

Vocabulary for Unit 8

annulment: The declaration by the Church that a marriage is null and void, that is, it never existed as a sacramental union. Catholics who divorce must have the marriage annulled by the Church to be free to marry once again in the Church.

bishop: One who has received the fullness of the Sacrament of Holy Orders and is a successor to the Apostles.

deacon: One who is ordained for service and ministry, but not for ministerial priesthood, through the Sacrament of Holy Orders. Deacons are ordained to assist priests and bishops in a variety of liturgical and charitable ministries.

divorce: The action or an instance of legally dissolving a marriage.

Holy Orders, Sacrament of: The Sacrament by which baptized men are ordained for permanent ministry in the Church as bishops, priests, and deacons.

indissoluble: Incapable of being undone or broken. The Marriage bond is a commitment to lifelong fidelity and can never be dissolved.

Matrimony, Sacrament of: A lifelong covenant, modeled on that between Christ and the Church, in which a baptized man and a baptized woman make an exclusive and permanent commitment to faithfully love each other and to cooperate in the procreation and education of children.

priest: One who has received the ministerial priesthood through the Sacrament of Holy Orders. The priest serves the community of faith by representing and assisting the bishop in teaching, governing, and presiding over the community's worship.

procreation: The begetting or bringing forth of offspring. The procreation and education of offspring is one of the ends (or purposes) of Marriage.

unity: The state of being made one. Marriage unites the husband and wife in an unbreakable and exclusive union, and is one of the ends (or purposes) of Marriage. Thus adultery and polygamy are sins against the unity of Marriage.

