

Eucharistic Adoration

June 25, 2022

“Do whatever He tells you.” (Jn 2:5)

The gift of Presence

From the Gospel according to John (Jn 2:1-3)

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana in Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples were also invited to the wedding. When the wine ran short, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine."

Silence

The Lord invites each of us to this wedding. As at Cana, we have all had the experience of “having no wine”, in families and communities.

In this Adoration we can rediscover that the Bridegroom Jesus is always present in our lives. Today we wish to contemplate His presence in the lives of Christian spouses, so that we may be amazed at how the grace of the Sacrament of Marriage transforms the simple water of man-woman love into "good wine", capable of revealing to the world His own love for the Church and humanity, thus becoming a gift for every person, in every state of life.

Silence

[...] We too have experienced uncertainty, loneliness, [...] we too have been forced to leave behind our certainties, our "comfort zones" [...].

Our relationship with God shapes us, accompanies us and sends us forth as individuals, [...] in many cases with a certain trepidation and even fear in the face of the unknown. Yet our Christian faith makes us realize that we are not alone, for God dwells in us, with us and among us: in our families, our neighborhoods, our workplaces and schools, in the cities where we live. [From the Letter of His Holiness Pope Francis to Married Couples for The "Amoris Laetitia Family" Year]

Silence

Through the grace of the Sacrament of Marriage, the Bridegroom Jesus remains with Christian spouses, He makes Himself present in their marital relationship. Even when we spouses are unaware of this, or we find left without any feeling, He can renew our capacity to love. Let's try to make room for Him.

Jesus is the gift we must all rediscover.

Silence

Jesus said to her, "Woman, how does your concern affect me? My hour has not yet come." His mother said to the servers, "Do whatever he tells you." Now there were six stone water jars there for Jewish ceremonial washings, each holding twenty to thirty gallons. Jesus told them, "Fill the jars with water." So they filled them to the brim. (Jn 2:4-7)

Silence

Six jars, like the six days of the working week. They represent the time and place in which we too welcome Mary's invitation *to do what the Lord asks of us*. To trust and believe in Him. To discover that He does not ask for miracles or impossible things, but simply to fill the jars of married and personal life with the countless small gestures of our humble daily lives: water. And to contemplate that He always transforms this humble water into an excellent wine.

Silence

Different situations in life, the passage of time, the arrival of children, work and illness, all challenge couples to embrace anew their commitment to one another, to leave behind settled habits, certainties and security, and to set out towards the land that God promises: to be two in Christ, two in one. Your lives become a single life; you become a "we" in loving communion with Jesus, alive and present at every moment of your existence. God is always at your side; he loves you unconditionally. You are not alone! [Letter of His Holiness Pope Francis to Married Couples for The "Amoris Laetitia Family" Year]

Silence

The following are suggestions for an intimate dialogue with God: the Lord wants to enter into the concrete life of each one of us, be it as a couple, a family, an individual, a community, to reveal to us that it is He who transforms our daily journey into a succession of small and great extraordinary events.

Those who wish may read the meditations that follow in silence.

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Fill up the jars by rediscovering the beauty of one's own couple/individual

For the couple

Lord, sometimes we don't see our couple as beautiful as You see us.
We only see our flaws, our shortcomings.
Help us to see ourselves as You see us....

For the other states of life Lord, sometimes I don't see in myself the beauty that You see. I only see my faults, my shortcomings.
Help me to see myself as You see me....

You always proclaim:

*Because you are precious in my eyes
and glorious, and because I love you (Is 43:4)*

Thank you Lord Jesus

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Fill up the jars by welcoming and appreciating...

For the couple ... When we see the other person's diversity as an obstacle;
when we want to change him/her according to our idea;
when we ask ourselves how to grow in love ...

For the other states of life ... When I see the other person's diversity as an obstacle;
when I want to change him/her according to my idea;
when I ask myself how to grow in love ...

You always proclaim:

*Why do you notice the splinter in your brother's eye, but do not perceive the wooden beam in your own? [...]
Remove the wooden beam from your eye first (Lk 6:41-42)*

Thank you Lord Jesus

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Fill up the jars by welcoming and appreciating...

For the couple ... when we think that it's no longer worth talking about, because
we will never be understood anyway;
when we think we already know what the other person will say, that it is
better to keep quiet so as not to quarrel;
when we don't know how to express and mature in love ...

For the other states of life ... when I think that it's no longer worth talking about, because
I will never be understood anyway;

when I think I already know what the other person will say, that it is better to keep quiet so as not to quarrel;
when I don't know how to express and mature in love ...

You always proclaim:

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

Thank you Lord Jesus

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Fill up the jars with prayer ...

For the couple ... when we feel like we don't have time for prayer or we don't know how to pray;
when we think that praying is not very important for our couple; we need to get back on track ...

For the other states of life ... when I feel like I don't have time for prayer or I don't know how to pray;
when I think that praying is not very important for my life; I need to get back on track ...

You always proclaim:

Ask and you will receive; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks, receives; and the one who seeks, finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened. how much more will the Father in heaven give the holy Spirit to those who ask him? (Lk 11:9-10,13)

Thank you Lord Jesus

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Fill up the jars with forgiveness...

For the couple ...when it seems difficult for us, almost impossible to forgive ourselves, in the small everyday arguments as well as for the big things;
when we ask ourselves what is the limit of the love towards which You invite us ...

For the other states of life ...when it seems difficult for me, almost impossible to forgive, in the small everyday arguments as well as for the big things;
when I ask myself what is the limit of the love towards which you invite me ...

You always proclaim:

If I, therefore, the master and teacher, have washed your feet, you ought to wash one another's feet. I have given you a model to follow, so that as I have done for you, you should also do. (Jn 13:14-15)

Thank you Lord Jesus

SSS

Marriage, as a vocation, calls you to steer a tiny boat – wave-tossed yet sturdy, thanks to the reality of the sacrament – across a sometimes stormy sea. How often do you want to say, or better, cry out, like the apostles: "Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?" (Mk 4:38). Let us never forget, though, that by virtue of the sacrament of matrimony, Jesus is present in that boat; he is concerned for you and he remains at your side amid the tempest. In another Gospel passage, as they rowed with difficulty, the disciples saw Jesus coming to them on the waters and welcomed him into their boat. Whenever you are buffeted by rough winds and storms, do the same thing: welcome Jesus into your boat, for once he "got into the boat with them... the wind ceased" (Mk 6:51). It is important that, together, you keep your eyes fixed on Jesus. Only in this way, will you find peace, overcome conflicts and discover solutions to many of your problems. Those problems, of course, will not disappear, but you will be able to see them from a different perspective. [...] It was precisely in the midst of the storm that the apostles came to know the kingship and divinity of Jesus, and learned to trust in him. [Letter of His Holiness Pope Francis to Married Couples for The "Amoris Laetitia Family" Year]

From the gift comes the mission

The Sacrament of Marriage is given to the bride and groom so that, with their family, from a saved community, they may become a saving community. The gift is for giving. The Lord Jesus, having transfigured the love of the spouses, commands that the best wine be offered to all.

Silence

Then he told them, "Draw some out now and take it to the headwaiter." So they took it. And when the headwaiter tasted the water that had become wine, without knowing where it came from (although the servers who had drawn the water knew), the headwaiter called the bridegroom and said to him, "Everyone serves good wine first, and then when people have drunk freely, an inferior one; but you have kept the good wine until now". (Jn 2:8-10).

Silence

The servants know that earlier there was water in the jars. Those who love the Sacrament of Marriage, those who guard and promote it, receive the gift of contemplating the miracle. We thank the Lord Jesus for calling us to serve spouses and families.

And let us pray to Him so that also spouses, rediscovering the grace they have received, may understand their being called to put it on the table, to offer their love so that every person and community may discover themselves loved by God.

Silence

You have the mission of transforming society by your presence in the workplace and ensuring that the needs of families are taken into due account. Married couples too should take the lead (primerear) in their parochial and diocesan community through their initiatives and their creativity, as an expression of the complementarity of charisms and vocations in the service of ecclesial communion. This is especially true of those couples who, together with the Church's pastors, "walk side by side with other families, to help those who are weaker, to proclaim that, even amid difficulties, Christ is always present to them".

Therefore, I encourage you, dear married couples, to be active in the Church, especially in her pastoral care of families. "Shared responsibility for her mission demands that married couples and ordained ministers, especially bishops, cooperate in a fruitful manner in the care and custody of the domestic Churches". [Letter of His Holiness Pope Francis to Married Couples for The "Amoris Laetitia Family" Year]

Silence

For meditation:

From the Apostolic Exhortation of the Holy Father Francis, "*Amoris Laetitia*".

Marriage is a precious sign, for "when a man and a woman celebrate the sacrament of marriage, God is, as it were, 'mirrored' in them; he impresses in them his own features and the indelible character of his love. Marriage is the icon of God's love for us. Indeed, God is also communion: the three Persons of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit live eternally in perfect unity. And this is precisely the mystery of marriage: God makes of the two spouses one single existence". This has concrete daily consequences, because the spouses, "in virtue of the sacrament, are invested with a true and proper mission, so that, starting with the simple ordinary things of life they can make visible the love with which Christ loves his Church and continues to give his life for her". (AL 121)

Let us now invite the spouses to pray in their hearts for each other. Other states of life can pray for the families of the world.

Silence

At the end of this dialogue of love with the Lord Jesus, we will receive the image created for this World Day of Families. When we see it in our homes, small domestic Churches, and in our communities, we will be able to recall what we have received and meditated on during this Eucharistic Adoration and, as at the wedding feast of Cana, invoke the gift of "good wine" in our lives as a couple, as individuals, as a community, a gift that we are called to give back.