

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time of the Year

(Genesis 2.7,8,18-24, Hebrews 2.9-11, Mark 10.2-16)

THEME: Marriage for Life

In our readings of today, especially Genesis 2:7,8,18-24 and the gospel of Mark 10:2-16 reminds us again about God's position and desire about the union of husband and wife in marriage. The union of a man and a woman in marriage has its root on God. It also has the blessings of God, who created man and woman to live together in marriage.

When God created the first woman (Eve) and brought her to the first man (Adam) her husband, God did not say to the man, I have found you a "slave" nor a "punching bag" nor "a house maid," rather God said to the man, I have found you a helper to be your partner. And the man exclaimed "This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh." And God said again "Therefore a man leaves his Father and Mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh."

So, in marriage husband and wife should live together as one, sharing things together, listening to each other, being open to one another, respecting each other, making sacrifices for each other, sharing their love together and forgiving one another, bearing in mind that they are one flesh and not strangers living together.

When your son or daughter is about to get married, please parents and guardians, help and advise the young man and the young woman to prepare for marriage and not to devote all their time and money preparing only for the wedding. For the wedding is for a *day*, but, marriage is for a "*life time*."

I always advise couples, to bear in mind that, no one is perfect. That, they should always be ready to forgive one another, when ever one partner hurts the other. Always keeping in mind, that, there are moments of temptation and trials in marriage.

One other thing, I want to point out in marriage, is *good communication*. Husbands let your wife know what is going on, in your life and that of the family, and the same thing with the wife. For no relationship survives without good communication between the two partners.

Lastly, pray and build your marriage on God.