



*This, the first of His signs, Jesus did at Cana in Galilee, and manifested His glory. (John 2:11a)*

Consider that marriage:

- Was instituted by God in the Garden before the fall.
- Flows out of the deep, self-giving love within the Trinitarian Godhead.
- Joins one man and one woman in a lifelong one-flesh union in which husband and wife deeply love each other, complement each other, and procreate and nurture children as God enables.
- is the foundation of the Christian home, which in turn is the basic building-block of both Church and society (and remember that it is in these three estates that God orders and sustains human life).
- Is an earthly picture of Christ and His Church into eternity.

It is any wonder then that, not only did our Lord bless the institution of marriage, but He chose a wedding as the setting for His first miracle?

Marriage matters to God because human life matters to Him, now and into eternity. This Sunday, many congregations in the United States are observing Sanctity of Human Life Sunday. The pericope (“cutting” or passage of Scripture) of the wedding at Cana, which all congregations are reading this Epiphany 2 week (as occurs every three years), is especially fitting for the occasion. Yet, at the same time, we remember that every time God’s Church gathers to receive His gifts of forgiveness, life, and salvation, regardless of the specifics of the pericopes of the day, she proclaims the Sanctity of Human Life from fertilization to forever.

Your English District Lifeline Team thanks God for your Gospel-motivated voice for life and prays His richest blessings on you, your family, and your congregation.