



Living Christ Together...

The Promise That Counts

Español

Dear Friend in Christ,

At his diaconate ordination on June 25th Caleb Cunningham publicly promised "to remain celibate for the sake of the Kingdom of Heaven." In a month when engaged couples often choose to be married, Caleb freely gave up the great goods of marriage and fatherhood to serve the Lord as a priest.



Henceforth his life path will diverge from theirs; but the starting point for them all is the same: the moment of sacred promise before God. The newly ordained deacon and the newly married couple leave the church bound to a life-long promise of fidelity: the spouses to each other, the deacon to the Church.

If we unpack their promises, this is what they mean to say--the couple to each other, the deacon to the Lord:

"I choose you to be exclusively mine."

"You choose me to be exclusively yours."

"I let you choose me."

"You let me choose you."

"I choose to be chosen by you."

"You choose to be chosen by me."

Marriage "in the Lord" and celibacy "for the sake of the Kingdom": two parallel, life-long paths that stem from the choice to be chosen.



In Christ Jesus,

Bishop Liam Cary