

Getting Ready for Chapter 14

Take Home



We Are Committed Through the Sacraments

The sacraments of Matrimony and Holy Orders exist to sanctify the vocational choices some Christians make. The two partners in a marriage confer the Sacrament of Matrimony on one another. They promise to live in a committed relationship with each other. The man who accepts Holy Orders also commits his life to God in service of the Church.

ACTIVITY

Family Charades Play vocation charades with your family. Write the names of vocations on slips of paper and place them in a bag. Take turns drawing names from the bag, and acting out the vocation without speaking while other family members try to guess the name of the occupation.

WEEKLY PLANNER

On Sunday

Watch and listen as the priest exercises his priestly task at the consecration and instructs the faithful in the homily.

On the Web

www.blestarewe.com



Visit our Web site for the saint of the day and the reflection question of the week.

Saint of the Week



Saint Joseph
(first century)

Joseph was called by God to the vocation of matrimony. He was the earthly husband of Mary, and the foster father of Jesus. He understood that Jesus was truly the Son of God.

Patron Saint of: workers
Feast Day: March 19



A Prayer for the Week

Dear God, we pray to honor Saint Joseph, spouse of the Mother of God, foster father of the Son of God. And, we pray for all fathers. May they learn from the example of Saint Joseph. Amen.

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Scripture Background

In the Time of Jesus

Shepherd Imagery Since shepherding was a common occupation in the Holy Land, Jesus used this familiar image to explain certain spiritual truths. One of a shepherd's duties was to count his sheep at night and rescue those that had strayed. In the Parable of the Lost Sheep, the shepherd rejoices when he finds the lost sheep. This illustrates God's love for his people. Jesus, known as the Good Shepherd, called upon the Apostles to continue caring for his flock. Today, bishops, priests, and deacons follow in their tradition.

Read Hebrews 5:1–10.

OUR CATHOLIC TRADITION in Matrimony

The Wedding Ring Many think that the ancient Egyptians twisted plant fibers to make the first wedding rings. The wedding ring has long been an important part of the Sacrament of Matrimony; it symbolizes a pledge of fidelity and everlasting love. A wedding ring is traditionally worn on the third finger of the left hand. One common belief holds that this tradition dates back to the 17th century where during a wedding the priest arrived at the third finger by touching the thumb and the first two fingers on the left hand as he said, "in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost."