

Day 38

PILGRIMAGE OF GRACE

MATRIMONY



The Bible begins with a wedding in Genesis 2:23:

*"This is now bone of my bones
and flesh of my flesh;
she shall be called 'woman,'
for out of man she was taken."*

For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh.

...And ends with a wedding in Revelation 19:9, 21:9

... "Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb."

"Come, I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb."



Cana is the first miracle of Jesus who is the divine bridegroom, calling us to the divine wedding feast, and takes on our flesh with his incarnation.

Baptism betroths us to Christ as a bride to his husband. (John 3:29, Mathew 22:1, Ephesians 5:21, 2 Corinthians 11:2). The "best wine" at Cana is the gift of Jesus to His bride and his body, the Church.

- Marriage symbolizes the covenant relationship God desires with His chosen people. God is the groom, and mankind is his Bride...

The nuptial covenant between God and his people Israel had prepared the way for the new and everlasting covenant in which the Son of God, by becoming incarnate and giving his life, has united to himself in a certain

way all mankind saved by him, thus preparing for "the wedding-feast of the Lamb. (Catechism 1612)

- On the threshold of his public life Jesus performs his first sign - at his mother's request - during a wedding feast. The Church attaches great importance to Jesus' presence at the wedding at Cana. She sees in it the confirmation of the goodness of marriage and the proclamation that thenceforth marriage will be an efficacious sign of Christ's presence. (Catechism 1613)

- **Romanus Melodus (6th century)**

"Now we all partake at the banquet in the church... for Christ's blood is changed into wine/And we drink it with holy joy/Praising the great bridegroom."

