

*Chastity is for married people, too!*

## **Chastity In Marriage - A Prayer**

By John Maciejewski

Father, by Your will to create mankind in Your image and likeness, we obtain our dignity. You treat us with this dignity and entrust us with the responsibility to treat one another likewise. Help me to do so!

Father, of the gifts You have given me, one of the most precious is my spouse, a most precious gift for which You entrust me to exercise responsibility, to nurture, and to treat with the utmost respect and dignity. Help me to do so!

Father, in marriage I have vowed with my spouse to join intimately in cooperation with You as You create life. Please help me to fulfill my vow in a way worthy of Your blessing.

What way shall this be?

The way must be worthy of working with You, Father. It must be done with dignity. That is, it must be fulfilled with purity of heart, love, respect, gentleness, and self-giving. Yes Father, this is the definition of chastity in my marriage.

Chastity leaves no room for selfish, subhuman, excessive desires for sexual pleasure. Father, You have given me and my spouse sexual pleasure to show love for each other through self-giving. At the same time it is our privilege and responsibility, as we join together, to cooperate with You as You create a human being. Thank You, Father.

Father, help me and my spouse fulfill our vows to You with chastity in our marriage.