

**MARRIAGE.  
CONFERENCES DELIVERED  
AT NOTRE DAME, PARIS**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649203734

Marriage. Conferences delivered at Notre Dame, Paris by Père Monsabré

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**PÈRE MONSABRÉ**

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# MARRIAGE.

CONFERENCES

DELIVERED AT

NOTRE DAME, PARIS.

BY

VERY REV. PÈRE MONSABRÉ, O.P.

*Translated from the French,*

BY

M. HOPPER.

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*With the Author's Special Permission.*

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NEW YORK, CINCINNATI, CHICAGO:  
**BENZIGER BROTHERS,**

*Printers to the Holy Apostolic See.*

1890.

Hihil Obstat.

H. A. BRANN, D.D.

Imprimatur.

✠ MICHAEL AUGUSTINE,

*Archbishop of New York.*

NEW YORK, January 8, 1890.

## PREFACE.

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THE fame of Father Monsabré as a pulpit-  
orator is world-wide. He holds the same place  
to-day in the school of sacred oratory that Fa-  
ther Lacordaire held, and like the illustrious pane-  
gyrist of O'Connell, he has filled the first pulpit  
of the Church in France.

The Lenten conferences in the Cathedral of  
Notre Dame, Paris, have been preached by Père  
Monsabré since 1872 with singular success. They  
are remarkable for learning and piety, and have  
had a large circulation in France and Italy.  
The conferences on "Marriage" have an ever-  
present interest, and the following translation  
of them will afford the English-speaking world  
an opportunity to read the best thoughts of  
the greatest of modern preachers on Marriage,  
Divorce, etc.

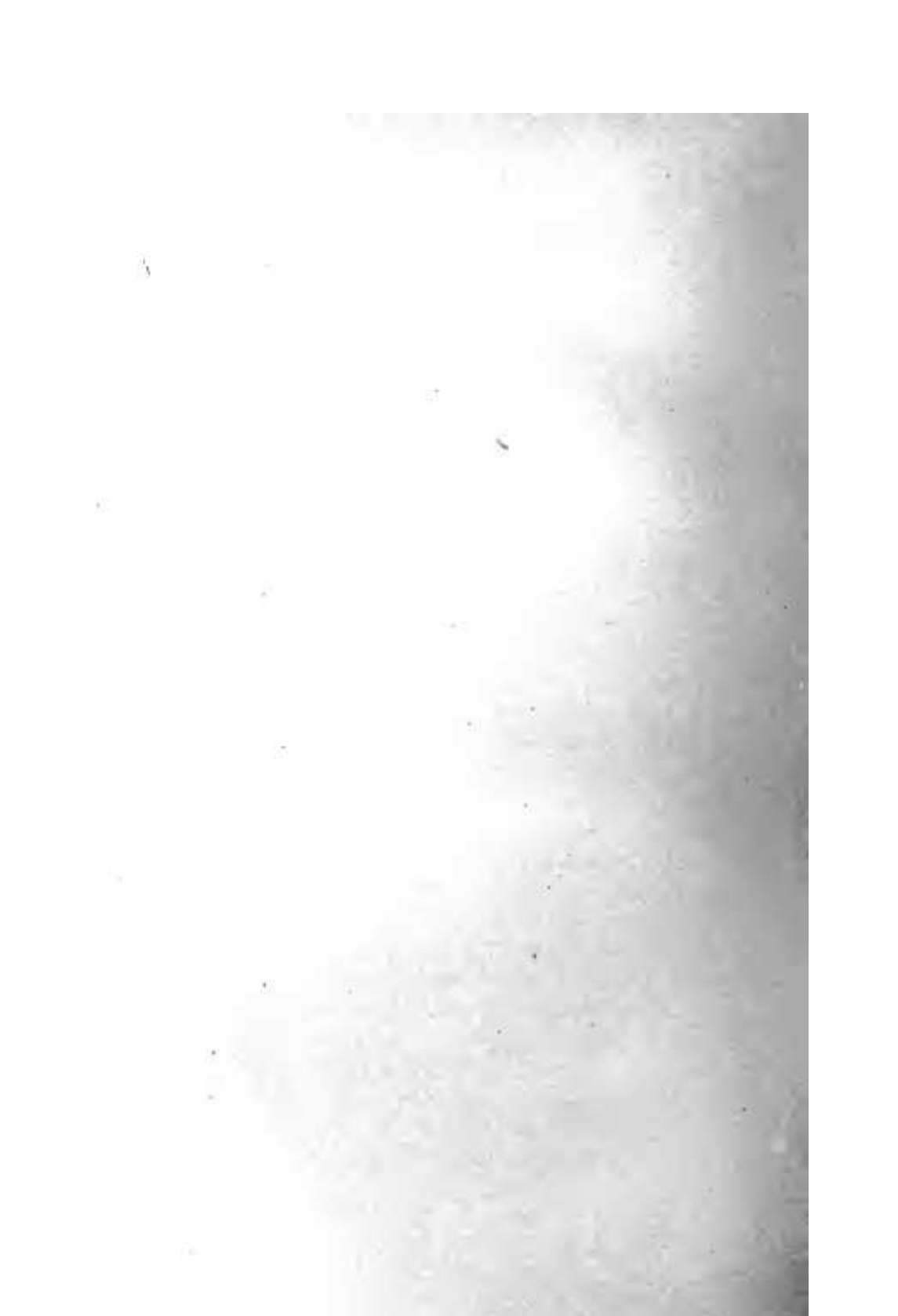




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## CONFERENCE I.

### The Sanctity of Marriage.

MY LORD<sup>1</sup> AND GENTLEMEN:—There is no need of my announcing to you the subject on which I must speak this year. You know it. In the interesting study of the grace of Jesus Christ which has engaged us for five years, there is only one more sacrament for us to examine. It is marriage, the second of the social sacraments, ordained for the reparation of the losses which Christian society suffers from the blows of death, and for the education of the holy race of the children of God.

As the natural family is the foundation of all civil society, so the Christian family is the foundation of that great spiritual society which is collected, governed, and made perfect by the priesthood. The source of the natural family is the conjugal union of man and woman, but in order to make that union the source of the Christian family, God has transferred it from the world of nature to the world of grace, by raising it to the dignity of a sacrament.

This, gentlemen, is an important fact. It will serve as a principle to determine clearly the condition of those united under the law of grace, and to refute the errors of those who pretend to reduce

<sup>1</sup> Monseigneur Richard, Archbishop of Paris.