

► Sunday, October 12, 2008, Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 25:6-10; Ps 23:1-3, 3-4, 5, 6; Phil 4:12-14, 19-20; Mt 22:1-14 or 22:1-10

Week #8: Main Theme: Christ is the Bridegroom because He loves the Church with a life-giving love even unto death.

“The kingdom of heaven may be likened to a king who gave a wedding feast for his son.” So begins this week’s parable. Why does Jesus draw the comparison between a wedding feast and God’s kingdom? Think what we celebrate in a wedding banquet: the fidelity of the husband and wife, the promise of new life. Likewise, God’s Kingdom is marked by His fidelity to us, His Church, and by the new spiritual life that He brings about in us. The Church is Christ’s Body, because Christ and the Church are one flesh. Christ has married the Church by loving all of humanity faithfully until death on the Cross. His love is faithful and fruitful; it is a life-giving love that never ends. Human marriage is meant to be the same: it is meant to be a total self-gift that produces new life. And in Christian marriage, God gives us His own love as the animating power of this faithful love of husband and wife.

Bulletin: “It can seem difficult, even impossible, to bind oneself for life to another human being. This makes it all the more important to proclaim the Good News that God loves us with a definitive and irrevocable love, that married couples share in this love, that it supports and sustains them, and that by their own faithfulness they can be witnesses to God’s faithful love.”

Catechism of the Catholic Church, #1648

Suggested bulletin insert: “More Than a Wedding: Why Get Married in the Church?”