



Photograph by Giovanni Portelli



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# THCT608 Theology of Marriage and Holy Orders

**Marriage and Holy Orders are the Catholic Church's sacraments at the service of communion. After receiving the sacraments of initiation, those consecrated for ecclesial leadership and those consecrated for the duties and dignities of being a Christian spouse enter into a special relationship with the Church through the sacraments of service.**

This unit studies the theology of Marriage and Holy Orders by considering their biblical and theological foundations, historical development, ritual enactment and contemporary issues in dialogue with pertinent ecclesial documents. The Catholic sacrament of Marriage is studied as a lifelong partnership between a baptised man and woman – a contract, covenant and sacrament. The distinctive nature of sacramental marriage is addressed within our contemporary sociological context, and questions of divorce, remarriage, and communion are explored. In considering Holy Orders, the unit analyses Vatican II's teaching on the priesthood of the faithful and its relationship to the ministerial priesthood; the three degrees of Holy Orders; the restoration of the permanent diaconate; and the Church's teaching on the Catholic priesthood, celibacy and gender. A focus on contemporary Roman Catholic rituals of Marriage and Holy Orders reveals the Church's doctrine of service embedded in the enacted theology of these sacraments.

## **Fees:**

Fee information can be found here:  
[acu.edu.au/TuitionFees](https://acu.edu.au/TuitionFees)

## **Details:**

3 and 4, 17 and 18 Aug 2024, 9am – 5pm  
Delivered live online via Zoom

## **Registration:**

Enrol by 21 July 2024.

For cross-institutional and audit enrolments, please email [ftp.pg@acu.edu.au](mailto:ftp.pg@acu.edu.au) noting the unit number (THCT608).



Endorsed by the  
Australian Catholic  
Bishops Conference

## **Lecturers:**



**Professor Clare Johnson**, Professor of Liturgical Studies and Sacramental Theology at ACU and Director of the ACU Centre for Liturgy

Special guest lecturers **Dr Daniel McGrath** and **Very Rev Peter Williams AM**



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