



Twenty Seventh Sunday Of The Year

What God Has Joined

Introduction

The readings of today's Mass talk about the bond of love that marriage creates between a man and a woman, a bond that God does not seek to be broken. We come to this Eucharist as isolated individuals. But the Eucharist, properly understood and celebrated, creates a bond of love between us. Christ does not wish to see this bond broken. But unfortunately, through our selfishness and isolationism, we often do break it.

First Reading (Genesis 2: 18-24)

God made man and woman for each other. The bond of marriage means they are no longer two but one.

Second Reading (Hebrews 2:9-11)

By entering fully into human life, by experiencing the bitterness of death. Christ became a brother and a saviour to all people.

Gospel (Mark 10: 2-16)

Christ teaches that the marriage bond comes from God and that it is permanent and indissoluble.

Prayer Of The Faithful

Let us pray for all God's people, but especially for married people, that the bonds of love Christ created among us may grow stronger.

R: Lord, hear us in your love.

For the Christian community: that it May be a sign and a source of unity for a fragmented world. We pray in faith.

R: Lord, hear us in your love.



Liturgy Cycle B

For all married people: that the bond which drew them together, and which God blessed on their wedding day, may enrich them and prove to be truly unbreakable. We pray in faith.

R: Lord, hear us in your love.

For marriages that are under stress, and for those that have broken down: that Christ may heal the wounds that result. We pray in faith.

R: Lord, hear us in your love.

For single and widowed people: that they may find love and support within the Christian community. We pray in faith.

R: Lord, hear us in your love.

Communion Reflection

There are three possible levels of communication between a husband and a wife.

The first is really no communication at all.

Though they are physically close,
their minds and hearts never meet.
They are like shells on the shore.

The second is a superficial level.

They make polite but meaningless noises to each other.
They never talk about their feelings,
and rarely give each other signs of affection.

The third is real communication.

They are not afraid to show each other
that they are full of fears and anxieties,
that they are deeply wounded by sin and selfishness.
It is only when we reveal our wounds
to someone who accepts us that healing can happen and we can grow.

Love is something we have to learn.

The road from egoism to love
is a long and sometimes hard one.
But it is immensely rewarding.

A marriage without love is like a summer without the sun.

Lord, teach how to love.