

*How well do you know the Catholic faith? Well, let's find out..."*

***One of my friend asked me this question: What is the significance of the child in a marriage?***

- A) Pope Francis wants to open a discussion on this topic. He doesn't think that children are important in marriages.
- B) A child is a creature and a gift of God, which comes to earth through the love of his parents.
- C) The Church should not talk about this topic. It is not the Church's role to talk about children in a marriage.

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***This is a question of my teenage daughter: What significance does the sexual encounter have within marriage?***

- A) The sexual encounter doesn't have any significance within marriage.
- B) According to God's will, husband and wife should encounter each other in bodily union so as to be united ever more deeply with one another in love and to allow children to proceed from their love. CCC 2362 – 2367)

**In Christianity, the body, pleasure, and erotic joy enjoy a high status: "Christianity...believes that matter is good, that God himself once took on a human body, that some kind of body is going to be given to us even in Heaven and is going to be an essential part of our happiness, our beauty and our energy. Christianity has glorified marriage more than any other religion: and nearly all the greatest love poetry in the world has been produced by Christians. If anyone says that sex, in itself, is bad, Christianity contradicts him at once" (C.S. Lewis). Pleasure, of course, is not an end in itself. When the pleasure of a couple becomes self-enclosed and is not open to the new life that could result from it, it no longer corresponds to the nature of love.**

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