

27TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

OCTOBER 3, 2021



Marriage and Divorce

MARK 10:2-16

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.



TIPS FOR EXPLORING THE GOSPEL

- Read the upcoming Sunday Gospel a few days before the weekend. Listen to what God is saying to you personally.
- Select part of the Gospel ahead of time and share it with your children. Have them listen for this part during Mass.
- Don't be afraid to let kids ask honest questions. Be honest if you don't know something. Tell your child you will look into it and get back to them.

EXPLORING THE GOSPEL



Either before or after a Sunday meal together, designate one person to read the Gospel. Other family members should listen attentively. Then have each family member share an insight about the Gospel.

Discuss the following questions as a family:

- Jesus invited the children to come to him in today's Gospel story. Imagine that you are the child in the story. What is it like to be embraced and blessed by Jesus?
- People brought children to Jesus so that he could bless them. What are some ways that Jesus blesses us during Mass?



RECIPE OF THE WEEK

Crockpot Italian Wedding Soup

The delicious and easy recipe is fitting as we reflect on marriage today.

INGREDIENTS:

- 12 oz. frozen meatballs
- 6 c. chicken broth
- 1/2 c. diced carrots
- 1/2 c. diced celery
- 1/2 c. chopped onion
- 1 t. minced garlic
- 1 T. parsley
- 1 t. oregano
- Salt and pepper
- 2 c. frozen chopped spinach
- 1 c. uncooked pasta

DIRECTIONS:

1. Place the meatballs in the slow cooker.
2. Add the chicken broth, seasoning, and vegetables.
3. Cook on low for 6-8 hours or high for 3-4 hours.
4. In the last 30 minutes of cooking, add the pasta of your choice and spinach and cook until tender.
5. Serve with Parmesan cheese if desired.

Submit your own favorite snack, dessert, or dinner recipe online at www.stmarysbismarck.org/reclaiming-sundays

Families are encouraged to share what they are doing to celebrate each Sunday by using the hashtag [#ReclaimingSundays](https://twitter.com/ReclaimingSundays) on social media!



FAMILY PRAYER

Prayer to St. Joseph

The first Sunday of October is Respect Life Sunday. St. Joseph is known as the Defender of Life. Ask for St. Joseph's intercession to protect life in all stages.

Dearest St. Joseph, at the word of an angel, you lovingly took Mary into your home. As God's humble servant, you guided the Holy Family on the road to Bethlehem, welcomed Jesus as your own son in the shelter of a manger, and fled far from your homeland for the safety of both Mother and Child.

We praise God that as their faithful protector, you never hesitated to sacrifice for those entrusted to you. May your example inspire us also to welcome, cherish, and safeguard God's most precious gift of life.

Help us to faithfully commit ourselves to the service and defense of human life—especially where it is vulnerable or threatened. Obtain for us the grace to do the will of God in all things. Amen.

FAMILY FUN

Look at Wedding Photos

Since today's Gospel focuses on marriage, spend time as a family looking at old wedding photos! It could be pictures from your parents' wedding, grandparents' wedding, or the wedding of a friend. Tell your children about memories from the day. See if your children recognize any of the people who were a part of your wedding.



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ST. MARY

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