

Looking for Answers – Explore What The Catholic Church Really Teaches – Part 15



Question:

God's Law On Marriage

The Law



- Marriage is permanent
- Divorce is sinful
- Remarriage is adultery

Why does the Catholic Church make no exceptions when it comes to divorce! Does not the Bible say that Christ permitted divorce in case of fornication? (St. Matthew 19 – 9).

Answer:

The Catholic Church makes no exceptions when it comes to divorce because Christ made no exceptions. When Christ was asked if it was lawful for a man to put away his wife *for every cause*, Jesus replied that a man *shall cleave to his wife, and they two shall be in one flesh... What therefore God hath joined together, let no man put asunder.* (St. Matthew 19:3 – 6).

And the Apostle Paul wrote: *But to them that are married, not I but the Lord commandeth, that the wife depart not from her husband. And if she depart, that she remain unmarried, or be reconciled to her husband. And let not the husband put away his wife.* (1

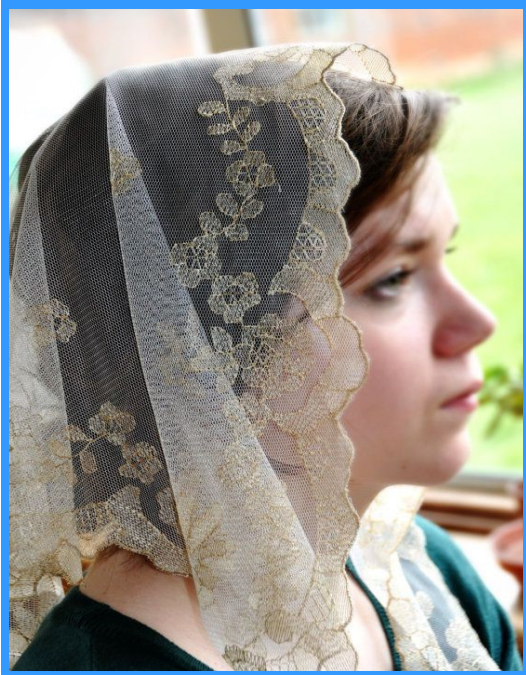
Corinthians 7:10 – 11). In Matthew 19:9 Christ does not permit divorce in case of fornication (adultery). He permits SEPARATION. This is clear from the fact that those who separated were cautioned not to remarry. Read Mark 10:11 – 12 and Luke 16:18.

Also, we know that divorce is against Divine Law because it is plainly against right reason. Were it not for our man-made laws which *legalize*, popularize, and even glamorize divorce, discontented married couples would make a more determined effort to reconcile their differences and live in peace; they would be obliged by necessity to swallow their false pride and accept the responsibilities they owe to their spouses, to their children, to society as a whole, and to God. Any sociologist will confirm that there is far less immorality, far less suicide far fewer mental disorders and far less crime among peoples who reject divorce than among the so-called *progressives* who accept it.

Remarriage Of A Divorced Person

- **Mt. 5:32:** ³² “But I say to you that whoever divorces his wife...causes her to **commit adultery**; and whoever marries a woman who is divorced **commits adultery**.”
- **Mt. 19:9:** ⁹ “...and whoever marries her who is divorced **commits adultery**.”
- **Lk. 16:18:** ¹⁸ “...and whoever marries her who is divorced from her husband **commits adultery**.”

Question:



Why have Catholic women traditionally worn hats in church? Are bareheaded women forbidden to enter Catholic churches?

Answer:

The Apostle Paul explains that Catholic women should cover their heads while in church: *You yourselves judge: doth it become a woman, to pray unto God uncovered?* (1 Corinthians 11:13). *Every man praying or prophesying with his head covered, disgraceth his head. But every woman praying or prophesying with her head not covered, disgraceth her head: for it is all one as if she were shaven...* (1 Corinthians 11:4 – 5). Paul's words do not imply that the Church is closed to women who have no head covering immediately available, nor does the custom of the Catholic Church imply this.

Question:

MASS INTENTION

For _____ Deceased
 Living

Date Requested (if any) _____ Time _____

Requested by _____ Phone _____

Date Received _____ Stipend _____

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Why must Catholics pay money for a Mass that is offered up for deceased relatives and friends when the Bible states that the gift of God is not to be purchased with money? (Acts of the Apostles 8:20).

Answer:

Catholics are not compelled to pay for Masses offered up for someone's special intention. They are simply reminded that giving a stipend (usually \$10) is the custom. Priests will oblige without a stipend being paid if the one making the request can ill afford it. Giving stipends for special intention Masses is the custom because it is only fitting and proper that there should be some small token of appreciation for the special service

rendered, especially in view of the fact that the average priest draws a very small salary.

For many priests these stipends mean the difference between standard and sub-standard living conditions. And this custom definitely has scriptural approval. The Apostle Paul wrote: *Who serveth as a soldier at any time, at his own charges?... Who feedeth the flock, and eateth not of the milk of the flock?... So also the Lord ordained that they who preach the gospel, should live by the gospel.* (1 Corinthians 9:7 – 14).

Of course, the gift of God is not to be purchased with money. But that does not imply that God's ministers are free serving slaves. Protestants will generally agree to this because within Protestantism it is likewise customary to give the minister who performs baptisms, marriages, etc., a token of appreciation in the form of money. Protestants do not call their gift of money a stipend, but that is exactly what it is.

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