

### **Chapter 3**

**consent** In the context of marriage, a free and unconstrained act of the will in which spouses promise to give themselves to each other in marriage.

**convalidation** Making an invalid marriage valid in the Church through new expression of the spouses' consent; sometimes referred to as the blessing of a marriage. The word *convalidation* derives from a Latin word for "firm up" or "strengthen."

**disposition** An interior and exterior attitude that reflects openness to receiving the graces of a sacrament.

**domestic church** *Ecclesia domestica*, a name for the family that signifies a miniature Church.

**Eastern Churches** "Churches of the East in union with Rome (the Latin Church), but not of Roman rite, with their own liturgical, theological, and administrative traditions," such as those of the Byzantine, Coptic, and Syriac rites (CCC, Glossary).

**epiclesis** The prayer, said in every sacrament, petitioning God to send down the sanctifying power of the Holy Spirit (see CCC, Glossary).

**express dispensation** A permission granted by the Church releasing a person from following a canonical requirement, such as a certain impediment to a valid marriage.

**impediments** External circumstances or facts that make a person ineligible for entering into a sacramental or legal marriage.

**Latin Church** The vast majority of the Roman Catholic Church which uses the Latin Rite liturgies and has its own distinctive canon law.

**nuptial blessing** “Prayers for the blessing of a couple being married, especially of the bride,” after the couple have given their consent to be married (CCC, Glossary).