

Ephesians 5:2a, 25–32 (Short Form)

This is a great mystery, but I speak  
in reference to Christ and the Church.

**A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the  
Ephesians**

**Brothers and sisters:**

**Live in love, as Christ loved us  
and handed himself over for us.**

**Husbands, love your wives,  
even as Christ loved the Church  
and handed himself over for her to sanctify her,  
cleansing her by the bath of water with the word,  
that he might present to himself the Church in  
splendor,  
without spot or wrinkle or any such thing,  
that she might be holy and without blemish.  
So also husbands should love their wives as their own  
bodies.**

**He who loves his wife loves himself.  
For no one hates his own flesh  
but rather nourishes and cherishes it,  
even as Christ does the Church,  
because we are members of his Body.**

*For this reason a man shall leave  
his father and his mother  
and be joined to his wife,  
and the two shall become one flesh.*

**This is a great mystery,  
but I speak in reference to Christ and the Church.**

**The word of the Lord.**