

## 27<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time – by Father Dave

*“The secret of my success in my married life and in my business is the same”, said Henry Ford on the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his wedding. “I don’t change models every now and then; instead I stick on to one and try to improve it.”*

*A couple was being interviewed on their Golden Wedding Anniversary. “In all that time – did you every consider divorce?” they were asked. “Oh no, not divorce,” the wife said. “Murder sometimes, but never divorce.” (Jack Benny, comedian)*

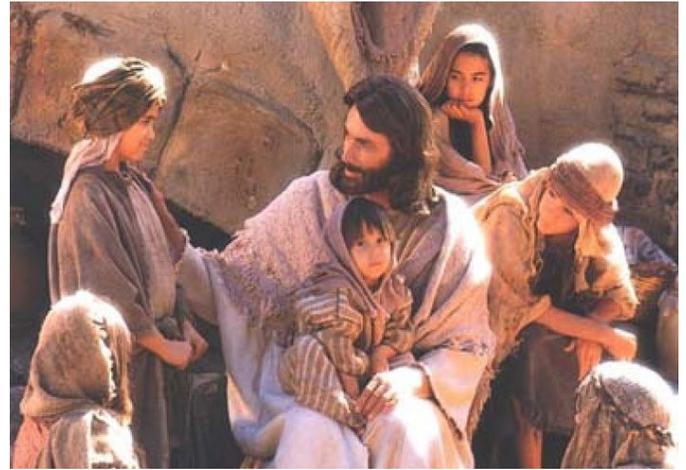
God breathed His life only into humans. In doing so, He imbued us with His essence. We are made to share that love with each other.

For many people today, Jesus’ teaching on marriage can sound disturbingly uncompromising. But we must bear in mind that these teachings, like the Church’s teachings on marriage today, want to say something essentially positive about human relationships: that in the joining of husband and wife we have one of the original blessings of God upon humanity, a blessing that was not lost in humanity’s fall into sin.

Jesus speaks of marriage in connection with the story of Creation: “From the beginning of creation, God made them male and female.” God, seeing that it is not good for Adam to be alone, first makes animals and brings them to Adam, to see if he can find in any of them one who can assuage his loneliness. But it is only when God makes the woman from Adam’s own rib that Adam finds the partner in whom his freely given love can find an answering echo. At the same time, because this relationship involves freedom, it is risky.

Indeed, we might sometimes think a pet would be preferable to a spouse. If humans were as faithful as dogs, then the permanence of the bond of marriage of which Jesus speaks in the Gospel would be a non-issue. After all, have you ever heard of someone’s dog leaving for someone else – someone younger or richer or more attractive? If only humans were as consistent and faithful as dogs. But even though we are not, we still seek out other human beings, who must make the conscious choice to love us. This is risky, but it is also a blessing, because the love that husband and wife freely give each other is ultimately a reflection of the love that God freely gives to them.

Let us pray for the Conversion of the World  
& for Peace.



## Saints for the week

**October 4 – St. Francis of Assisi** – born at Assisi, Italy in 1182. The son of a wealthy cloth merchant, he enjoyed the benefits of his father’s success: good food, fine clothing and entertainment, a busy social life, and a place in his father’s business. Love of adventure prompted him to become involved in the wars then waged through the cities and regions of Italy. On his way to battle at Spoleto one day, when he was in his early twenties, he became ill and heard a voice telling him to “serve the Master rather than men.” Returning to Assisi, he experienced a great change within himself. Meeting a leper on the road, he embraced him and gave him alms. He began to visit the sick and support the poor. Praying one day before the crucifix in the deserted country church of St. Damian, he heard a voice saying to him, “Francis, go and rebuild My house; it is falling down.” In 1206, the young man left and sold his goods to repair the poor churches in his neighborhood and to care for the needy. Eventually he left his father’s home to follow Christ as a poor man, vowing to keep the words of the Gospel literally. He soon attracted companions who shared his love of Christ and the Gospel. In 1210, he went to Rome to seek approval of his way of life from Pope Innocent III. Blessing his endeavor and officially recognizing the Franciscans, the pope afterwards told of a dream in which he saw Francis holding up the pillars of the Church. He was joined by St. Clare in 1212, and convened over five thousand Franciscans at Assisi in 1219.

**October 7 - Our Lady of the Rosary** – This Feast was established by St. Pius V to commemorate the victory of the Christian naval fleet, commanded by Don Juan of Austria, against the Turks at Lepanto on October 7, 1571. Don Juan attributed the great victory to the intercession of the Blessed Mother, which was invoked by the praying of the Rosary. *O God, by the life, death, and resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, You filled the world with joy. Grant, that meditating on the mysteries of the most holy Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary we may both imitate what they contain and obtain what they promise through Christ our Lord. AMEN.*

**BULLETIN REFLECTION by Father Rody**  
**OCT 03 2021, 27<sup>TH</sup> SUN YR-B...MK 10, 2-16**

**FROM THE FIRST READING**

**18** The LORD God said: It is not good for the man to be alone. *I will make a helper suited to him.*

**19** So the LORD God formed out of the ground all the **wild animals and all the birds of the air**, and he brought them to the man to see what he would call them; whatever the man called each living creature was then its name.

**20** The man gave names to all the tame animals, all the birds of the air, and all the wild animals; *but none proved to be a helper suited to the man.*

**21** So the LORD God cast a deep sleep on the man, and while he was asleep, he took out one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh.

**22** *The LORD God then built the rib that he had taken from the man into a woman.* When he brought her to the man,

Going through this text chronologically, the first kind of helper made for man is animal. BUT verse 20 would state 'none proved to be a helper suited to the man.'

Then, we may ask Yahweh, 'what could be your basis of the term SUITED PARTNER FOR MAN?' Let's browse **chapter 1**

**of Genesis...** **27** God created mankind in his image; in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

**THE SUITED PARTNER FOR MAN then is better qualified as** 1. Created after the image of God (**Gen 1, 27**) and 2. "This one, at last, is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh..." (**Gen. 2, 23**)

**FROM THE GOSPEL**

Our gospel today would further elaborate the meaning of 'suited partner for man.' **1.** Man and woman will eventually leave their parents and be made one as husband and wife (sacrament of matrimony) and **2.** The second stage of married life is to be father and mother (possibility-capacity to procreate **BUT** we need to understand also that there may be a hindrance to the

procreative side of married life due to delimitation of human anatomy).

But father I am a woman and I do not want to enter the married life, single blessedness is what I am thinking of, can I still be called suited partner of man? The answer is yes...your husband would be Christ through the community (church, country, family etc.).

We (male and female) are called suited partners because we continue putting into reality the word of God.