

*Sermon from the Second Sunday after Epiphany: Marriage, Part 4*

February 18, 2018

The third tension results from the way the human heart was created. God placed within our heart a desire for eternal, infinite happiness, while in married love there is the limit of human love. The couple promises something they cannot deliver. They are, of course, sincere in their marriage promise when they pledge their love for each other, but they are going to need help to keep the promise. This is, of course, where our Lord comes in to resolve the tension. Marriage is a sacrament which is meant to help the couple obtain eternal salvation, but the sacrament can only be of assistance if it was validly received and faithfully lived.

This first miracle in Cana of Galilee is so important today when the very foundation of marriage is being attacked that we must return to it, to invite our Lord to the wedding feast so that He can keep working the miracles of grace in our world today and gladdening our hearts with the wine of His divine grace.

In John 4:46-54, we read that "Jesus came again to Cana of Galilee where He made the water wine." Though the Gospel does not say, it is not too much to presume that our Lord, in returning to Cana, visited the couple at whose wedding He worked His first miracle. It is also here that we see another important lesson on married life. A certain ruler whose son was sick at Capharnaum came to Christ in Cana, begging Him to heal his son. This is the other miracle of Cana we must never forget – the role of parents interceding for their children. If you have a sick child, whether spiritually or physically, beg our Lord, "come down before my son die" (vs 49). It is that faith that saved the child, and it is that faith that will save your children also. Parents have the duty to pray for their children even after they leave home.

Cana remains important today.

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