



## **“Openness with God is not a Game but a Destiny”**

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*the following is an excerpt from the September 2014 edition addressing marriage*

“Among these counter cultural teachings under attack today are those on marriage, the family and human sexuality. Marriage as intended by God is the joining together of a man and a woman for the good of one another, living lives of faithfulness, and open at all times to the gift of children. As the Catechism puts it: “(e)ach of the two sexes is an image of the power and tenderness of God, with equal dignity though in a different way. The union of man and woman in marriage is a way of imitating in the flesh the Creator’s generosity and fecundity.”(CCC 2335)

Marriage as intended by God is more than a legal construct by which rights are given, received or shared. Marriage as God intended is a covenant of love. Any other definitions of marriage are inconsistent with God’s plan. Judges can rule a redefinition of marriage but it does not make it so. Judges have ruled that abortion is not taking a human life; those decisions do not make it so either. Judges, legislators and voters cannot undo the plan of God the creator.

All persons are called to chastity. Those married are called to chastity within the marriage covenant. Those not married are called to abstinence. Recognizing that this truth is difficult for many to live especially when our government and media market the opposite, the Church offers prayers and personal support. Of special note is that all people who struggle with God’s plan are due compassion, sensitivity and justice as children of God. The grace that flows from the Sacrament of Penance, confession, is a powerful reflection of God’s love and mercy.

Oneness with God is not a game, but a destiny. “The desire for God is written in the human heart, because man is created by God and for God. (CCC 27)” May this desire for God be recognized in law as well as in all human hearts.

*O God, who in creating the human race, willed that man and wife should be one, join, we pray, in a bond of inseparable love, these your servants who are to be united in the covenant of Marriage, so that, as you make their love fruitful, they may become, by your grace, witnesses to charity itself. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the united of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. (Collect for Marriage Rite)”*