



Saint Mary MacKillop Catholic Parish

Birkdale · Thorneside · Wellington Point

(This Parish is Child Safety Aware and also complies with Australian Privacy Laws)



27th Sunday in Ordinary Time - 3rd October 2021

JESUS TEACHES ON MARRIAGE

The Catechism of the catholic church says that "The intimate community of life and love which constitutes the married state has been established by the Creator and endowed by him with its own proper laws.... God himself is the author of marriage." # 1603

Divorce was a controversial topic in Jesus' day, with two main schools of thought centred around two of its most famous supporters. The first was the school of Rabbi Hillel (a lenient and popular view) and the school of Rabbi Shammai (a strict and unpopular view). The Pharisees tried to get Jesus to speak against Moses or against popular thought; they hoped to catch Him in a trap.

Jesus emphasized the heart of the matter in **Deuteronomy 24:1**. Moses did not **command** divorce; Moses **permitted** it. This went against the teaching of Rabbi Hillel, who taught that it was a *righteous duty* to divorce your wife if she displeased you in any way.

Jesus now changed from a talk about *divorce* to a talk about *marriage*. The problem was not that they did not understand the law about divorce. The problem was that they did not understand what God said about *marriage*.

This emphasis on marriage rather than divorce is a wise approach for anyone interested in keeping a marriage together. God's real purpose for marriage is not fulfilled in divorce but only in seeing God's original plan for marriage. In saying, "**God made them**," Jesus asserted God's ownership over marriage; it is God's institution, not man's, so *His* rules apply.

Jesus reminded the Pharisees that marriage is spiritually binding before God. Marriage is not merely a social contract, and as God has joined He will keep together.

So, if Jesus is taking us back to God's original plan, what's in the plan?

First, it is **monogamous**; despite later Old Testament stories about polygamy, Genesis teaches that God's original intent was for *one* man and *one* woman to form a marriage.

Second, it is their **primary commitment**: they are to leave their parents and be joined to each other, which means that their first loyalty from now on will be to the new family unit they are creating together.

Third, it is **sacramental**, by which I mean that the physical action of the joining of their bodies in sexual union is a symbol of the deeper joining of their lives as 'one flesh'.

Fourth, it is intended to be **permanent**: 'What God has joined together, let no one separate' (v.9).

This is God's original purpose for us. Jesus' intent here is to show us that marriage is not just a legal contract rather, it is a deep, mystical, sacramental union.

Blessings,

Fr. Prem Rethnamony.

This Week's Readings:

First Reading: Gen 2:18-24 – *They were two in one flesh.*

Psalm Response: Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble, be with me, Lord I pray.

(Alternative Psalm Response if spoken): May the Lord bless us all the days of our lives.

Second Reading: Heb 2:9-11 – *He who sanctifies and those who are sanctified have the same origin.*

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia. If we love one another,
God will live in us in perfect love. Alleluia!

Gospel Mark 10:2-16 – *What God has joined together, no one must divide.*



QUOTE OF THE WEEK:

"A great marriage is not when the 'perfect couple' comes together. It is when an imperfect couple learns to enjoy their differences."
— Dave Meurer

Next week's Readings

First: Wis 7:7-11

Second: Heb 4:12-13

Gospel: Mark 10:17-30

Roster	Readers 6:15pm (1st) Don F (2nd) Suzy P (Welcome & POF) Tom M	8:00am (1st) Therese T (2nd) Loretta M (Welcome & POF) Jane W	Counting Group 2
9 th & 10 th October	Communion Ministers 6:15pm Anne Marie C	8:00am Anthony W	Music 6:15pm Gp 3 8:00am Gp 2 PowerPoint 6:15pm Emma M8:00am Chris M

Mass Times: Saturday 6:15pm & Sunday 8:00am

Reconciliation: Thursday 5:30pm

Parish Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 9:00am to 2:00pm.

Parish Council Members: Chris Mahoney, Therese Evans, Cathy McGrath, Lorraine Kumar, John Spillane

Pastor: Fr Dantus Thottathil thottathild@bne.catholic.net.au

Associate Pastor: Fr Prem Rethnamony

12 Hardy Rd, Birkdale Q 4159 ☎ 3822 2139 Fax 3822 4060.

birkmmack@bne.catholic.net.au www.stmarymackillopparish.org.au

Emergency Contact: 3207 4566

Safeguarding Officer: Lisa Knight ☎ 3822 2139

STOPLINE Contact: AOB@stoline.com.au

A VOCATION VIEW:

The Christian Vocation has expression through marriage, single life, priesthood and consecrated life. Our call to holiness is to answer God's call to build the Kingdom of God. 'Let the little children come to me; ... for it is to such as these that the Kingdom of God belongs.'

Vocation Brisbane. P: (07) 3336 9392 E: vocation@bne.catholic.net.au

Parish Primary School

Principal: Mr John Spillane

10 Hardy Rd, Birkdale Q 4159

☎ 3822 5500 Fax 3822 5690

pbirkdale@bne.catholic.edu.au

www.marymackillop.qld.edu.au

Please be mindful of our sick & all who care for them: John Jorna, Agatha Ravaneschi, Liana Lo Presti, Andrew Hodgson, Amanda Ward, Ed Moloney, Colleen Van den Bosch, Janice McAnlen, Rebecca Harvey, Clara Elms, Beth Riegler, Henk Hoonhout, Tony Dickinson, Elizabeth Smit, Pat Cochrane, Patricia Briscoe, Paul McKean, Geoffrey Whall, Kevin Harrop, Judy Mullan, Charles Lilley, Ann Brown, Sally Legarda, Gemma Paxman, James Thomas, Cindy Cummins, John Bacon, Jodie Bromiley, Casey Whitby, Trish Swan, Ian Splatt, Steven West, Ava Loda, Joan Thorpe, Patricia Haines, Belinda Wheeler, Cely Salisbury, The Bade Family, Carol Parker, Brian Crimmins, Brian Johnston, Medi Camelli, Hazel Foster, Dan Mullan, Stana Matic, Page Brosnan, Dot Abrahams, Amelia Ramsay, Jeanette Moore, Nola Murphy, Christiana Becker, Cathy Leane, Pauline McNamee, Pat Crimmins, Gina Mather.

May God embrace all who have recently died: Carmel Hickey, Peter Goodbun, Lorraine Lawler, Alicia Black, Jasmine Webb, Gwen Maloney.

Anniversaries & Remembrances October: Chuito Daboin, Sam Catavitello, William Watson, Sarah Ahrens, Alberto De Monte, Vin Williams, Marian Dobunski, Fr John McGhee msc, Marjorie White, Sydney Rozario, John Chambers, Bob Garth, Candido Balito, Martin Curran, Paul Hayes, Pauline Boevink, Bill Allam, John Sheehan, Alice Groeger, Horrie Tranter, Joseph McNamee, Mary Leane, Pat Fitzpatrick, Leslie Marks, Galiano Tesser, Ronald Cowsell, Therese Bratic, Flo Mossop, Kay Cook, Helen Meade, Margaret Price, Jan Campbell, Kathleen Kearney, Maria Nguyen-Thi-Dieu, Keith Donnelly, Salvatore Ragonesi, Kathy Walsh, David Hines, Laureen Smith, Dennis Manche, Ryan Hogan, John McDonald, Susanne Conroy, Forbes Peters, Myrtle Peters, John Humphries, Mark Thiedecke, Giuseppe Citeroni, Bozica Puljic, Michael Wellington.

Please record any further names in the Anniversaries & Remembrance Diary at the Welcome Desk

The following restrictions announced Friday 24th September:

Mask restrictions have eased for the Redland City Local Government Area.

- If seated at work, school or in venues, you can take your mask off (excludes public transport and rideshare).
- If standing or walking, masks must be worn unless you can maintain physical distancing.

However, anyone who has been anywhere in the Brisbane, Gold Coast, Moreton Bay, Logan, Townsville and Palm Island Local Government Areas must wear a face mask at all times when you are indoors.

* **Livestream Mass: Cathedral Livestream <https://brisbanecatholic.org.au/multimedia/web-cast/>**
Support Your Parish: Thank you so much to all the Parishioners who continue to support our Parish financially. Our planned giving bank account details for Electronic Funds Transfer deposits are as follows: **BSB: 064 786 Account No: 1000 17027 Account Name: Birkdale Parish Planned Giving** (this account number is NOT for over the counter deposits at the Bank). Kindly reference your deposit with your surname and your planned giving number/envelope number if you have one.

Rosary Everyone is invited to join in praying the Rosary for our Nation in honour of Our Lady of Fatima on the 104th Anniversary of the 'Miracle of the Sun', on **Saturday 16th October at 10:00am** at St Mary MacKillop Catholic Parish, 12 Hardy Rd, Birkdale. Please bring a chair. For more information, please call Vita on 0449 922 161.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter COVID-SAFE live-out weekend – relationship enrichment for married couples, priests and religious from the **Friday evening of 15 October to the afternoon of 17 October 2021 (including Mass)** at Trinity College, Beenleigh (south of Brisbane) – going home on the Friday and Saturday evenings. For bookings/details contact Maria and David Murphy, (07) 3342 1456, dandmmurphy@optusnet.com.au Information website: www.wwme.org.au

Aid to the Church in Need Australia: *That Catholic Shop* is an exciting development of ACN Australia. It is a go-to shop for Catholic gifts and devotional items. From Sacramental gifts, statues, books, rosaries, Christmas items and more, there is something for everyone. The purchases you make at TCS go to support the work of *Aid to the Church in Need* to keep the faith alive in those places where it is most at risk. To browse our full range visit www.thatcatholicshop.com

St MMK Social Golf Club will play their next game on Sunday **10th October** at Howeston Golf Course. Tee off 10am. Any enquiries, phone Steve on 0417 195 571.

Parish Diary:

Monday 4th October

St Francis of Assisi
1:00pm Rosary Group and Private Prayer

Tuesday 5th October

Wednesday 6th October
7:30am HEARTfit
11:00am Rosary Group and Private Prayer

Thursday 7th October

Our Lady of the Rosary
9:45am Mass at Dutch Village
5:30pm Reconciliation
6:00pm Mass

Friday 8th October

9:30am Mass

Saturday 9th October

3:00pm Baptism Celebration
6:15pm Mass

Sunday 10th October

8:00am Mass
10:00am Golf at Howeston



27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading: 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 helpmate.' So from the soil the Lord God fashioned all the wild beasts and all the birds of heaven. These he brought to the man to see what he would call them; each one was to bear the name the man would give it. The man gave names to all the cattle, all the birds of heaven and all the wild beasts. But no helpmate suitable for man was found for him. So the Lord God made the man fall into a deep sleep. And while he slept, he took one of his ribs and enclosed it in flesh. The Lord God built the rib he had taken from the man into a woman, and brought her to the man. The man exclaimed: 'This at last is bone from my bones and flesh from my flesh! This is to be called woman, for this was taken from man.' This is why a man leaves his father and mother and joins himself to his wife, and they become one body.

Second Reading: A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

We see in Jesus one who was for a short while made lower than the angels and is now crowned with glory and splendour because he submitted to death; by God's grace he had to experience death for all mankind. As it was his purpose to bring a great many of his sons into glory, it was appropriate that God, for whom everything exists and through whom everything exists, should make perfect, through suffering, the leader who would take them to their salvation. For the one who sanctifies, and the ones who are sanctified, are of the same stock; that is why he openly calls them brothers.

Gospel: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

Some Pharisees approached Jesus and asked, 'Is it against the law for a man to divorce his wife?' They were testing him. He answered them, 'What did Moses command you?' 'Moses allowed us' they said 'to draw up a writ of dismissal and so to divorce.' Then Jesus said to them, 'It was because you were so unteachable that he wrote this commandment for you. But from the beginning of creation God made them male and female. This is why a man must leave father and mother, and the two become one body. They are no longer two, therefore, but one body. So then, what God has united, man must not divide.' Back in the house the disciples questioned him again about this, and he said to them. 'The man who divorces his wife and marries another is guilty of adultery against her. And if a woman divorces her husband and marries another she is guilty of adultery too.'

**MESSAGE FROM ARCHBISHOP MARK COLERIDGE ON THE START
OF THE PLENARY COUNCIL FIRST ASSEMBLY**



After five years of preparation and consultation we're finally arrived at the moment of the first assembly of the two assemblies of the Plenary Council in Australia; the first Plenary Council celebrated in Australia since 1937.

Because of COVID-19 we've had to postpone this first assembly for twelve months. We're still in the grip of COVID-19 but we decided to go ahead even though now the first assembly will be completely online.

But here in Brisbane, unless we have a lockdown, we will gather as a group of about fifteen in Cathedral House behind me each day. So there will be some face to face, but most of it will be face to screen.

Now, not everybody can be a member of the Plenary Council. There will be about 300 of us online as members and expert advisors and helpers of various kinds, so that 300 will be online.

But in fact the Plenary Council is for the entire community of faith, all catholic people whoever you are, it's for you the Plenary Council.

So you may not be online as a member of the Plenary Council, but you are very much part of the journey of this week and that's why I write to you now.

If you're not online there are other ways in which you can take part; you can follow the live stream sessions each day, not all the sessions will be live streamed, but some will be and you are very much invited to join the live stream sessions*.

Then you can each day follow the updates that will be provided at the end of each day.

So again I invite you, I urge you to read the updates but most of all, to surround the assembly with your prayer; that this is a deep and real and powerful way of you sharing in the experience of this first assembly.

So the call is to all of us members or not the fact is you've been baptised and therefore you are very much part of the journey.

So let's take the road together and may God, who has begun the good work in us with the Plenary Council, bring it to fulfilment.

* A google search for "Plenary Council" will find us at <https://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/>