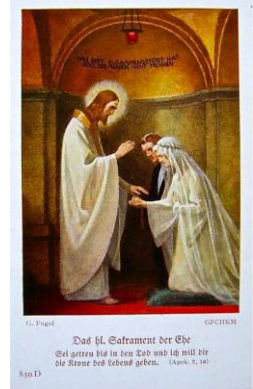


# *Matrimony*



The sacrament of Marriage signifies the union and love that exists between Christ and the Church. It is a faithful covenant in which a man and a woman unite in such a way that, by forming “one flesh,” they can transmit human life. As spouses and parents, men and women cooperate in a unique way in the Creator’s work.

As a means of preparing to live out the Sacrament of Marriage, engaged couples must meet with the Pastor to discuss various issues relating to marriage such as communication, decision making, spirituality of marriage and relationships. Couples planning to marry should contact the Pastor at least five months prior to the proposed date so all parish and diocesan requirements may be completed. It is a long standing tradition in the church to pay a stipend to the priest for performing this sacrament.