



## **Reading II**

Hebrews 2: 9-11

### **A reading from the letter of Hebrews**

He who sanctifies and those who are sanctified have one origin.

Jesus was made for a little while lower than the angels, that through God's gracious will he might taste death for the sake of all men. Indeed, it was fitting that, when bringing many sons to glory, God, for whom and through whom all things exist, should make their leader in the work of salvation perfect through suffering. He who consecrates and those who are consecrated have one and the same Father. Therefore, he is not ashamed to call them brothers.

**This is the Word of the Lord.**

## **Gospel**

Mark 10: 2-16

### **A reading of the holy gospel according to St. Mark**

What God has joined together, man must not divide.

Some Pharisees came up and as a test began to ask Jesus whether it was permissible for a husband to divorce his wife. In reply he said, "*What command did Moses give you?*" They answered, "Moses permitted divorce and the writing of a decree of divorce." But Jesus told them: "*He wrote that commandment for you because of your stubbornness. At the beginning of creation God made them male and female; for this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and the two shall become as one. They are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore let no man separate what God has joined.*" Back in the house again, the disciples began to question him about this. He told them, "*Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her; and the woman who divorces her husband and marries another commits adultery.*"

People were bringing their little children to him to have him touch them, but the disciples were scolding them for this. Jesus became indignant when he noticed it and said to them: "*Let the children come to me and do not hinder them. It is to just such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. I assure you that whoever does not accept the kingdom of God like a little child shall not enter into it.*" Then he embraced them and blessed them, placing his hands on them.

**This is the gospel of the Lord.**

## **Thoughts from the Pulpit:**

[Mark 10: 2-16]

### **Sacredness of Marriage**

The first Reading today (Gen 2:18-24) is the story of how God made man and woman for each other and placed them into the bond of marriage, the union so sacred, so divine that what God has joined together, no human being must separate.

The very first human words recorded by the Bible are in today's first Reading (Gen 2:23)

"The man said: 'This one, at last, is bone of  
my bones and flesh of my flesh;  
This one shall be called "woman"  
For out of 'her man' this one has been taken.'

This is the very first human song recorded by the Bible – the love song.

A most touching part of that love song is Adam's joyful exclamation of Eve's equality with him.

In the Gospel today, Jesus reminds the world that "from the beginning" God made the marriage union between man and woman (!) as very sacred, and God wants to keep this sacredness of marriage unspoiled until the end of time!

Unfortunately history from the oldest times records perversions to God's law of love in marriage union; people wanted to go their own ways. At times when the Babylonian culture sold women on their market at a price a little lower than a good cow, the Bible Word proclaimed the unchangeable law of love that woman shared the same nature and dignity as man.

And nowadays at times we watch (silently!) as the world spins in promoting alternate same sex union and try to compete it with God's sacred institution of marriage and family, but the Bible Word still proclaims the unchangeable law of love that:

"God created man in his image,  
In the divine image he created him;  
Male and female he created them. Genesis 1:27

In today's Gospel Jesus Christ also points out: "Unless you become like little children you will not enter the Kingdom of heaven." He calls all of us to have in our hearts a childlike disposition, and that is trust, love, faith, hope, and openness to God.

We come here to God as a part of our community, the society very much wounded, painful, and very much in need of healing. If you are divorced, know that Jesus loves you just as much as ever. He shares your pain with you. He wants to heal you. He is ready to forgive any sin, if we come to him with a childlike disposition for forgiveness. He wants to reconcile us, transform us, and use us to proclaim his kingdom – no matter what we have done in the past. Just as he did with the little children in today's reading, he wants to put his arm around us and give us his blessing (Mark 10:16). Amen.

### **The Communion**

Welcome to participation in the Holy Eucharist. By receiving Holy Communion, the Body and Blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ, we fully participate in the celebration of the Holy Eucharist.

We are encouraged to receive Communion devoutly. In order to be properly disposed to receive Communion, participants should be baptized, should not be conscious of grave sin, and normally should fast for one to two hours. A person who is conscious of grave sin is not to receive Communion without prior Sacramental Confession.

We always welcome our fellow Christians to this celebration of the Holy Eucharist and Holy Communion. We pray that our common Baptism and the action of the Holy Spirit in this Eucharist will draw us closer to one another and begin to dispel the sad divisions separating us.

### **Announcements for October 4, 2009**

After Holy Mass, please join us for our first YMS of R Breakfast of the fall. The cemetery committee will meet after breakfast.

Fall Cleanup is scheduled for 10:00 am this Saturday, October 10. Bring some Windex and old newspapers to clean windows. All other supplies will be provided. Thanks in advance for your help in deep-cleaning our parish home for the fall and winter.

The PNU Special Offer of 10 Paid Life Insurance has been extended until November 30. If you wish to take advantage of this opportunity, see Joe.

Holy Cross will be hosting Weight Watchers, starting this Thursday, October 8. Weigh-in begins at 5:30, with the meeting at 6:00. Spread the word of this opportunity to your neighbors, family and friends.

We will hold our first community event of the fall on October 18 when we will offer a free spaghetti dinner to anyone bringing in an item for the Food Bank. We hope in this way to show the community that we live our faith and will reach out to the community in ways that will benefit us all. Money-raising community events will begin in November.

If you have names of individuals in need of our prayers and support as they heal, please let Pat know by Thursday of each calendar week. Thank you.

Mass requests for October 11 and October 18 are available. See Pat with your request.

## Weekly Calendar

Tuesday, October 6	6:00 Choir practice
Wednesday, October 7	SOLEMNITY – HOLY MOTHE R OF THE ROSARY
Thursday, October 8	5:30 pm Weight Watchers Meeting
Saturday, October 10	10:00 am Fall Cleanup
Sunday, October 11	SOLEMNITY – CHRISTIAN FAMILY
Intention: +	
10:30 am	Bible Study for Children
11:00 am	Holy Mass
12:00 pm	Coffee Hour

## Monthly Financial Summary

Week of	Weekly Income	Weekly Income Needed	Balance
September 6	\$463	\$642	-\$179
September 13	\$920	\$642	\$278
September 20	\$689	\$642	\$47
September 27	\$378.60	\$642	-\$263.40
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$2450.60</b>	<b>\$2568</b>	<b>-\$117.40</b>