

Missy and Mike we also know it will not always be easy to say Yes to God especially in the difficult times ahead with illness or anger or loss of a loved one or the hundred things that will try to harden your hearts. But as the second reading says, God promises He “will show you a way which surpasses all others...love never fails.” As you give unconditional love in many forms in the years ahead, so will you receive the miracle of love in many ways...it all flows from the grace of God.

So in Good times and in bad, always love each other and remember we will be there with His love when you need us. We are honored to be here on your wedding day.

Now it's time to say a very special Yes to God.

Deacon Roger Fraser

Homily

August 31, 2002

At Marriage of Michael and Missy Muenchen

Genesis 1:26-28, 31a

Then God said: "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. Let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, the birds of the air, and the cattle, and over all the wild animals and all the creatures that crawl on the ground." God created man in his image; in the divine image he created him; male and female he created them. God blessed them, saying: "Be fertile and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it. Have dominion over the fish of the sea, the birds of the air, and all the living things that move on the earth." God looked at everything he had made, and he found it very good.

1 Corinthians 12:31-13:8a

Strive eagerly for the greatest spiritual gifts. But I shall show you a still more excellent way. If I speak in human and angelic tongues but do not have love, I am a resounding gong or a clashing cymbal. And if I have the gift of prophecy and comprehend all mysteries and all knowledge; if I have all faith so as to move mountains but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away everything I own, and if I hand my body over so that I may boast but do not have love, I gain nothing. Love is patient, love is kind. It is not jealous, (love) is not pompous, it is not inflated, it is not rude, it does not seek its own interests, it is not quick-tempered, it does not brood over injury, it does not rejoice over wrongdoing but rejoices with the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails.

John 15:12-16

This is my commandment: love one another as I love you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I no longer call you slaves, because a slave does not know what his master is doing. I have called you friends, because I have told you everything I have heard from my Father. It was not you who chose me, but I who chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit that will remain, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name he may give you.

The reality of the Scriptures you chose for your wedding Mass is that God loves us so much that He created us in His image, He blesses us and He is with us in the love we have for each another.

Missy and Mike, there are few times in your life that you will say Yes to God like you do on your wedding day. We have seen you two grow over the last 8 years from individuals into a couple. It has been some time since you have thought of just yourself without the other. So now you are ready to say Yes to God's call to the sacrament of marriage. In a few minutes you will give yourselves to be bonded into one being. You will live this sacrament growing as soul mates fused together so that nothing can shatter the precious bond of marriage He forged today. Realize that God is bonded with you. You won't think of yourself a separate people...never think of being separate from God. You will come to a deep understanding of today's Gospel: "this is my commandment: love one another as I love you."

You are surrounded here by special friends and family...truly we love you...Can you imagine scheduling your wedding on Saturday night of the official opening weekend of college football!! Of course softball second season just started and you did golf the last 2 days, so something had to give I guess. We didn't just come as spectators though; we came to pray with you, to witness you saying Yes to God in this holy union and to support you, today and in years to come. And after you declare your vows before us, the Church, we will all respond in a rousing AMEN! Let it be so. Few of us will ever forget what we participated in today.

Now rest assured you will have many other opportunities in your life to say Yes to God, and when you do miracles will happen! We all know the Muenchens love to say Yes when it comes to children! And how wonderful it is that you are saying Yes to God in the Mass...sharing your first act in marriage with Jesus in Holy Communion.