



Friday Fast

For Life, Marriage & Religious Liberty

March 1: First Friday

Intention:

For the justices of the Supreme Court, that when they consider two marriage-related cases later this month, they would uphold the authentic meaning of marriage as the union of one man and one woman, a good in itself and for all of society.

Did you know?

Beginning this month, the Supreme Court will consider two marriage-related cases: [United States v. Windsor](#), about the federal Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA), and [Hollingsworth v. Perry](#), about California's Proposition 8.

Depending on how the Court rules, there could be ramifications for marriage laws throughout the country. Oral arguments for the cases begin March 26, the same day as a [March for Marriage](#) to show support for upholding the definition of marriage as the union of one man and one woman. A ruling on both cases is expected from the court by June.

Quick Links

⇒ [Call to Prayer webpage](#)

⇒ [Call to Prayer Facebook event](#)

Reflection:

Catholic Social Teaching is clear that marriage and the family are essential to the common good: "The family, the natural community in which human social nature is experienced, makes a unique and irreplaceable contribution to the good of society" (*Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*, no. 213). The family, "born of the intimate communion of life and love founded on the marriage between one man and one woman," is indeed "the first and vital cell of society" (no. 211).

The importance of marriage and the family to the common good is why the Church works tirelessly to enact laws that recognize and support marriage's authentic meaning as the union of one man and one woman. According to the *Compendium*, society and state institutions are called "to guarantee and foster the genuine identity of family life and to avoid and fight all that alters or wounds it" (no. 252).

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