

Santo Anello



Santo Anello. It is not a person or a new Italian restaurant in Clerkenwell, or an Easter dish! No. It is a ring, a 'holy ring', the wedding ring Saint Joseph gave to Mary on their wedding day.

The 'Santo Anello' is kept in a special reliquary in the Cathedral of Perugia, Italy. Married couples going through a turbulent time as well as couples engaged to marry, are allowed to touch their rings to the Santo Anello to receive a blessing.

Some may regard this as religious extravaganza, but it is not. Wedding rings hold a deep meaning. Their round shape signifies infinity, the infinite love and fidelity of God for man and woman. The golden material signifies the dignity of the spouses, called to be king and queen. Even more, the exchange of rings signifies the union of goods between husband and wife: what belongs to one, belongs to the other. This is true not only of temporal material goods, but also of spiritual goods! Yes, the gifts and graces God grants to the husband belong to his wife, the spiritual treasures of the wife belong to the husband too.

Last Friday, the Solemnity of Saint Joseph, began a special year dedicated to the Family, which will conclude on June 26 2022, during the X Meeting of Families in Rome with the Holy Father. During this year, we will celebrate a special Mass for all married couples, for all engaged couples, and have our Marriage Course in June and July.

"Protect, most careful guardian of the Holy Family, the chosen people of Jesus Christ. Keep us, loving father, from all pestilence of error and corruption. From thy place in heaven be thou mercifully with us, most powerful protector, in this warfare with the powers of darkness and, as thou didst once rescue the Child Jesus from imminent danger of death, so now defend the Holy Church of God from the snares of the enemy and from all adversity." (from the Prayer of Pope Leo XIII)

Saint Joseph, spouse of the Mother of God, Pray for us.

In manus.
Father Ivano