

# PARENT / GUARDIAN CONNECTION

## EIGHTH GRADE: TOB UNIT 3

### THEME: THE SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

#### SOW THE SEED



Dear Parents,

In this Theology of the Body (TOB) unit, your child will discover so much more about the theme **the Sacrament of Marriage**.

From the beginning, marriage existed and was ordered towards being a sign of God's love in the world. The original plan for marriage has been disordered by original sin and it is now more difficult for human persons to live marriage in its full truth. Jesus redeems marriage and elevates it to a sacrament. In taking vows and entering the Sacrament of Marriage, the couple is given new divine strength and love that is indissoluble.

In this unit your child will read how earthly marriage is a sign of the heavenly marriage of Christ and His Church (Eph 5). Christ, the Redeemer, through his total self-gift on the Cross revealed the heart of what it means to love. The way God loves us freely, totally, faithfully, and fruitfully (which is in our marriage vows) teaches us what marriage should be like, and the couple, in turn, becomes a sign of this great love to the world.

As the lessons unfold, the class will participate in an activity that demonstrates how people work together in a common mission or goal and are very successful. God shares His love and strength in the Sacrament of Marriage. As a result, the married couple can live the fullness of the sacrament of marriage, which wouldn't be possible without the gift of grace that God gives them.

#### GERMINATE THE SEED



#### FAMILY DISCUSSION QUESTION:

Think of happily married couples that you know. What do you think helps them to have a successful marriage? *\*(Note to parents: The sacramental commitment to love and marriage goes far and above fleeting feelings or emotions but is a decision to choose to act lovingly towards one's spouse each and every day).*





**FAMILY ACTIVITY:**

Marriage Interview — Interview family members or friends that have been married for 20 or more years in the Catholic Faith. Ask them a few questions such as: When and how did you meet? When did you realize you wanted to marry each other? What memories stand out from your wedding Mass? What are the key ingredients to building a strong and lasting marriage in Christ?

**FAMILY PRAYER:**

Heavenly Father, thank you for the gift of the unbreakable and sacred bond of marriage. Please help us determine if we called to married life. Make us strong enough to keep the commitments you have entrusted to us now, which will help us keep the lifelong commitment in marriage if called to it. Bless and protect all married couples.

We make this prayer in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord,

Amen. Sts. Louis and Zelig, pray for us!

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Want to learn more? Visit [RuahWoodsInstitute.org/parents](https://RuahWoodsInstitute.org/parents) to view a TOB parent presentation.

