

## Vocabulary for Unit 4

**abortion:** The deliberate termination of a pregnancy by killing the unborn child. It is a grave sin and a crime against human life.

**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.

**chastity:** The virtue by which people are able to successfully and healthfully integrate their sexuality into their total person; recognized as one of the fruits of the Holy Spirit.

**contraception:** The deliberate attempt to interfere with the creation of new life as a result of sexual intercourse. It is morally wrong because a married couple must remain open to procreation whenever they engage in sexual intercourse.

**convalidation:** A wedding ceremony in which a man and a woman in a civil marriage have their marital union recognized and blessed by the Church.

**disparity of cult:** A marriage between a baptized Catholic and a non-baptized person.

**dispensation:** Special permission to depart from the usual requirements in a given circumstance.

**family of origin:** The family in which one was raised as a child. Families of origin can include parents, siblings, extended family members, or others who played a significant role in one's childhood and youth.

**in vitro fertilization:** The fertilization of a woman's ovum (egg) with a man's sperm outside her body. The fertilized egg is transferred to the woman's uterus. The Church considers the process to be a moral violation of the dignity of procreation.

**mixed marriage:** A marriage between a Catholic and a baptized non-Catholic.

**natural family planning:** A morally acceptable way to time pregnancies based on the observation of a woman's naturally occurring times of fertility and infertility.

