



EUCHALETTE

7 October 2018

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year B

The Cradle of Life and Love

Today's liturgical readings remind us that the family is the first and basic institution of human society. Its nature and purpose are inscribed in the very makeup of man and woman who are incomplete in themselves. This is why they need the help of "the other half" to reach their full potentials and satisfy their affective, emotional, and physical needs.

Unfortunately, sin has sown in many families the seeds of selfishness and unfaithfulness, which lead to most painful breakups. Jesus, who came to restore all aspects of our life to their original integrity, reminds us today of God's plan for the human family and enjoins all to keep it the way God designed it to be. Thus let us remember in our prayers all families.



INTRODUCTORY RITES



Entrance Antiphon

(To be recited only when no Entrance Hymn is sung.)

Within your will, O Lord, all things are established, and there is none that can resist your will. For you have made all things, the heaven and the earth, and all that is held within the circle of heaven; you are the Lord of all.

Greeting

P –Blessed be God who created the human family to be the mirror of His Trinitarian love. May His grace and peace be with you all!

All –**And with your spirit!**

Penitential Act

P –As we prepare to offer the Holy Eucharist, let us pause for a while as we call to mind our sins, especially the sins against the integrity and holiness of our family. *(Pause)*

P –For the times we have forgotten that You are the Creator of the human family, Lord, have mercy!

All –**Lord, have mercy!**

P –For the times we have taken for granted the other members of our family or hurt their feelings, Christ, have mercy!

All –**Christ, have mercy!**

P –For the times we have caused divisions, jealousy and bitterness in our own families, Lord, have mercy!

All –**Lord, have mercy!**

P –May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

All –**Amen!**

Gloria

All – Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen!

Collect *(Opening Prayer)*

P –Almighty ever-living God, who in the abundance of your kindness surpass the merits and the desires of those who entreat you, pour out your mercy upon us to pardon what conscience dreads and to give what prayer does not dare to ask.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

All –**Amen!**

he embraced the children and blessed them, placing his hands on them.

The Gospel of the Lord!
All—Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Homily

Profession of Faith

(Nicene-Constantinopolitan Creed)

All—I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, *(bow)* and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.** For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen!

Prayer of the Faithful

P—Today's readings have enabled us to appreciate the sacredness of marriage and its vital role in God's plan of creation. Let us now pray for all families in the world, and say:

All—Founder of the human family, hear us!

C—That the Catholic Church, under the leadership of the Pope and the bishops, may successfully promote the unity and stability of the human family, let us pray! **R.**

C—That all Catholic faithful may appreciate the sacredness of marriage and defend it against all attacks and deviations, let us pray! **R.**

C—That all couples who are experiencing a crisis in their relationship as husband and wife may find the strength to overcome all difficulties through prayer and the concern for their children, let us pray! **R.**

C—That all teachers may appreciate their God-given vocation and live it out with wisdom and love, let us pray! **R.**

C—That all of us may align our lives to the truths of our faith, let us pray! **R.**

C—Let us pray in silence for our personal intentions. *(Pause)*
Let us pray! **R.**

P—Lord God, in Your plan for mankind, You wanted every family to be a sacrament of Your fruitful love. Grant all families the abundance of Your grace and the consolation of Your presence.
Through Christ our Lord.

All—Amen!



Preparation of the Gifts

P—Pray, brethren . . .

All—May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands, for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

Prayer Over the Offerings

P—Accept, O Lord, the sacrifices instituted by your commands and, through the sacred mysteries, which we celebrate with dutiful service, graciously complete the sanctifying work by which you are pleased to redeem us.

Through Christ our Lord.
All—Amen!

Preface of Marriage

P—The Lord be with you!

All—And with your spirit!

P—Lift up your hearts!

All—We lift them up to the Lord!

P—Let us give thanks to the Lord our God!

All—It is right and just!

P—It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks, Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God.

For you have forged the covenant of marriage as a sweet yoke of harmony and an unbreakable bond of peace, so that the chaste and fruitful love of holy Matrimony may serve to increase the children you adopt as your own.

By your providence and grace, O Lord, you accomplish the wonder of this twofold design: that, while the birth of children brings beauty to the world, their rebirth in Baptism gives increase to the Church, through Christ our Lord.

Through him, with the Angels and all the Saints, we sing the hymn of your praise, as without end we acclaim:

All—Holy, holy, holy . . .

Memorial Acclamation

P—The mystery of faith!

All—We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again!



All—Our Father . . .

P—Deliver us, Lord . . .

All—For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever.

Sign of Peace

Breaking of the Bread

All—Lamb of God . . .

Communion

P—This is Jesus, the Incarnate Son of God who restored the human family to its original sacredness. He is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to his Supper.

All—Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

Communion Antiphon
(To be recited only when no Communion Hymn is sung.)

The Lord is good to those who hope in him, to the soul that seeks him.

Prayer after Communion
P –Grant us, almighty God, that we may be refreshed and nourished by the Sacrament

which we have received, so as to be transformed into what we consume.

Through Christ our Lord.
All—Amen!



P –The Lord be with you.
All—And with your spirit!

P –May almighty God bless you: the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
All—Amen!

P –Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life!

All—Thanks be to God!



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GOD'S PLAN FOR THE HUMAN FAMILY

by *Jess P. Balon*

Man and woman are not intended to live in isolation. (See *Gn 2:18*.) As social beings, they are meant for social life, communication, friendship, communion As sexual beings, man and woman are complementary and meant to propagate and perpetuate their own selves in an ever-expanding chain of new members of the human species.

In God's plan, marriage is the unbreakable covenant of love in which one man and one woman fulfill their social, affective and sexual needs. It is the foundation of the family, the basic form of human society. Every family should be a reflection of God's creative and caring love. It is within their own family that people are expected to be instruments and recipients of God's love in all its wonderful features: life-giving, full of care, ever open to accept and appreciate the "other," ready to give one's best and to forgive even the worst.

All this starts with husband and wife, but does not end with them. **Together, through the oneness and communion they create, they become the "sacraments" of the Lord's love also for the other members of the family, especially their children. Completing the circle, the children should be the "sacraments" of God's love for their parents and for one another.**

St. Paul spells out this truth in very concrete terms (see especially *Col 3:18-21*), and the Church – under the guidance of the Holy

Spirit – has come to realize ever more clearly the sanctifying role of the family.

But **marriage and the family, like all other human realities, bear the consequences of original sin and sin in general.** This terrible, destructive force relentlessly tries to tear apart what God's plan has united. All the worst tendencies of the wounded human nature – jealousy, sensuality, unfaithfulness, possessiveness . . . coupled with the bad example from the environment, continually threaten to destroy the harmony of even the best families.

Under the violence of such attacks, **the Christian couples should always be mindful of the grace of the sacrament that has bound them to each other as Christ is bound to the Church.** That grace needs to be "activated" through faith, prayer, and faithfulness to the commitments undertaken. The mutual duties of sincere love, acceptance, assistance, encouragement, forgiveness . . . have to be fulfilled with constant generosity.

Every family has to learn to kneel down in prayer and to go to God together. Regardless of what may have come to pass the day before, every dawn must usher in a "newness" that heals the wounds of the past and reaches out beyond the present clouds and storms.

Then, every Christian family will really be a "little Church," a lovely place to be in, and an inspiration for others to follow. The witness which a real Christian family can offer is one of the best gifts to the Church and society at large.



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