

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

What God has joined together, no one must divide.

Some Pharisees approached Jesus and asked, 'Is it against the law for a man to divorce his wife?' They were testing him. He answered them, 'What did Moses command you?' 'Moses allowed us' they said 'to draw up a writ of dismissal and so to divorce.' Then Jesus said to them, 'It was because you were so unteachable that he wrote this commandment for you. But from the beginning of creation God made them male and female. This is why a man must leave father and mother, and the two become one body. They are no longer two, therefore, but one body. So then, what God has united, man must not divide.' Back in the house the disciples questioned him again about this, and he said to them, 'The man who divorces his wife and marries another is guilty of adultery against her. And if a woman divorces her husband and marries another she is guilty of adultery too.'

People were bringing little children to him, for him to touch them. The disciples turned them away, but when Jesus saw this he was indignant and said to them, 'Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. I tell you solemnly, anyone who does not welcome the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.' Then he put his arms round them, laid his hands on them and gave them his blessing.

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL



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Reflections on the Gospel

FIDELITY AND GRACE

Jesus challenges the Pharisees' reliance upon the Law of Moses to "permit" divorce. The law does not "permit" divorce. It recognises it as a reality of human life and seeks (Deut 24:1-4) to limit its harsh consequences for women.

But this provision, introduced because of human "hardness of heart", yields before the Creator's original design for marriage, now being reclaimed by Jesus. He draws on the biblical account of creation (Gen 2:18-24, as in the First Reading) to call to mind the sense of companionship and mutual knowledge intended to surround sexual union in marriage. Marital love-making should be the physical expression of life-long intimacy and commitment.

Jesus then rules out divorce and remarriage. Yet this ruling is given in the context of an expectation, shared by the early community, that the world as presently constituted was soon to pass away (cf. Mark 9:1; 13:5-36; 1 Cor 7:29-35) and where life expectancy was less than half that prevailing in Western societies today. These considerations must clearly be taken into account when Jesus' ruling on divorce is applied to later situations, something already beginning in the New Testament (Matt 5:32; 19:9; 1 Cor 7:10-16) and continuing in the canonical practice of the Church (annulments, Pauline Privilege).

Congregations may now contain many people in second marriages or people whose children are in such circumstances. The Gospel must be proclaimed and heard with sensitivity to the fact that, in the course of life, people make mistakes, relationships fail, and new ones are forged. Without surrendering the values of Jesus, the key thing, as Pope Francis reminds us, is that people find in all their life journey the grace of a merciful God.

Brendan Byrne, SJ



THE SAVING WORD

TWENTY SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / B

07 OCTOBER 2018

FIRST READING

Gen 2:18-24

A reading from the book of Genesis.

They were two in one flesh.

The Lord God said, 'It is not good that the man should be alone. I will make him a helpmate.' So from the soil the Lord God fashioned all the wild beasts and all the birds of heaven. These he brought to the man to see what he would call them; each one was to bear the name the man would give it. The man gave names to all the cattle, all the birds of heaven and all the wild beasts. But no helpmate suitable for man was found for him. So the Lord God made the man fall into a deep sleep. And while he slept, he took one of his ribs and enclosed it in flesh. The Lord built the rib he had taken from the man into a woman, and brought her to the man. The man exclaimed:

'This at last is bone from my bones,
and flesh from my flesh!

This is to be called woman,
for this was taken from man.'

This is why a man leaves his father and mother and joins himself to his wife, and they become one body.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

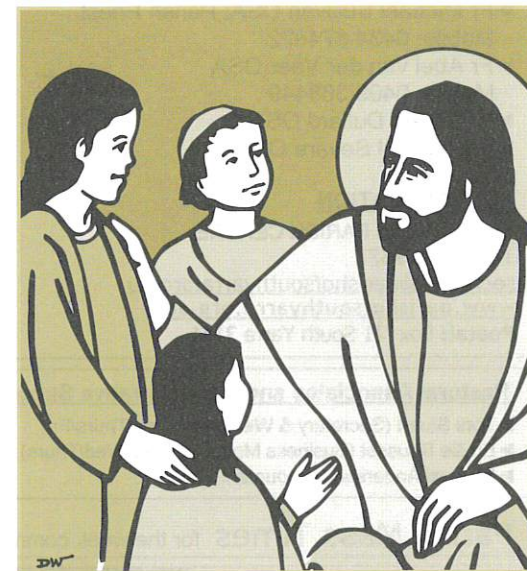
Ps 127. R. v. 5

R. May the Lord bless us all the days of our lives.

1. O blessed are those who fear the Lord / and walk in his ways! / By the labour of your hands you shall eat. / You will be happy and prosper. **R.**

2. Your wife will be like a fruitful vine / in the heart of your house; / your children like shoots of the olive, / around your table. **R.**

3. Indeed thus shall be blessed / the man who fears the Lord. / May the Lord bless you from Zion / in a happy Jerusalem / all the days of your life! / May you see your children's children. / On Israel, peace! **R.**



SECOND READING

Heb 2:9-11

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

He who sanctifies and those who are sanctified have the same origin.

We see in Jesus one who was for a short while made lower than the angels and is now crowned with glory and splendour because he submitted to death; by God's grace he had to experience death for all mankind.

As it was his purpose to bring a great many of his sons into glory, it was appropriate that God, for whom everything exists and through whom everything exists, should make perfect, through suffering, the leader who would take them to their salvation. For the one who sanctifies, and the ones who are sanctified, are of the same stock; that is why he openly calls them brothers.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

1 Jn 4:12

Alleluia, alleluia!

If we love one another,
God will live in us in perfect love.
Alleluia!



St Joseph's Church, 30 Fitzgerald Street
 St Thomas Aquinas' Church, 43 Bromby Street
 est. 1887

Under the Pastoral Care of AUGUSTINIANS

- ▶ Fr Michael Sullivan OSA: Parish Priest
Mobile: 0434 674822
- ▶ Fr Abel van der Veer OSA
Mobile: 0409 368449
- ▶ Fr Gerald Dullard OSA
- ▶ Fr Percival Severe OSA



ADMINISTRATION

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 Tel: 9826 9677

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www.parishofsouthyarra.org.au

Postal: Box 21 South Yarra 3141

CHILDRENS' LITURGY

St Joseph's • 10.30am Mass
 First & third Sundays of the month
 (except school holidays and long weekends)

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

St Joseph's • Sat: 5.15pm – 5.45pm
 (or by request)

ANOINTING / HEALING MASS

First Tuesday of the month 10am at
 St Joseph's Church
*(Senior parishioners, those with ongoing
 sickness, those with mental illness, may all
 receive the Sacrament of the Sick)*

Pastoral Associates and Administrative Support

- ▶ Toni Stuart (Secretary & Weddings: Tues/Thurs/Fri)
- ▶ Yvonne Bolland (Weddings: Tues 10am-12noon)
- ▶ Emilie Rousset (Business Manager: Tues/Wed/Thurs)
- ▶ Diane Brebner (Alfred Hospital Liaison)
- ▶ Richard Anderson (Accountant)

Parish Mass Times for the week commencing weekend 7th October 2018

DAY	ST JOSEPH'S	ST THOMAS AQUINAS'
	TIME	TIME
Sunday 7 th October 27 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	(Saturday- Vigil 6pm) 10.30am Mass	9.00am Mass
Monday 8 th October		
Tuesday 9 th October BI Antony Patrizi	10.00am Mass Anointing/Healing Mass	12.45pm Communion Service
Wednesday 10 th October St Thomas of Villanova	10.00am Mass	12.45pm Mass
Thursday 11 th October BI Elias Nieves	10.00am Mass	12.45pm Communion Service
Friday 12 th October BI Teresa Fasce	10.00am Mass 10.30am Christian Meditation	12.45pm Mass
Saturday 13 th October Deceased Benefactors of OSA	9.00am Mass 6.00pm Mass	

CHILDRENS' LITURGY

The next Children's Liturgy will be on Sunday 23rd October during the 10.30am Mass in St Joseph's Church.

MELBOURNE CATHOLIC MAGAZINE

The Melbourne Archdiocese magazine, Melbourne Catholic is available in the church foyer this weekend. Cost \$4

EVENTS AND MEETINGS

- ▶ Christian Meditation: Fridays 10.30am
- ▶ Praise & Worship: Sun 7 October 6.30pm in St Joseph's church followed by coffee & cake.
- ▶ RCIA: Tues 9 October 7pm
- ▶ Finance Committee: Tues 9 Oct 4pm
- ▶ Parish Council: Wed 10 Oct 7.30pm
- ▶ Comedy Night: Sat 20 Oct 7pm



PRAYER REFLECTION FROM ST AUGUSTINE

"A statement is not necessarily false because it is badly expressed, nor true because it is expressed eloquently."

WORKING BEE – HELP NEEDED!

On Sat Oct 27 at St Joseph's a working bee to clean the church, make small repairs and tidy the garden will be held from 9am-12pm. If you can spare some time your help will be much appreciated. Any cleaning supplies or equipment you are able to bring will be helpful. Sign up sheets are at the entrance to both churches.



COMEDY NIGHT

Saturday 20th October 2018
 7.30pm in St Joseph's Parish Hall
 30 Fitzgerald St, South Yarra
 Come along and be entertained by comedians Dave O'Neill, Monica Dullard and Brad Oaks.
 Tickets \$45 available from:
trybooking.com/421526 or
 from the Parish Office or
info@sjos.org.au
 Proceeds to aid our Parish & Outreach Services

RCIA

The parish RCIA program for 2018-2019 will commence at St Joseph's in October. This year the meetings will be held on Tuesdays from 7 - 8.30pm, commencing on October 9 with a meeting of the new candidates. If you are interested in joining the program, or learning more about the Catholic faith, we invite you to contact Fr Michael, or the RCIA team leaders: Di Brebner, Ann Marie Pagon or the Parish Office: 98269677

IN LOVING MEMORY

Anniversaries



- ✦ Nora Brearley
- ✦ Evelyn Pereira
- ✦ Greg Sheppard
- ✦ Lee Bang Gi Ger
- ✦ Giuseppe Giofre
- ✦ Fr Gabriele Muratore
- ✦ Fr Ralph Cameron OSA
- ✦ Lewis P King Snr
- ✦ Rainer Klapp
- ✦ Frank Iudice
- ✦ Peter Dinon
- ✦ William Hong
- ✦ Maria Suhengra
- ✦ David Moroney
- ✦ Sheila Brody
- ✦ Cynthia McMaster
- ✦ Anton Knorr

PARISH CHILD SAFETY & PROTECTION INFORMATION SESSIONS

Before August 2019, all parish volunteers are required to have attended an Information Session on Child Safety and Protection. We are happy to report that already 35 parishioners attended sessions last July. The next series of 90-minute Information Sessions for those who have not yet attended one will be held in the Parish Centre on the following dates.
 Sunday 28 October – 11:45am
 Monday 29 October – 7:00 pm
 Tuesday 30 October – 7:00 pm
 Please contact the Parish Office if you have any questions about these sessions.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:

June Cochrane, Des White, Beb Larsen, Chael Balcombe, John & Rose Ignace, Ronald Seaman, Aristotie Pamintuan, Therese Phillips, Mitos Gloudemans, Socorro Severe, Dolores Hogan, Frank Muratore, Maurice Wallin, Alex Walisz, Margaret Greene, Elaine Dennis, Spiros Layia, Emma Kirk, Chris 'Smith', Jean de Campo, Jacinta Severe, Gus Carter, Socrates Baroutas, Anne Rigg, Tony McNamara, Sergio Fassio, Anthony Alfred, Brendan Taylor, Djohan Gunarta Kurmiawan, Mary Gaynor, Joan Heyhoe, Madeleine Anderson, Ronald Blunt, John Cedric, Julie Mahoney, Maurie Knight.

FRIENDS OF ST AUGUSTINE

There will be a gathering of Friends of St Augustine in the priory on Thurs 11th October 7pm

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS 30/09/18

Thanking you for your continuing support!
 Please contact the parish office if you wish to contribute via Direct Debit or Credit Card

- 1st Collection (Clergy/Priory a/c) \$ 759.40
- 2nd Coll. (Planned Giving Church a/c) \$367.00
- 2nd Coll. (Loose Money Church a/c)..... \$419.80