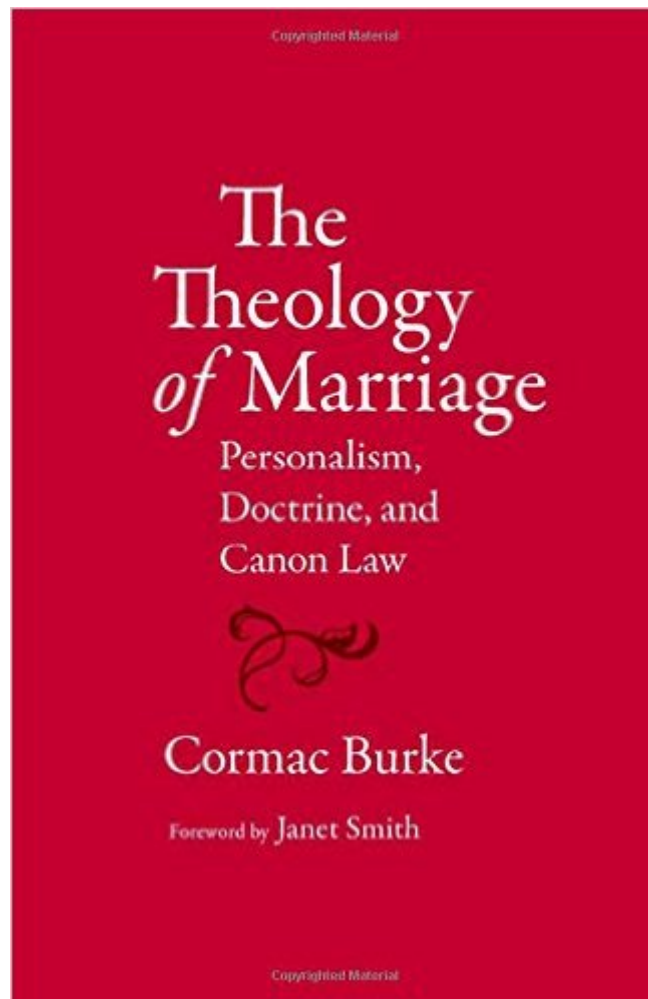# The Theology Of Marriage: Personalism, Doctrine And Canon Law

Synopsis

In The Theology of Marriage Cormac Burke has put together a collection of his most innovative theological theses and analyses, offering original insights and analyses that could help in resolving many current debates on the theology of marriage. At the same time his view goes beyond these debates. His writings are marked by an extremely positive view of sexuality and marriage. Ultimately he insists on the matrimonial vocation as a call to holiness; and delineates the particular graces married couples receive and the challenges they must face.A former civil lawyer, a teacher of moral theology, and a specialist in marriage, Burke found himself unexpectedly called in 1986 to be a judge of the Roman Rota, the High Court of the Church. He began his work there precisely at a moment when theologians and canonists alike found themselves grappling with interpreting and finding the practical application of new magisterial teachings on matrimony - teachings that seemed to some to represent an almost total rupture with tradition.Central and particularly controversial issues were the new definition of marriage itself and of its ends, the "personalist" way of expressing the nature of marital consent; and, not least, the concept of the bonum coniugum, "the good of the spouse", as a co-principal end of marriage.Msgr. Burke, well attuned to John Paul II's personalist theology of marriage, sensed the need to seek the roots of these apparently new concepts in the Bible, in Tradition, and particularly in St. Augustine (in whom, despite many modern impressions to the contrary, he sees the first defender of the goodness of the marital covenant). The result over the past twenty five years has been an impressive body of work in theological as well as canonical reviews.ABOUT THE AUTHORCormac Burke is at Strathmore University, Nairobi, Kenya.PRAISE FOR THE BOOK "With all the challenges to the understanding of marriage as given by God through Revelation and reason, and, with the high interest Pope Francis has taken in a renewed appreciation of married love and fidelity, Monsignor Burke's work could not have come at a better time." --Timothy Michael Cardinal Dolan, Archbishop of New York "Examines important issues concerning the Christian notion of marriage. Will be useful to canonists and to theologians who teach in the areas of marriage and family life." --The Rev. Msgr. John J. M. Foster, JCD, Vicar General and Moderator of the Curia Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA

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Customer Reviews

Abysmal training in many seminaries has led to a generation (or two) of priests that simply have no clue what the church TRULY teaches on marriage and annulment. The Cross of Christ and its relation to marriage, the sanctifying grace that is one of the beautiful gifts to married couples and the way back to a reasonably "happy" marriage are all found in the TRUE teachings of the Catholic Church. Priests today are simply not equipped to properly catechize the faithful in this area.Cormac Burke understands the TRUE teaching of the Catholic Church on marriage and annulment. This enlightening book will be an eye opener for any priest giving "pastoral care" to someone considering divorce or annulment.

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