



JUBILANT MARRIAGES

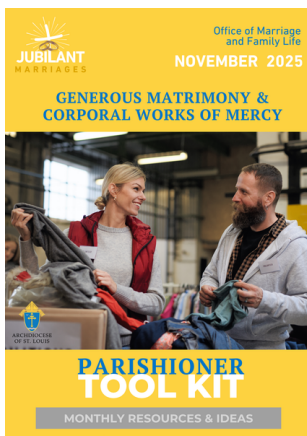
Jubilant Marriages 1, 2, 3 for Priests & Deacons

This simple set of monthly resources are designed to help you as a Priest or Deacon to fortify the marriages of couples in your parish. It's as easy as 1, 2, 3. Choose ONE Sunday to speak to married couples in a special way during the Homily. On that Sunday, add the Prayers of the Faithful intentions provided here, that are specific to marriage and family to your liturgy plans. TWO, add the Jubilant Marriages Tool Kit link and image to your digital communication sometime during the month. THREE, add the Matrimony Mindset content as often as you can in the parish Bulletin

1) *JM HOMILY HINTS for Sundays 11/ 9 & 11/23*

The monthly themed Homily Hints give you homily prep help to orient your preaching once a month toward the health of married couples. Options are provided for 2 Sundays. Pick one, and strengthen the most important anchors in the life of the Church and society - married couples. These Homily Hints are based on readings for the Feast of the Dedication of the Lateran Basilica in Rome (Cycle C) and readings for the 34th Sunday of Ordinary Time (Cycle C) Solemnity of Christ the King.

With JM Prayers of the Faithful - These Prayers of the Faithful intentions emphasize the need for God to pour His grace on marriage and family in a modern society that arrays powerful forces against both. In November the emphasis is asking God to cultivate generosity in married couples, young people, and families.



2) *Digital Jubilant Marriages Tool Kit for Parishioners*

The digital JM Toolkit for Parishioners is packed with inspiration and resources for couples and families to embrace a spirit of generosity during the month of November.

Use this Tool Kit COVER IMAGE and LINK:

<https://public.files.capacity.com/b74c60b2-5d6b-4369-ae6a-8eed6e9bbb22/59a5afb3-95b6-42c8-9e8a-0c91c10d0db3?FU=1761250066>

to share the valuable content with your parishioners. Options include: Parish e-newsletter, website, Flocknote, and/or a post on social media.

3) *JM Matrimony Mindset Weekly Bulletin Content*

Share this document link with your parish Bulletin Editor. Four short **marriage-strengthening** content blocks are included for you to offer as a regular feature in the parish bulletin. Use one or all four each month, or simply as space allows. <https://public.files.capacity.com/b74c60b2-5d6b-4369-ae6a-8eed6e9bbb22/c50f966c-5d63-4b7f-8913-7804253066b0?FU=1761251245>

Sunday Scriptures: 11/9



These readings are for the Feast of the Dedication of the Lateran Basilica in Rome (Cycle C) The readings for this Sunday offer powerful images of grace to refresh our souls and inspire zeal in our actions. The gift of grace is always meant to be shared – to bring refreshment and transformation, not just to us, but to every person God brings into our lives.

These scripture meditations are the fruit of reflections of Scott and Karen Seaborn, whose thoughts are based on years of practical experience as a married couple and diligent faith-focused study as a Catholic Married Couple.

First Reading

Ezekiel 47: 1-2, 8-9, 12.

First Reading - Abundant Grace

"Wherever the water flows, there will be abundant fish... wherever this water comes the sea shall be made fresh." Do you hear it? Grace! Grace! Abundant grace! The grace that indwells each and every one of us in Baptism is the living water of Christ flowing through us and making us fresh! This abundant grace is multiplied in married couples as Christ's presence flows not only into and through each husband or wife individually... Christ's presence, this living water of grace also flows into and through each couple who are joined together in Christian marriage... a two-fer if you will!

Responsorial Psalm

Psalms 46: 2-3, 5-6, 8-9.

"The waters of the river gladden the city of God, the holy dwelling of the Most High!"

This abundant grace is always available to us. It is not for any individual alone. This living presence of Christ is to be shared generously with family, with community and with the world. Count on this abundant grace. Draw from this abundant grace. Live in this abundant grace. Share this abundant grace.

One tangible way to bring the living waters of Christ to the world is through the Corporal Works of mercy: feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, clothe the naked, shelter the homeless, visit the sick, visit the imprisoned, bury the dead. Each time we address the needs of others, we are pouring Christ's abundant grace upon them and into the world.

Second Reading

First Corinthians 3: 9c-11, 16-17.

Responsorial Psalm:

The waters of the river gladden the city of God, the holy dwelling of the Most High.

Again, the waters... God is in our midst! God dwells in our very beings... and in a special and unique way through the shared lives of married couples.

Gospel

John 2: 13-22.

Gospel: Zeal for Your House

When Jesus took action to "clean house" in the temple, he showed us that the power of grace is not timid. Zeal for the Lord is bold and courageous. In each relationship, whether with a spouse, son or daughter, a friend or neighbor, we can choose zeal to clean house in our own hearts to cast out selfishness. Allow bold habits of generosity upend the tables of self-centered routines inside us, and grace will flow in ways that enrich our marriages, families, parish, and community life.

Sunday Scripture 11/23



The readings and Gospel for the 34th Sunday of Ordinary Time (Cycle C) Solemnity of Christ the King are a portrait of the unique kind of kingly dignity that Christ exemplifies, and that He calls us to embrace.

These scripture meditations are the fruit of reflections of Scott and Karen Seaborn, whose thoughts are based on years of practical experience as a married couple and diligent faith-focused study as Catholics.

First Reading

Second Samuel 5: 1-3.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalms 122: 1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5.

"Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord."

Second Reading

Colossians 1: 12-20

Gospel

Luke 23: 35-43.

Second Reading - Called to be Shepherd Kings

In today's reading from 2 Samuel, the Lord called forth David to be king of Israel. It is sometimes hard for us to grasp this kind of royalty. We do not have kings in America. And even the King of England is more of a figurehead than one who resembles the kings of old. Yet, in our baptism, we are each called to enter into Christ's three-fold mission as priest, prophet, and, yes, even king. So what does being king look like for us today? We can look to David, and ultimately to Jesus, for that answer. Our first reading today tells us that the Lord called David to "shepherd God's people of Israel..." And David was anointed to do just that.

Doesn't that sound strikingly similar to Jesus, who Scripture tells us is the "Good Shepherd?" That is the kind of king we are all called to be: shepherd kings... shepherd leaders! And in a very important way, married couples are called to shepherd God's people. Not only to shepherd their own children, but also to shepherd others as God places opportunities before them. As shepherd leaders, we center on the well-being of those we are called to care for. We deeply commit to providing, protecting, and guiding them. As shepherd leaders, we are present with our "flock," understand the needs of others, and help them grow through our selfless service. As shepherd leaders, we protect our flock from danger, and ensure they are fed with nourishment, guidance, and resources.

Like David, the Lord has anointed us as shepherd kings in Baptism. And so we must ask ourselves, who are we anointed to shepherd, feed, and protect? With whom are we called to share our resources? Who are the hungry, thirsty, imprisoned, homeless, sick members of our society today in need of shepherd leadership in their lives?

Responsorial Psalm - "Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord."

Yes! Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord! Let us go rejoicing to where God lives, which we know, of course, is within each one of us. Yes! God indwells each of us... so each of us is the house of the Lord. Let us go, then, rejoicing to the temples where our Lord lives! Let us go as shepherd kings! Let us go rejoicing to generously and lovingly serve our spouses, our families, and all the people of God.

Gospel - Jesus, the Shepherd King of Mercy

Jesus showed us that the shepherd king lays down His life for His sheep. At the Crucifixion, Jesus showed dramatically that His kingdom was nothing like any kingdom on earth. The suffering King on the cross crowned with thorns, is also the king of Mercy who told Dismas, a lost sheep, that, "Today you will be with Me in paradise." The Shepherd King calls us to continue building His kingdom by choosing to imitate His leadership. His love and guidance empowers us to choose actions of self-sacrifice and generous mercy. Self-sacrifice, generosity, and mercy have the power to bring new life into all our relationships - our marriages, our families, our friendships, and our communities.

Jubilant Marriages Prayer Intentions For NOVEMBER

Choose one Sunday this month to print this page and add these intentions to your parish *Prayers of the Faithful* to ask for God's grace to fortify married couples and families.

01 Married Couples

We pray that married couples will strengthen their marriages through shared generosity and seek out ways to enrich the lives of others through the corporal works of mercy.

02 Youth Vocations

We pray that teens and young adults will build habits of generosity while they are young, and choose to help those who are in physical, spiritual, or emotional need.

03 Parenting Holy Families

We pray that parents will be intentional to provide their children opportunities to show generosity as part of their family culture, building on and going beyond school or group service projects.



Matrimony Mindset for November Parish Bulletins:

<https://public.files.capacity.com/b74c60b2-5d6b-4369-ae6a-8eed6e9bbb22/c50f966c-5d63-4b7f-8913-7804253066b0?FU=1761251245>

Use the following **CONTENT SECTIONS** and **LOGO IMAGE** as a regular feature in the parish bulletin - as often as space allows. These weekly words of inspiration and encouragement are part of the Archdiocese Jubilant Marriages Initiative with the goal to fortify and energize Catholic Married couples to be Holy, Healthy and Happy in every season of life.



MATRIMONY MINDSET WEEK #1 - Feed the Hungry

"For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink..." (Matthew 25:35)

Marriage Motivation Tip:

Serving meals at a local shelter or donating to a food bank as a couple not only helps those in need but deepens your bond through shared generosity. Your love grows stronger when you nourish others together.

Prayer: Lord, bless our marriage with a heart of compassion. Help us to see Your face in the hungry and to serve them with love, strengthening our unity as we share Your abundance. Amen.

Couple Conversation Question:

How can we make time this month to serve those who are hungry, and how might this act of charity bring us closer together?

This November, Catholic couples are invited to live out the Corporal Works of Mercy together, doing good, while also fostering spiritual growth, generosity, and unity in their marriage.

Find out more in the **November Jubilant Marriages TOOLKIT** at Archstl.org/Jubilant-marriages.

MATRIMONY MINDSET WEEK #2 - Clothe the Naked

"Love one another with mutual affection; anticipate one another in showing honor." (Romans 12:10)

Marriage Motivation Tip:

Organize a clothing drive or donate gently used items together. As you provide warmth and dignity to others, you'll reflect God's love in your marriage, clothing each other in kindness and respect.

Prayer: Heavenly Father, guide us to share Your love by clothing those in need. May our acts of service strengthen our commitment to honor and cherish one another. Amen.

Couple Conversation Question:

What's one way we can work together to provide clothing or essentials to those in need, and how can we support each other in this mission?

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MATRIMONY MINDSET WEEK #3 - Visit the Sick

"Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil." (Ecclesiastes 4:9)

Marriage Motivation Tip:

Visit a nursing home or hospital together, or offer to help a sick neighbor. Caring for the suffering as a team mirrors Christ's compassion and unites you in purpose, enriching your marriage.

Prayer: Lord Jesus, You healed the sick with love. Inspire us to bring comfort to those who suffer, and let our shared service deepen the love and trust in our marriage. Amen.

Couple Conversation Question:

How can we make time to visit or support someone who is sick, and what might this teach us about caring for each other in our marriage?

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MATRIMONY MINDSET WEEK #4 - Shelter the Homeless

"Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good." (Romans 12:9)

Marriage Motivation Tip:

Volunteer together at a shelter or support a housing ministry. Providing shelter to others reflects the home you build together in love, rooted in faith and selflessness.

Prayer: God of refuge, guide us to offer shelter to those in need. May our shared efforts strengthen our marriage as a home of love, faith, and generosity. Amen.

Couple Conversation Question:

What's one small step we can take to help those without shelter, and how can this act of service reflect the love we're building in our marriage?

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Pray

THE JUBILANT MARRIAGES PRAYER WITH YOUR PARISHIONERS

Jesus, Your life, death, and resurrection was the greatest act of love of all time, pouring forth streams of life-giving grace in the Sacraments. Today, we ask you to renew our HOPE - through the daily lived Sacrament of Matrimony.

Inspire us to cherish the extraordinary value of the Sacrament of Matrimony in our families and communities to renew familial love among all people. Enable us to build a Culture of Matrimonial Love in our parish – to energize couples who are stable, support couples in distress, empower couples who carry heavy burdens, and rekindle a matrimony mindset in our youth.

Unleash the power of Matrimonial Grace in our parish - through the leadership of our clergy, the faithfulness of married couples, and the wisdom of the widowed, to inspire each parishioner to live as a joy-filled daily sign of the sacrificial love of God .

Amen.

*Prayer Cards are available from
the Office of Marriage & Family Life*

