

THE ORTHODOX WEEKLY BULETIN VESTAL, CLIFFWOOD, NEW JERSEY

JESUS PERFORMS A MIRACLE IN CANA

Throughout His public ministry, Jesus Christ performed many dramatic miracles, all of which defied logical explanation. He gave sight to the blind. He enabled the crippled to walk. He cast out demons. He even raised the dead! But what was the **FIRST** miracle performed by our Lord? Ironically, the initial manifestation of His Divine powers occurred in a very human setting: **A MARRIAGE FEAST.**

St. John's Gospel describes this event for us. Jesus and His Apostles are guests at a marriage feast. A "crisis" of monumental proportions has arisen: the wedding host has run out of wine! Christ, at the urging of His Mother, intervenes, changing common water into wine. Not only did this miracle enable the celebration to continue along in a smooth fashion, but it also caused the Apostles to believe in Jesus, realizing that no ordinary man was capable of doing such works.

If Christ chose to reveal Himself in such a glorious manner at a wedding, what does this say about the state of marriage itself? The Church places great meaning and significance upon this, pointing out that this shows us the union between husband and wife is a sacred and spiritual one.

The marriage feast in Cana of Galilee was blessed by Christ's presence there. Every time the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony is administered in our Church, our Saviour is asked to bless those united by the bonds of marriage through His providence. He is called upon to **BLESS THEIR COMING AND GOINGS, FILLING THEIR LIVES WITH GOOD THINGS.**