



### FROM THE UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS

- A dedicated website of the USCCB, including many resources – a video and Q&A from the site are also linked – that help explain why masculinity and femininity are essential to marriage:
  - [www.marriageuniqueforareason.org/](http://www.marriageuniqueforareason.org/)
  - [www.marriageuniqueforareason.org/sexual-difference-video/](http://www.marriageuniqueforareason.org/sexual-difference-video/)
  - [www.marriageuniqueforareason.org/children-video/](http://www.marriageuniqueforareason.org/children-video/)
  - [www.marriageuniqueforareason.org/faq/](http://www.marriageuniqueforareason.org/faq/)
  - [www.marriageuniqueforareason.org/religious-liberty-faq/](http://www.marriageuniqueforareason.org/religious-liberty-faq/)
- Leaders of some of the largest religious communities in the United States have joined together in an open letter to all Americans to voice their shared concern for marriage and religious freedom:
  - [www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/marriage-and-family/marriage/promotion-and-defense-of-marriage/ecumenical-and-interreligious-activities.cfm](http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/marriage-and-family/marriage/promotion-and-defense-of-marriage/ecumenical-and-interreligious-activities.cfm)
- A very accessible brochure that explains why understanding sexual difference is crucial to defense of marriage:
  - [old.usccb.org/prolife/programs/rlp/2009/bransfieldpamphlet.pdf](http://old.usccb.org/prolife/programs/rlp/2009/bransfieldpamphlet.pdf)
- Q & A bulletin insert about marriage and same-sex unions:
  - [www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/marriage-and-family/marriage/promotion-and-defense-of-marriage/questions-and-answers-about-marriage-and-same-sex-unions.cfm](http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/marriage-and-family/marriage/promotion-and-defense-of-marriage/questions-and-answers-about-marriage-and-same-sex-unions.cfm)
- 2010 Pastoral letter from the USCCB – page 22 specifically deals with the way in which same-sex unions pose a fundamental challenge to the nature and purpose of marriage:
  - [www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/marriage-and-family/marriage/love-and-life/upload/pastoral-letter-marriage-love-and-life-in-the-divine-plan.pdf](http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/marriage-and-family/marriage/love-and-life/upload/pastoral-letter-marriage-love-and-life-in-the-divine-plan.pdf)
- *A Brief Catechesis on Marriage*, provided by the Bishops of Minnesota:
  - [mncc.org/issues/marriage/catholic-bishops-of-minnesota/](http://mncc.org/issues/marriage/catholic-bishops-of-minnesota/)

### BEYOND USCCB

- The new natural law argument which explains why marriage is a unique institution capable of serving the common good:
  - [www.harvard-jlpp.com/wp-content/uploads/2011/08/GeorgeFinal.pdf](http://www.harvard-jlpp.com/wp-content/uploads/2011/08/GeorgeFinal.pdf)
- The Ruth Institute:
  - [www.ruthinstitute.org/index.html](http://www.ruthinstitute.org/index.html)
- The work of Dr. Janet Smith, PhD, Father Michael J. McGivney Chair of Life Ethics at Sacred Heart Major Seminary in Detroit, offers cogent explanations, accessible to the general population, of the Church's teachings in this area. Visit [www.janetesmith.org](http://www.janetesmith.org) for some of these resources.

