

# St. John Paul II Parish, Sellersburg IN

## The First Fifteen

Here at JP II, we like to begin all of our parish meetings with some faith sharing focused on one of the upcoming Sunday's readings. To begin, one person in the group proclaims the reading provided below. Then everyone is invited to reflect and share on the readings. The questions provided below are a guide to stimulate your discussion. You can use these or anything that strikes you about the Word of God. Conclude your prayer with "Come, Holy Spirit".

### Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mk 10:2-16

October 3, 2021

The Pharisees approached Jesus and asked, "Is it lawful for a husband to divorce his wife?" They were testing him. He said to them in reply, "What did Moses command you?" They replied, "Moses permitted a husband to write a bill of divorce and dismiss her." But Jesus told them, "Because of the hardness of your hearts 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. Therefore what God has joined together, no human being must separate." In the house the disciples again questioned Jesus about this. 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 people were bringing children to him that he might touch them, but the disciples rebuked them. When Jesus saw this he became indignant and said to them, "Let the children come to me; do not prevent them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. Amen, I say to you, whoever does not accept the kingdom of God like a child will not enter it." Then he embraced them and blessed them, placing his hands on them.

#### Thoughts to Ponder:

1. In 1960, 72% of all US adults 18+ were married compared to 51% in 2011 (Pew research). What do you think is the reason for the decline?
2. How can our parish community better support our married parishioners?
3. What do childlike qualities look like in your life?

*End with Come, Holy Spirit...*

Come, Holy Spirit  
Fill my heart.  
Enkindle in me  
the fire of your love.  
Send forth your Spirit,  
and I shall be created.  
And you shall renew the face of the earth.