

# SACRAMENTS

## ELEMENTARY COURSE OF STUDY

### GRADES K, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8

#### GENERAL

- The students will:**
- Grade 2** define the term sacrament.
- 5** be able to define the term sacrament and recognize in themselves and the world the potential to be a sign or sacrament for others.
- 2** be able to name the seven sacraments.
- 3** be able to identify the categories of sacraments: Sacraments of Initiation, Sacraments of Healing, and Sacraments of Vocation.
- 5** be able to identify and explain the categories of sacraments: Sacraments of Initiation, Sacraments of Healing, and Sacraments of Vocation.
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- 2** know that adults are baptized through the Rite of Christian Initiation (RCIA) process.
- 3** know that adults receive the Sacraments of Initiation in the RCIA process.
- 5** know the difference between a catechumen and a candidate.
- 5** know that catechumens and candidates are normally received into the church at the Easter Vigil.
- 8** know the history of the RCIA process.
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- 2** know that through the sacraments we encounter Jesus.
- 3** know that through the sacraments we experience grace and deepen our relationship with God.
- 5** know that through the sacraments we encounter Jesus, experience grace, deepen our relationship with God and God deepens his relationship with us.
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- 2** know the Gospel stories which relate to the sacraments; e.g., Lk 22:14-20 (Last Supper), Mt. 28:16-20 (Baptism).
- 3** know the Scripture stories which relate to the sacraments; e.g., James 5: 14-15 (Healing the sick), Jn. 2: 1-12 (The Wedding at Cana).
- 5** know some Scripture stories which relate to the sacraments; e.g., Jn. 20:19-23 (Reconciliation), I Cor. 11:23-25 (Eucharist).
- 8** know some Scripture stories which relate to the sacraments; e.g., Acts 2:1-4 (Receiving the Holy Spirit); I Cor. 12: 12-14, 26-27.

#### SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION: BAPTISM, CONFIRMATION, EUCHARIST

**Baptism** (note: see Diocesan Policies for Sacramental Preparation, "Children's Catechumenate" for children preparing for Baptism)

- The students will:**
- K** know that through Baptism we become members of God's family, the Church.

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- 1 know that through Baptism we become members of God's family, the Church.
- 2 know that through Baptism we become members of God's family, the Church.
- 3 know that Baptism calls us to holiness.
- 3 know that through Baptism we become active members of God's family and are called to worship with the community, the Church.
- 5 know that Baptism calls us to holiness.
- 5 know that through Baptism we are committed to be active members of God's family, the Church.
- 3 know that the call to holiness is named our "vocation."
- 5 know that the call to holiness is named our "vocation."
- 3 know that our vocation (call to holiness) can be answered in three ways: marriage, single life, ordained, or vowed religious life. (cf. "Vocation Chart" handout #1)
- 5 know that our vocation (call to holiness) can be answered in three ways: marriage, single life, ordained, or vowed religious life. (cf. "Vocation Chart" handout #1)
- 8 know that Baptism is necessary for salvation. (CCC # 1257)
- 8 know that catechumens who die before their Baptism are saved because of their explicit desire to receive it. (CCC #1259) (baptism of desire)
- 8 know that those who suffer death for the sake of the faith without having received Baptism are baptized by their death for and with Christ (baptism of blood).
- 5 know the Scripture stories which relate to Baptism; e.g., Mt. 28:16-20.
- K** know some Baptismal symbols: water and white garment, oil.
- 1 know the Baptismal symbols and their meanings: pouring of water and saying the words of Baptism, white garment, candle, oils.
- 2 know the Baptismal symbols and their meanings: pouring of water and saying the words of Baptism, white garment, candle, oils.
- 3 know the baptismal symbols and their meanings: water, white garment, candle, oils.
- 5 know the baptismal symbols and their meanings: pouring the water and saying the words of Baptism, white garment, candle, oils.
- 8 know the history of the baptismal symbols and rituals.
- 1 know that Baptism removes Original Sin and gives us new life in Christ.
- 3 know that Baptism removes Original Sin and all personal sins committed since birth; Baptism gives us new life in Christ.
- 5 know that Baptism removes Original Sin and all personal sins committed since birth; Baptism gives us new life in Christ.
- 5 describe the effects of Original Sin: lost the grace of Original Holiness, became subject to death, and sin became universally present in the world.
- 8 know that Baptism does not remove the tendency toward sin which is called concupiscence. (CCC #1426).

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- 1 be introduced to the meaning of Baptismal Promises.
- 3 understand the meaning of Baptismal Promises.
- 5 understand and explain the meaning of Baptismal Promises.
- 1 know that the ordinary minister of Baptism is the priest or deacon.  
(In necessity, anyone with the right intention, may serve as an extraordinary minister of the sacrament by pouring water over the head of the person to be baptized while saying, “I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit”).
- 3 know that the ordinary minister of Baptism is the priest or deacon.  
In necessity, anyone with the right intention, may serve as an extraordinary minister of the sacrament by pouring water over the head of the person to be baptized while saying, “I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.”
- 5 know that the ordinary minister of Baptism is the priest or deacon.  
In necessity, anyone with the right intention, may serve as an extraordinary minister of the sacrament by pouring water over the head of the person to be baptized while saying, “I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.”
- 8 recognize that baptism in other Christian traditions may be valid.
- 8 understand the meaning of conditional baptism (Canon 869).
  
- 1 know the names of their godparents and the role of godparents and parents.
- 3 know the role of the parents and godparents.
- 5 know the role of the parents, godparents and community.
- 8 explore the connection between godparents for Baptism and sponsors for Confirmation.
  
- 3 know that Baptism calls us to worship with the community, to share our faith, and to be of service.
- 5 know that Baptism calls us to worship with the community, share our faith and to be of service.
- 5 know that some women and men take special vows as a fulfillment of their Baptismal vows: these are vowed religious called sisters, brothers and priests.
- 5. know the names of some communities of vowed religious: Ursulines, Notre Dames, Franciscans. (cf. “Vocation Chart” handout #1 and “I Can Find My Way” handout #2)
- 5. know the names of some communities of vowed men religious: Jesuits, Oblates of St. Francis de Sales, etc. (cf. “Vocation Chart” handout #1 and “I Can Find My Way” handout #2)
- 8 know that all of us have a role as baptized people in sharing Christ’s work of priest (liturgical worship), prophet (teacher and messenger), and king (leadership in the community).
  
- 5 know the effects of Baptism: cleanses the soul, makes us a child of God, incorporates us into the faith community, gives us a share in God’s

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life, indelibly marks us with the sign of faith, admits us into Christ's roles of priest, prophet and king.

- 8 know the essentials of the Rite of Baptism: pouring of water or immersion into water with the words, "I baptize you in the name of the Father, and the Son, and of the Holy Spirit."

**Confirmation** (note: see Diocesan Policies for Sacramental Preparation for those preparing to receive Confirmation)

**The students will:**

- 3 know that through Confirmation the baptized person is strengthened by the Holy Spirit.
- 5 know that through Confirmation the baptized person is strengthened and gifted by the Holy Spirit to go out and serve the community.
- 5 know the Gifts and Fruits of the Holy Spirit.
- 8 know that though Confirmation is sometimes called "the sacrament of Christian maturity," that does not mean its reception must await physical, mental or social maturity. (CCC #1308).
- 8 know that in Eastern Catholic churches Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist are received immediately after each other to show the unity of Christian initiation.
  
- 5 know the Scripture stories that relate to Confirmation; e.g., Acts 2:1-4.
- 8 know the Scripture stories that relate to Confirmation; e.g., Ezekiel 36: 25-27.
  
- 5 know the signs and symbols of Confirmation: anointing with oil (Sacred Chrism), the laying on of hands and the words, "Be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit."
- 8 know the meaning of the signs and symbols of Confirmation.
  
- 3 know that the bishop is the ordinary minister of the Sacrament of Confirmation.
- 5 know that the bishop is the ordinary minister of the Sacrament of Confirmation.
- 8 know that the bishop is the ordinary minister of the Sacrament of Confirmation; abbots and priests may confirm by delegation of the bishop.
  
- 5 know the role of the sponsor as a guide and helper on the spiritual journey.
- 8 know the role of the sponsor as a guide and helper on the spiritual journey.
- 8 know that it is appropriate that the Confirmation sponsor be one of the baptismal godparents to emphasize the unity of the two sacraments.
- 8 know the qualifications necessary for a Confirmation sponsor.

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- 5 realize that Confirmation is a personal response which renews one's baptismal commitment.
- 8 realize that Confirmation is a personal response which renews one's baptismal commitment.
- 8 know the effects of the Sacrament of Confirmation: increases and deepens baptismal grace, strengthens us by word and action to be a true witness of Christ, gives an indelible spiritual mark, "character" or seal of the Holy Spirit, clothing us with power to be Christ's witness.
  
- 5 know the essentials of the Rite of Confirmation: renewal of baptismal promises, anointing with Sacred Chrism, laying on of hands, inquiry by bishop.
- 8 know the essentials of the Rite of Confirmation: renewal of baptismal promises, anointing with Sacred Chrism, laying on of hands, inquiry by bishop.

**Eucharist** (note: see Diocesan Policies for Sacramental Preparation for those preparing to receive First Eucharist)

**The students will:**

- 2 know that we celebrate the Sacrament of the Eucharist at Mass.
- 5 know that the Catholic celebration of the Eucharist is the celebration of a sacrament; we call this the Mass (Eucharistic Liturgy).
- 8 know that the Eucharist is both the sacrament of our salvation accomplished by Christ on the cross and also a sacrifice of praise in thanksgiving for the work of creation (sacrament and sacrifice). (CCC #1359).
  
- 2 understand that Eucharist is a special community meal in which Jesus is present to us.
- 5 understand that Eucharist is a special community meal with roots in the Jewish tradition of Passover in which Christ is present to us.
- 8 understand that the ultimate fruit of the Eucharist is the unity of the Body of Christ.
  
- 2 know that the Sacrament of the Eucharist was given to us by Jesus Christ at the Last Supper.
- 5 know that the Eucharist is both a memorial of Jesus' passion, death, and resurrection and a sacrifice for the sins of the world.
- 8 know that the Eucharist makes sacramentally present Jesus' sacrifice on the cross.
  
- 2 know Scripture stories that relate to the Eucharist; e.g., Lk 22:14-20.
- 3 know Scripture stories that relate to the Eucharist; e.g., Mk 14:22-26.
- 5 know Scripture stories that relate to the Eucharist; e.g., Mt 26:26-30.
- 8 know Scripture stories that relate to the Eucharist.; e.g., The Acts of the Apostles.

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- 2** know that the bread and wine consecrated by the priest at Mass become the Body and Blood of Jesus whom we receive.
- 3** know that, through the words of consecration said by the priest at Mass, the bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Christ whom we receive.
- 5** know that through the words of consecration said by the priest at Mass, the bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Christ whom we receive.
- 8** know that in the Eucharist, the substance of the bread and wine is transformed into the substance of the Body and Blood of Christ; this is called transubstantiation. (CCC #1374-76, 1413).
- 2** know that, in the distribution of Holy Communion, the ordinary ministers of the Eucharist are the priest and the deacon. Some members of the church community may serve as extraordinary ministers of the Eucharist.
- 3** know that, in the distribution of Holy Communion, the ordinary ministers of the Eucharist are the priest and the deacon. Some members of the church community may serve as extraordinary ministers of the Eucharist.
- 5** know that, in the distribution of Holy Communion, the ordinary ministers of the Eucharist are the priest and the deacon. Some members of the church community may serve as extraordinary ministers of the Eucharist.
- 8** know that, in the distribution of Holy Communion, the ordinary ministers of the Eucharist are the priest and the deacon. Some members of the church community may serve as extraordinary ministers of the Eucharist.
- 2** know who can receive Holy Communion: those who have been baptized, who have reached the age of reason (about seven years old), and who know that it is really Jesus present in the bread and wine.
- 5** know that the proper preparation for receiving Holy Communion includes one hour fasting from food, an attitude of respect; e.g., folding hands, focusing on who it is we are going to receive, making a gesture of reverence, not chewing gum or candy.
- 8** know that the proper preparation for receiving Holy Communion includes one hour fasting from food, an attitude of respect; e.g., folding hands, focusing on who it is we are going to receive, making a gesture of reverence, not chewing gum or candy.
- 2** know that when we receive Jesus in the Eucharist, we are strengthened to love and serve others.
- 3** know that when we receive Jesus in the Eucharist, we nourish the life of grace in us which strengthens us to love and serve others.
- 5** know that when we receive Jesus in the Eucharist, our venial sins are

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- forgiven.
- 8 know that when we receive Jesus in the Eucharist, our love for others increases and the Church community is strengthened.

**SACRAMENTS OF HEALING:**  
**RECONCILIATION and ANOINTING OF THE SICK**

**Reconciliation** (note: see Diocesan Policies for Sacramental Preparation for those preparing for First Reconciliation)

**The students will:**

- 2 know that the primary means of forgiveness is through the Sacrament of Reconciliation.
- 5 know that the primary means of forgiveness is through the Sacrament of Reconciliation.
- 2 know that the Sacrament of Reconciliation leads us away from sin and toward God.
- 5 know that the Sacrament of Reconciliation leads us away from sin and toward God.
- 2 know that through the Sacrament of Reconciliation we are reconciled with God and others
- 3 know that through the Sacrament of Reconciliation we are reconciled with God and others.
- 5 know that through the Sacrament of Reconciliation we are reconciled with God and the whole community.
- 2 know that Jesus has the power to forgive and heal us.
- 5 know that Jesus has the power to forgive and heal us.
- 2 know Scripture stories that relate to Reconciliation; e.g., Jn 10:1-19 (Good Shepherd).
- 3 know Scripture stories that relate to Reconciliation; e.g., Lk 15:11-32.
- 5 know Scripture stories that relate to Reconciliation; e.g., Jn 20:19-23.
- 2 know that the symbols of the Sacrament of Reconciliation are the words of absolution, the prayer given by the priest to announce God's forgiveness or pardon of sin.
- 3 know that the symbols of the Sacrament of Reconciliation are the words of absolution, the prayer given by the priest to announce God's forgiveness or pardon of sin.
- 5 know and understand that the symbols of the Sacrament of Reconciliation are the words of absolution, the prayer given by the priest to announce God's forgiveness of pardon of sin.

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- 2 know that the priest is the minister of the Sacrament of Reconciliation.
- 5 know that in the Sacrament of Reconciliation the priest represents both God and the community.
  
- 2 know that in the Sacrament of Reconciliation there is a seal of confession between the priest and penitent; this means that any sin revealed to the priest must be kept completely secret for all time.
- 5 know that in the Sacrament of Reconciliation there is a seal of confession between the priest and penitent; this means that any sin revealed to the priest must be kept completely secret for all time.
  
- K** express sorrow for unloving choices.
- 2 express sorrow for unloving (selfish) choices.
- 5 express sorrow for sin (unloving choices) which hurt our relationship with God and others.
  
- 2 know and recite an Act of Contrition.
- 5 know and recite an Act of Contrition.
  
- K** know that Jesus wants us to love and forgive others.
- 2 know that Jesus wants us to love and forgive others.
- 5 know that we should follow Jesus' example of love and reconciliation.
  
- 2 know how to examine their conscience in preparation for receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation.
- 3 know how to examine their conscience in preparation for receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation.
- 5 know how to examine their conscience in preparation for the Sacrament of Reconciliation.
  
- 2 know the essentials of the Sacrament of Reconciliation: sorrow for sin, confession, absolution and penance.
- 5 know the meaning of the essentials of the Rite of the Sacrament of Reconciliation: sorrow for sin, confession, absolution and penance.
- 8 know the effects of the Sacrament of Reconciliation: forgives sin, reconciles us with God and the community, increases grace and charity, increases self-knowledge and strengthens our will.
  
- 2 know the three forms of the rite of Reconciliation: private; communal; and, in the case of necessity, general absolution.
- 3 know the three forms of the rite of Reconciliation: private; communal; and, in the case of necessity, general absolution.
- 5 know the three forms of the rite of Reconciliation: private; communal; and, in the case of necessity, general absolution.
- 8 know that for the faithful, "individual and integral confession of grave sins followed by absolution remains the only ordinary means of reconciliation with God and with the Church." (CCC #1484, 1497).

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**The Anointing of the Sick**

**The students will:**

- 3 know The Anointing of the Sick as the sacrament through which Jesus gives comfort, strength, forgiveness and healing.
- 5 know and discuss The Anointing of the Sick as the sacrament through which Jesus gives comfort, strength, forgiveness and healing.
- 5 know the Scripture stories which relate to the sacrament; e.g., James 5:14-15; Jn 6:54, 58; Mk 5:34, 36.
- 5 know the signs and symbols for the Sacrament of The Anointing of the Sick: anointing of the forehead and hands with the Oil of the Sick accompanied by the prayer of the celebrant, and laying on of hands.
- 5 know that only the priest is the minister of this sacrament.
- 8 know the effects of the celebration of the Anointing of the Sick: the first grace of this sacrament is the gift of the Holy Spirit which brings comfort, strength, forgiveness and healing; union with the suffering of Christ which gives suffering a new meaning; those who receive this sacrament contribute to the good of the people of God; this sacrament could be a preparation for the final journey.
  
- 5 identify appropriate candidates for the reception of the Sacrament of the Sick: baptized persons whose health is seriously impaired by sickness or old age.
- 5 know that there are two rites for the Anointing of the Sick: Public and Private.
  
- 5 know the essentials of the Rite of the Sacrament of the Sick: the priest in silence lays hands on the sick, prays over them, then anoints them with the Oil of the Sick.
- 5 understand the term “viaticum” as the Sacrament of the Eucharist given at the time of death.

**SACRAMENTS OF VOCATION (SACRAMENTS AT THE SERVICE OF COMMUNION): HOLY ORDERS and MATRIMONY**

**Holy Orders** (cf. “Vocation Chart” handout #1 and “I Can Find My Way” handout #2)

**The students will:**

- 3 define Holy Orders as the sacrament in which Jesus gives the church bishops, priests and deacons.
- 5 define Holy Orders as a call to men to serve the whole church as bishops, priests and deacons.
- 8 define Holy Orders as a call to men to serve the whole church as bishops, priests and deacons.

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- 3 know some Scripture stories that relate to the Sacrament of Holy Orders; e.g., Lk. 22: 14-20.
- 5 know some Scripture stories that relate to the Sacrament of Holy Orders; e.g., Acts 6: 1-6.
- 8 know some Scripture stories that relate to the Sacrament of Holy Orders; e.g., Mt. 10: 1-8.
- 5 know the signs and symbols of Holy Orders: oil (Sacred Chrism), stole, laying on of hands.
- 8 know the signs and symbols of Holy Orders: oil (Sacred Chrism), stole, laying on of hands.
- 5 know that only a bishop can confer the Sacrament of Holy Orders.
- 8 know that only a bishop can confer the Sacrament of Holy Orders.
- 8 know the difference between a diocesan priest and an “order” priest such as a Jesuit, Oblate of St. Francis de Sales, Redemptorist, etc.
- 5 know that “the Church confers the sacrament of Holy Orders only on baptized men whose suitability for the exercise of the ministry has been duly recognized.” (CCC #1577, 1598).
- 8 know that “the Church confers the sacrament of Holy Orders only on baptized men whose suitability for the exercise of the ministry has been duly recognized.” (CCC #1577, 1598).
- 2 know that priests represent Christ and act in the name of the whole Church. (CCC #1552-53).
- 5 know that priests represent Christ and act in the name of the whole Church. (CCC #1552-53).
- 5 know the effects of the Sacrament of Holy Orders: configures the recipient to Christ by a special grace of the Holy Spirit to serve as Christ’s instrument for the Church, confers an indelible spiritual character as in Baptism and Confirmation, and empowers recipients to teach, to lead (build community), and to sanctify.
- 8 know the effects of the Sacrament of Holy Orders: configures the recipient to Christ by a special grace of the Holy Spirit to serve as Christ’s instrument for the Church, confers an indelible spiritual character as in Baptism and Confirmation, and empowers recipients to teach, to lead (build community), and to sanctify.
- 8 know that, called by God and the Church, priests are ordained for service as co-workers with the bishop in serving the Catholic community. (CCC #1551, 1562, 1578).
- 5 know the three degrees of Holy Orders: bishop, priest, and deacon.
- 8 know the three degrees of Holy Orders: bishop, priest, and deacon.
- 5 distinguish between the permanent and the transitional diaconate.

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- 8 distinguish between the permanent and the transitional diaconate.
- 8 know that priests remain celibate for the sake of the kingdom of heaven. (CCC #1579,1599); however, a few Latin-rite priests are married (usually minister-converts from another denomination).
- 5 know the essentials of the Rite of Holy Orders: laying on of hands and the words of the consecrating prayer.
- 8 know the effects of the Rite of Holy Orders: increases friendship with God, confers the special powers of the order received, indelibly marks the person and gives special graces enabling recipients to lead, teach, and sanctify people.

### **Matrimony**

#### **The students will:**

- 3 know that the Sacrament of Matrimony symbolizes Christ's love for the couple and strengthens their love.
- 5 know that Matrimony symbolizes God's love for the Church and strengthens the couple's love and fidelity.
- 8 know that Matrimony is a covenant by which a man and a woman form with each other an intimate communion of life and love.
- 3 know some Scripture stories that relate to the Sacrament of Matrimony; e.g., Jn 2:1-12.
- 5 know some Scripture stories that relate to the Sacrament of Matrimony; e.g., Mk. 10:2-12.
- 8 know some Scripture stories that relate to the Sacrament of Matrimony; e.g., Gen. 1:27-28.
- 3 know that the exchange of vows means that the couple will remain faithful to each other for life.
- 5 know that the exchange of vows means that the couple will remain faithful to each other for life.
- 8 understand the meaning of the wedding vows as a bond between the spouses which is perpetual and exclusive.
- 5 know that, in the Roman Church, the bride and groom are themselves the ministers of the sacrament.
- 8 know that, in the Roman Church, the bride and groom are themselves the ministers of the sacrament.
- 5 know the official witnesses of Matrimony are normally the priest or deacon, and two others.
- 8 know the official witnesses of Matrimony are the priest or deacon, and two others.

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- 3** know that some aspects of Matrimony are love, companionship and support.
- 5** know that some aspects of Matrimony are love, fidelity, permanency, companionship and support.
- 8** know that Christ is present in the graces of the Sacrament of Matrimony to enable the couple to live out their vocation. (CCC #1615, 1641-42, 1648)
- 8** know that Jesus taught that Matrimony is permanent and cannot be dissolved; the Church cannot change that teaching. (CCC #1640).
- 5** know that the Sacrament of Matrimony is for the love and unity of the couples and involves an openness to procreation.
- 8** know that, by its very nature, Matrimony is established for the good of the couple as well as the creation and education of children. (CCC #1643, 1652-53).
- 8** know that persons who are divorced and remarried without an annulment are not excluded from the Church but cannot receive Holy Communion. (CCC #1665).
- 8** know that the Christian home is the place where children receive the first education in the faith. For this reason the family home is called the “domestic church,” a community of grace and prayer, a school of human virtues and of Christian love.
- 5** know the essentials of the Rite of Matrimony: the marriage covenant of the bride and groom to give themselves permanently to each other in the presence of the priest or deacon and the Church community.
- 8** know the essentials of the Rite of Matrimony: the marriage covenant of the bride and groom to give themselves permanently to each other in the presence of the priest or deacon and the Church community.
- 8** know the effects of the Sacrament of Matrimony: increases friendship with God, entitles the married couple to special graces, unites husband and wife with each other in Christ indissolubly, makes the couple a sign of God’s love.