

Reflection: What God Has Joined by Scott Hahn, Ph.D.

In today's Gospel, the Pharisees try to trap Jesus with a trick question. The "lawfulness" of divorce in Israel was never an issue. Moses had long ago allowed it. But Jesus points His enemies back before Moses, to "the beginning," interpreting the text we hear in today's First Reading. Divorce violates the order of creation, He says. Moses permitted it only as a concession to the people's "hardness of heart"—their inability to live by God's covenant Law. But Jesus comes to fulfill the Law, to reveal its true meaning and purpose, and to give people the grace to keep God's commands. Marriage, He reveals, is a sacrament, a divine, life-giving sign. Through the union of husband and wife, God intended to bestow His blessings on the human family—making it fruitful, multiplying it until it filled the earth. That's why today's Gospel moves so easily from a debate about marriage to Jesus' blessing of children. Children are blessings the Father bestows on couples who walk in His ways, as we sing in today's Psalm. Marriage also is a sign of God's new covenant. As today's Epistle hints, Jesus is the new Adam—made a little lower than the angels, born of a human family. The Church is the new Eve, the "woman" born of Christ's pierced side as He hung in the sleep of death on the Cross. Through the union of Christ and the Church as "one flesh," God's plan for the world is fulfilled. Eve was "mother of all the living". And in Baptism, we are made sons and daughters of the Church, children of the Father, heirs of the eternal glory He intended for the human family in the beginning. The challenge for us is to live as children of the kingdom, growing up ever more faithful in our love and devotion to the ways of Christ and the teachings of His Church.

Saint of the Week

St Denis and Companions & St John Leonardi, Tuesday 9th.
St Daniel Comboni, Wednesday 10th.
St John XXIII, Thursday 11th.

Daily Readings

Monday: Gal 1:6-12; Ps 111: 1b-2. 7-10; Lk 10:25-37
Tuesday: Gal 1:13-24; Ps 139:1-3.13-15; Lk 10:38-42
Wednesday: Gal 2: 1-2. 7-14; Ps 117:1.2; Lk 11: 1-4
Thursday: Gal 3:1-5; Ps Lk 1:69-75; Lk 11: 5-13
Friday: Gal 3:7-14; Ps 111:16; Lk 11:15-26
Saturday: Gal 3:22-29; Ps 105:2-7; Lk 11:27-28



CONSOLATA SHRINE

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

7th October 2018



Genesis 2:18-24

First Reading

"They become one flesh."

A reading from the Book of Genesis

The LORD God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him." So out of the ground the LORD God formed every beast of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every beast of the field; but for the man there was not found a helper fit for him. So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and while he slept took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh; and the rib which the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. Then the man said, "this at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man." Therefore, a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 128:1-6 (R.cf 5)

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

Blessed are all who fear the Lord,
and walk in his ways!
By the labour of your hands you shall eat.
You will be blessed and prosper. **R**

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

Indeed thus shall be blessed
the man who fears the Lord.
May the Lord bless you from Sion.
May you see Jerusalem prosper all the days of your
life! **R**

May you see your children's children.
On Israel, peace! **R**

Second Reading

Hebrews 2:9-11

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

A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews

Brethren: We see Jesus, who for a little while was made lower than the angels, crowned with glory and honour because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone. For it was fitting that he, for whom and by whom all things exist, in bringing many sons to glory, should make the pioneer of



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their salvation perfect through suffering. For he who sanctifies and those who are sanctified have all one origin. That is why he is not ashamed to call them brethren.



Alleluia

If we love one another, God abides in us, and his love is perfected in us.

Alleluia



GOSPEL

Mark 10:2-16

“What God has joined together, let no man put asunder.”

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

At that time; Pharisees came up and in order to test Jesus asked, “Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?” He answered them, “What did Moses command you?” They said, “Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of divorce, and to put her away.” But Jesus said to them, “For your hardness of heart he wrote you this commandment. But from the beginning of creation, ‘God made them male and female.’ For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.’



So they are no longer two but one flesh. what therefore God has joined together, let no man put asunder.” And in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter. And he said to them, “Whoever divorces his wife and marries another, commits adultery against her; and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery.” And they were bringing children to him, that he might touch them; and the disciples rebuked them. But when Jesus saw it he was indignant, and said to them, “Let the children come to me, do not hinder them; for to such belongs the kingdom of God. Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it.” And he took them in his arms and blessed them, laying his hands upon them.

Announcements

1. Today is the first Sunday of the Month. There will be a blessing of our Tithes, our families and our work at the end of all Masses.
2. Today the Rosary will be prayed in front of the Eucharist after the twelve o'clock Mass.
3. Socials Committee will be selling Tea and Snacks today during all Masses to Support the Social Events of the Parish.
4. Charity Committee have organized a Jumble sales next Sunday 14th, October at all Masses to support the Needy Children.
5. Finance & Accounting Professionals Group will be holding their monthly meeting next Sunday 14th, after the 9 o'clock mass. New members are welcome.
6. We are in Missionary Month. We are all called to be Missionaries. The envelope for mission are available at the entrances of the Church kindly pick and return to the blue boxes with your dues.
7. Souvenirs for Allamano Centre are still on sales at the Gazebo.
8. Consolata Self Help Group (CORPORATE) is Registering new members. Kindly visit the desk outside the church.
9. The Pastoral Team would like to thank you all Christian and friends for your generous contribution and participation in the of Allamano Centre. Thank you very much and may God bless you and may our Mother Consolata intercedes for you always.



Various Souvenirs. Get one for your loved ones.

All Members of the Consolata Self Help Group are notified that the Annual General Meeting of the Group shall be held on 3rd November 2018 from 10.30am at the Consolata Shrine Hall.