

Cycle B – 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Oct. 6, 2024

“... Let the little children come to me”

(Gospel only)

Opening Prayer (Psalm 128)

Leader: Blessed is everyone who fears the Lord,
who walks in his ways.

All: You shall eat the fruit of the labour of your hands,
you shall be happy, and it shall go well with you.

Leader: Thus shall you be blessed who fear the Lord.
The Lord bless you from Zion.

All: May you see the prosperity of Jerusalem
all the days of your life.



Gospel – Mark 10:2-16

This discussion on divorce in Mark is found in all three synoptic Gospels (Matthew, Mark, and Luke). Jesus upholds the original divine plan of the indissolubility of marriage, citing the Mosaic exception as a concession to human weakness. In typical Gospel-of-Mark fashion, Jesus follows this up by privately instructing the disciples. Immediately following this heavy discussion Jesus gives the example of a child.

1. What part of this passage touches you the most?
2. How would you explain this passage to someone who has suffered through a divorce?
3. How should one preach on this passage?
4. Why do you think Jesus used the example of a child immediately following this heavy discussion on divorce?

Praying the Word

Intention: For all who suffer from broken relationships, both in marriage, in the family,
in the wider community. We pray to the Lord.

(Invite personal intentions, ending with the Lord's Prayer)

Concluding Prayer

Leader: Within your will, O Lord,
all things are established.

All: **For you have made all things,
the heaven and the earth,
and all that is within them.**

Leader: Pour out your mercy, O Lord,
upon our hardness of heart.

All: **Help us to love justly in all relationships
and to honour one another
with child-like joy and simplicity.
We make this prayer through Christ, our Lord.
AMEN.**

(Let us share a sign of the peace of Christ)