good marriages usually lead to good families
- Family = ***fundamental building block of society***



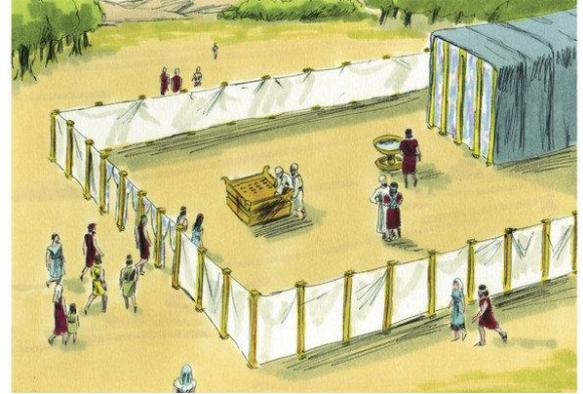
## *Matrimony:*

- ***“The future of humanity passes by way of the family. It is therefore indispensable and urgent that every person of good will should endeavor to save and foster the values and requirements of the family.”*** (Pope St. John Paul II, *Familiaris Consortio*, #86)
- Importance of intercession & imitation of Holy Family



## *Holy Orders:*

- The Old Testament shows a hierarchy
  - Under patriarchs
  - Under Law:
    - **Aaron** → high priest
    - **Aaron's sons** → priests
    - **Levites** → assistants for worship
    - **People** → offer worship in union with hierarchy



## *Holy Orders:*

- We see a similar hierarchy in the Gospels:
  - **St. Peter** → given “keys of the kingdom” & special commission
  - **Apostles** → “sent” by Jesus
  - **Other disciples** → following Jesus under authority of Apostles



## *Holy Orders:*

- Jesus gave St. Peter & the other Apostles special authority:
  - **St. Peter:** “keys of the kingdom,” care of Jesus’ whole “flock” (the Church), authority over other Apostles
  - **Apostles:** power to consecrate the Eucharist, to forgive sins, to heal, to teach, to govern



## *Holy Orders:*

- Jesus promised to be with us to the end of time
- He remains with us especially through ***His successors***
- Jesus must have given a means of passing on this authority ("***apostolic succession***") → Holy Orders
- Every Catholic priest can trace his ordination back to one of the Apostles



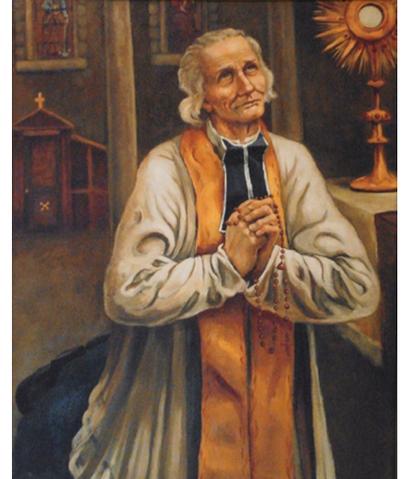
## *Holy Orders:*

- 3 degrees of Holy Orders:
  - **Bishop:** receives fullness of Holy Orders
    - Fullest successor of Christ
    - Only minister of Holy Orders & regular minister of Confirmation
    - Usually has care over particular church (diocese)
    - Only Pope can appoint a bishop
    - “Episcopos” in NT
    - Patron: St. Charles Borromeo



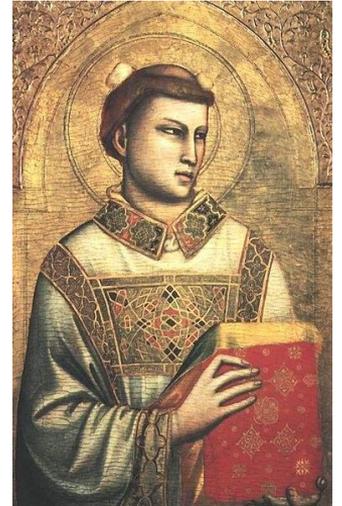
## *Holy Orders:*

- 3 degrees of Holy Orders:
  - **Priest:** an “extension” of Bishop
    - Ordinary minister of other Sacraments
    - Usually receives charge over a parish or particular ministry
    - “Presbyteros” in NT
    - Patron: St. John Vianney



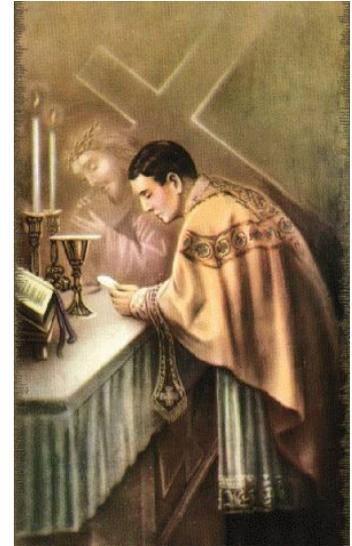
## *Holy Orders:*

- 3 degrees of Holy Orders:
  - **Deacon:** “assistants”
    - Serve at celebrations of Sacraments, esp. Mass
    - Distribute Communion, bless marriages, baptize, preside over funerals, proclaim Gospel, preach
    - Transitional vs. Permanent
    - “Diakonos” in NT
    - Patron: St. Stephen



## *Holy Orders:*

- A priest is an “***alter Christus***” (“another Christ”)
- When acting in his ministry, he is acting “***in Persona Christi***” (“in the Person of Christ”)
- He wears a ring to show that He is “***married***” to the Church



## *Holy Orders:*

- Special roles among the hierarchy:
  - **Pope:** Bishop of Rome, successor of St. Peter, Vicar of Christ -- has authority over entire Church on earth
  - **Cardinal:** assist the Pope, elect new Pope, usually bishops
  - **Monsignor:** honorary title
  - **Abbot:** in charge of a monastic community

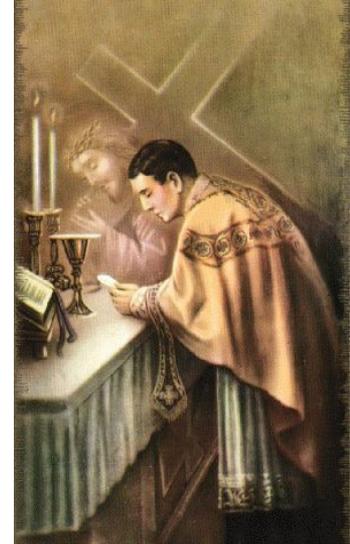
## *Holy Orders:*

- Some questions about Holy Orders:
  - Can a priest get married? -- yes, in some rites of the Church
  - Can women be ordained? -- no, but women are called to a different sublime privilege, motherhood
  - Are monks/nuns ordained? -- some monks are -- all take vows
  - Can a priest ever stop being a priest? -- no, but he may stop exercising his ministry
  - Can a priest be a bad person? -- yes, but that doesn't prevent them from validly administering the Sacraments



## *Discerning Vocation:*

- Important to become the people God wants us to be
- Prayer
- Encourage open conversation
- Education
- Spiritual guidance/direction
- Get to know ordained ministers, consecrated religious
- Encourage children to follow wholesome interests



## **“Prayer to St. Joseph to Know One’s Vocation”**

O great St. Joseph, so docile to the guidance of the Holy Spirit, obtain for me the grace to know what state of life Divine Providence destines for me. Do not allow me to be deceived with regard to so important a choice, upon which depends my happiness in this world, and even my eternal salvation. Obtain for me that, being enlightened to know the Divine Will and being faithful in accomplishing it, I may embrace that state of life which God has destined for me and which will lead me to a happy eternity. Amen.



*Discussion questions:*

- 1.) What is one thing you can do to empower your family?
- 2.) How can you encourage your child(ren) to discern their vocation?