

Chapter 17

Marriage

If we love one another God will live in us in perfect love.

1 John 4:12

For the Parents:

In chapter 17 your child learned to:

- Describe what takes place at a wedding
- Tell how married people are called to witness of God's love
- Give examples of how he or she has learned about serving from others in the family

Everyone in the small Midwestern town knew Goldie and Gilmore. Married for 62 years, they could be seen every evening sitting together reading the newspaper. When they died, the little town got a big surprise. The couple had left 23 million dollars to benefit their community! Their friends and neighbors learned that Goldie and Gilmore had been investing in the stock market. Their money has been used for new park benches, repairing water lines, and a new community center.

Marriage is a special gift to God's people, a call to holiness, service, sacramental unity, and love. Through service to others, husbands and wives achieve their own salvation. Husbands and wives give themselves to their spouses and their families. They respond to the call to live out the love and faithfulness that mark all relationships in the kingdom of God. Jesus is their model of service, sacrifice, love and friendship.

With Your Child:

1. There is a Catholic tradition of blessing the home. The tradition recognizes that God is present in every family. Work together to write a blessing for your home. Use the blessing frequently.
2. Read about Saint Frances of Rome on the Review and Explore page.