

“The journey of synodality is the journey that God wants from his church in the third millennium”

Pope Francis



SCRIPTURE
of the DAY

Genesis 2: 18-24

Psalms 127: 1-6

Hebrews 2: 9-11

Mark 10: 2-16 or 10: 2-12

INTERNAL CIRCULATION ONLY
BUL 40/2024

Today’s reading, however, serve as a reminder to us as to what God Himself intended marriage to be.

The first reading describes how God, having created man, notices that man is lonely and decides that he needs a “helpmate”. Therefore, God forms a woman from one of the ribs of man. When the woman is brought to the man, he cries out with joy because finally, a suitable “helpmate” has been found for him. He is no longer alone.

By creating woman from the rib of the man, God emphasises the common and equal nature she shares with him and the bond that unites them. Man and woman are created to share in a covenantal relationship which includes being drawn to marriage and into sexual union with one another as husband and wife.

When the Pharisees approach Jesus with their question about marriage and divorce, Jesus is quick to correct them. While other leaders allowed men to divorce their wives in certain circumstances, Jesus taught that it is not permissible to “separate what God has joined together”. In other words, it was not permissible for a man to divorce his wife. At the heart of Jesus’ message is the challenge for spouses to live in faithful and perpetual union until death.

In this way, Jesus seeks to restore marriage to its original form as God intended it to have. He asserts that “from the beginning” by creating male and female, God intended marriage to be for one man and one woman, bound together in an indissoluble union. Husband and wife are “two in one flesh” implying a covenantal relationship established by God Himself.

In the Catholic Church, marriage is indissoluble because it is God who brings a man and woman together in the Sacrament of Marriage. God is the author of marriage. And no human institution, including the Church, or any human initiative in whatever form, can alter this for “what God has joined together, let no man put asunder”. ✦

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NEW WAY OF BEING CHURCH

6 October 2024
27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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**SALT OF THE EARTH AND LIGHT OF THE WORLD:
CELEBRATING, LISTENING AND WALKING TOGETHER IN A SPIRIT OF
COMMUNION, PARTICIPATION AND MISSION (MATTHEW 5: 13-16).**

MONTHLY FOCUS A SHARED MISSION TOWARDS A SYNODAL CHURCH

God, Not Man, is the Author of Marriage

Many of us are aware of the numerous challenges that the family and the institution of marriage are facing these days. We hear some people say that marriage, as understood and taught by the Catholic Church, is “outdated” and has to be reviewed and revised in accordance with the demands of the contemporary world.

