

Topic: Can a Catholic Priest Bless a Homosexual Union?

Statement:

The Catholic Church teaches that homosexual actions are intrinsically disordered and that no homosexual union can be recognized as a “marriage” because such unions do not meet the definition of marriage. Thus, no Catholic can approve of or support homosexual behaviors or unions, for the Church cannot bless sin.

Justification:

A generation ago, this would not have even been a question.

“Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, and today, and forever” (Hebrews 13:8). In other words, the truth, like God Himself is unchanging. Jesus Christ is truth personified; therefore, He cannot change, nor can His Church’s doctrine (objective truth) develop except in clarity. Once a doctrine is defined, it is permanent. It can never be changed or undone but only explained more fully. And contrary to what is perceived by many, no assembly or group (synod) can vote to essentially change or alter Church doctrine, bequeathed as it is to the Church by God Himself.

In the very first chapter of the Bible, it describes how God created humanity male and female for the express purpose of populating the earth: “God created mankind in His image: In the image of God, He created them; male and female He created them. God blessed them and God said to them, ‘Be fertile and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it’ ” (Genesis 1:27–28). Marriage is based on this simple precept — the union of a man and wife — with the primary purpose of procreation as it is ordained by God. Scripture does not label anything more than this union comprised of a man and a woman as a marriage.

Catholic doctrine — based upon the Sacred Scriptures, which teach objective truth — clearly teaches that homosexual unions or “marriages” are actually not marriages at all. Catholic doctrine tells us that homosexual unions are objectively disordered, unnatural and not in keeping with God’s law.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church, § 2357 teaches:

Basing itself on Sacred Scripture, which presents homosexual acts as acts of grave depravity (cf. Genesis 19:1–29, Romans 1:24–27, 1 Corinthians 6:10, 1 Timothy 1:10), Tradition has always declared that “homosexual acts are intrinsically disordered” (CDF, *Persona Humana*, 8). They are contrary to the natural law ... under no circumstances can they be approved.

Moreover, Pope John Paul II’s Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith proclaimed in June 2003, “The Church teaches that respect for homosexual persons cannot lead in any way to approval of homosexual behavior or to legal recognition of homosexual unions.”

Homosexual civil unions are, thus, objectively disordered and unnatural. These behaviors are sinful. The Church, therefore, has no authority to approve of them in any way whatsoever. This has been defined as doctrine. It cannot be changed.

Thus, for a Catholic priest to “bless” a homosexual union would be the same as the Catholic Church “approving” of that homosexual union, since the Catholic priest must in every circumstance speak on

behalf of and represent the Catholic Church. And this priest's action of "blessing" a homosexual union

would constitute a grievous delict of his office, demonstrating a blatant disregard for the Church's doctrine, rendering him unfit for further ministry in the Catholic Church.

In Christ,
Patres Fidelium Christi (PFC)