

## Reflection Thursday Week 5 2023

### Pope Francis:

When a man and a woman celebrate the sacrament of marriage, God is 'mirrored' in them. He marks them with His features and the indelible character of His love.

God is a communion of the three persons of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, who live forever and are forever in perfect unity. And this is the mystery of marriage: God makes one existence of the two spouses - the Bible says 'one flesh' - in the image of His love, in a communion which draws its origin and its strength from God.

The real 'wedding gift' is this: Your marriage is a reflection of the Holy Trinity, and with the grace of Christ, you are a living and credible icon of God and His love. The plan inherent in the Sacrament of Marriage is truly wonderful! It takes place in the simplicity and also the fragility of the human condition. We know the many trials and difficulties that the lives of married couples encounter. The important thing is to keep alive the link with God, which is the basis of the marital bond.

*"The family that prays together stays together!"* How much we need to pray in our families! At the beginning and end of the day, before meals, and in the most delicate passages of life. We can rediscover the Rosary, which helps us feel the presence of Mary, Queen of the family and model, along with her husband Joseph.

At the centre lies the celebration of the Eucharist, lived together, on Sunday: there, from the table of the Word and the Body of Christ, the bride and groom draw the strength to love each other, help each other, and forgive each other in everyday life. In this regard, a special thought should be reserved for married couples who find themselves in difficulty, so that God can help them with His love and fill them with His mercy.

Let us pray for all families, so that by God's mercy they can always be joyful models of faith, love and generous service.

**Wife:** Do you want dinner?  
**Husband:** Sure, what are my choices?  
**Wife:** Yes and no.

**I accidentally handed** my wife a glue stick instead of a ChapStick. She still isn't talking to me!!