

## A Suitable Partner

In the story of the creation of the first woman, the Hebrew word *ezer* is used to describe her relationship with the first man. Many Bibles translate that word as “helper” or “helpmate,” thus making the woman an addition to the man. The *Lectionary* translates the word as “suitable partner,” emphasizing mutuality rather than subservience. Since the word is generally used for divine assistance, it certainly does not imply inferiority.

Another important Hebrew word is *bad*, usually translated as “alone.” A common meaning is “separated from,” implying incompleteness in a relationship. This incompleteness is remedied when the man is given a suitable partner, one who is as intimate a companion to him as are his bones.

The intimacy of this relationship of mutuality is found in the Gospel passage as well. There the focus is

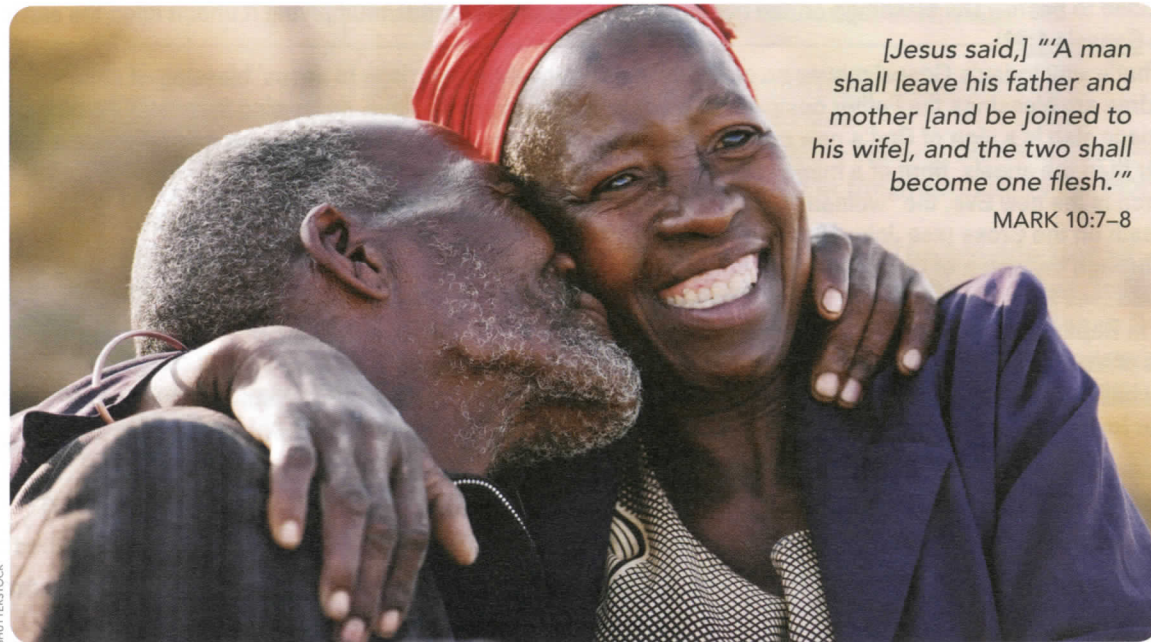
on the endurance of the relationship. Jesus insists that the bond that joins the couple together must not be severed. Many today might find this ruling too rigid. Things can happen in intimate relationships; partners can grow apart; staying together could become dangerous. While these are valid concerns today, women in the patriarchal society of the time would see Jesus’ interpretation of the law as protecting them. By law only men could divorce their wives, and reasons for doing so could be as trivial as poor cooking.

Today’s readings remind us of our need for intimate relationships of mutuality. They further underscore how important it is to cherish such relationships and to nurture them by respecting our partners.

*Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA*

### FOR Reflection

- ★ Do you consider yourself a “suitable partner”?
- ★ Are you nurturing and respectful?



[Jesus said,] “A man shall leave his father and mother [and be joined to his wife], and the two shall become one flesh.”

MARK 10:7-8

## THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF CYCLONE—MARAK

*St. Joseph, Cyclone & Sts. Cyril & Methodius, Marak*

**Pastor:** Rev. RanJan Cletus

**Mailing address:** 20120 FM 485, Burlington, TX 76519.....**Phone** 254-985-2280

**Email:** cyclone.marak@gmail.com **Website:** marakchurch.org

**Masses: Cyclone:** Sat. 5:30PM & Sun. 8:15AM; Weekdays: Tue, Thurs & Friday: 7AM

**Marak:** Sundays: 10:15AM and Wednesday 5:30PM(unless otherwise stated)

### The Sacraments:

**Baptism:** On Sundays after Mass. Please contact the pastor to schedule a meeting with him; a preparation program may be needed. Parents must be registered parishioners of St. Joseph, Cyclone or Sts. Cyril & Methodius, Marak.

**Confessions:** Before Mass on the weekend and anytime by appointment.

**Marriage:** Couples planning to be married should contact the pastor at least six months in advance before you set the date of the wedding. Completion of required paperwork and a preparation program needed.

### OCTOBER 3, 2021 — TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

In today's Gospel, the Pharisees try to trap Jesus with a trick question. The "lawfulness" of divorce in Israel was never an issue. Moses had long ago allowed it (see Deuteronomy 24:1-4). But Jesus points His enemies back before Moses, to "the beginning," interpreting the text we hear in today's First Reading.

Divorce violates the order of creation, He says. Moses permitted it only as a concession to the people's "hardness of heart"—their inability to live by God's covenant Law. But Jesus comes to fulfill the Law, to reveal its true meaning and purpose, and to give people the grace to keep God's commands.

Marriage, He reveals, is a sacrament, a divine, life-giving sign. Through the union of husband and wife, God intended to bestow His blessings on the human family—making it fruitful, multiplying it until it filled the earth (see Genesis 1:28).

That's why today's Gospel moves so easily from a debate about marriage to Jesus' blessing of children. Children are blessings the Father bestows on couples who walk in His ways, as we sing in today's Psalm. Marriage also is a sign of God's new covenant. As today's Epistle hints, Jesus is the new Adam—made a little lower than the angels, born of a human family (see Romans 5:14; Psalm 8:5-7). The Church is the new Eve, the "woman" born of Christ's pierced side as He hung in the sleep of death on the Cross (see John 19:34; Revelation 12:1-17).

Through the union of Christ and the Church as "one flesh," God's plan for the world is fulfilled (see Ephesians 5:21-32). Eve was "mother of all the living" (see Genesis 3:20). And in Baptism, we are made sons and daughters of the Church, children of the Father, heirs of the eternal glory He intended for the human family in the beginning. The challenge for us is to live as children of the kingdom, growing up ever more faithful in our love and devotion to the ways of Christ and the teachings of His Church.



9/26: Stewardship: Sunday Offering: \$1,230.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

**Bulletin Information: MARAK:** Patsy Gaines (254-482-0570) - Email—pagaines2002@yahoo.com  
**CYCLONE:** Nancy Posvar (254-913-2696)

**Bulletin deadline:** Please call or e-mail info for the bulletin by Wednesday before the weekend!



### Ministries for October 10, 2021

**Rosary:** Raymond Tomek

**Offertory:** REP

**Ushers:** REP

**Eucharistic Minister:** Misty Green

**Lector:** REP

**Altar Servers:** Sam, Will, Pat & Kate

**Sanctuary Light:** October 4th—10th: Stephanie B. Krumnow by Merlene Slavik

**Prayer Chain...** Please remember in your daily prayers the faithfully departed, those souls in purgatory, those of our community that are in special need of prayer, those who are homebound or in nursing homes, all those in the military and to all those who have been affected by the Covid-19 Virus and also that the vaccine for the corona virus will help to stop this pandemic & for the following: Anton Vrazel, David Minatra, Reenie Hubnik, Kathy Hubnik, Baby Townes Bush, Carolyn Klecka, Edward Brenek, Jr., Marilyn June Gonzalez, and Doris Matocha. Prayers are powerful! To be added to the prayer chain:

Please contact: **Merlene Slavik—254-697-1247 or email—[Slavik@farm-market.net](mailto:Slavik@farm-market.net)**

### **MARAK MASSES —October 3-10, 2021**

Date	Time	Mass Intentions
Today— 10/3	10:15am	+ Stephanie B. Krumnow & John Slavik by Merlene Slavik <i><u>Remembering in prayer to end human trafficking &amp; abortion by St. Ann's Altar Society</u></i> + Albina Vrazel by Terry & Barbara McNeill <i><u>In Honor of Johnny &amp; Ethel Marak's 63rd Wedding Anniv.</u></i>
10/10 — Sunday	10:15am	+ Martha Tomek by Louis & Louise Straka + Stefina Vansa by Alfred & Bernice Vrazel + Joe Vansa by Tom & Julie Motyka + Valeria Kostiha by Johnny & Donna Dohnalik

### UPCOMING EVENTS AND INFORMATION

- **TODAY:** Second Collection for Building and Maintenance Fund.
- **TODAY:** Fall Festival—St. Matthew Catholic Church—Rogers—Serving Starts at 11am—\$12/plate BBQ pulled Pork & Sausage—See Bulletin Board in the church entry for more information.
- **OCTOBER 3RD & 10TH:** Nomination Ballots for Parish Council will be provided for all parishioners. There are 3 council members who will be going off the board—Dennis Marek, Garrey Prcin and Jeannine Dohnalik. Dennis Marek & Garrey Prcin have served their 6 years and are not eligible for re-election. Jeannine Dohnalik is eligible. Please remember to ask the parishioner if they approve of their name being placed on the nomination ballot. These ballots need to be returned by October 17th.
- **OCTOBER 10TH:** 114th Annual Picnic of the Church of the Visitation in Westphalia—\$12.00 per plate—Fried Chicken & Home made Sausage—Lots of family fun—See bulletin board in the church entry for more information.
- **OCTOBER** is being observed as the month of women and the purple bows that are on the pews are to remind us to pray for all victims of human trafficking and victims of abortion.

**NO MASS ON WEDNESDAY—OCTOBER 6TH**

# Dear Padre,

**I just got my new driver's license, and my wife is encouraging me to sign up to be an organ donor. Are organ transplants permitted by the Catholic Church?**

**Yes, under certain conditions.** The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* affirms that "organ transplants are in conformity with the moral law if the physical and psychological dangers and risks to the donor are proportionate to the good that is sought for the recipient" (CCC 2296).

Organ transplants from a dead person to a living person must fulfill two additional criteria: First, the donor must give free and informed consent prior to death, or those who legitimately speak on the donor's behalf must do so at the time of death. And second, the donor must be dead before the tissue can be harvested—in other words, the donor must not be declared dead prematurely, nor may the donor's death be hastened just to use the organs. The *Catechism* adds, "Organ donation after death is a noble and meritorious act and is to be encouraged as an expression of generous solidarity."

The transplantation of organs from a living donor must fulfill two criteria: First, the removal of the organ must not seriously impair the donor's health or bodily function. Second, the donor must make an informed and free decision recognizing the potential risks involved.



SHUTTERSTOCK

Fr. David Louch, CSSR  
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org

**Do you have a question for the Padre?**

Go to [DearPadre.org](http://DearPadre.org) to send your question and to learn more about Dear Padre.



## A WORD FROM Pope Francis

*In the first reading we also hear that God was pained by Adam's loneliness....God did not create us to live in sorrow or to be alone. He made men and women for happiness, to share their journey with someone who complements them, to live the wondrous experience of love.*

HOMILY, OCTOBER 4, 2015

## Calendar

### Monday

OCTOBER 4

St. Francis of Assisi

Jon 1:1—2:2, 11

Lk 10:25—37

### Tuesday

OCTOBER 5

Weekday

Jon 3:1—10

Lk 10:38—42

### Wednesday

OCTOBER 6

Weekday

Jon 4:1—11

Lk 11:1—4

### Thursday

OCTOBER 7

Our Lady of the Rosary

Mal 3:13—20b

Lk 11:5—13

### Friday

OCTOBER 8

Weekday

Jl 1:13—15; 2:1—2

Lk 11:15—26

### Saturday

OCTOBER 9

Weekday

Jl 4:12—21

Lk 11:27—28

### Sunday

OCTOBER 10

Twenty-eighth Sunday

in Ordinary Time

Wis 7:7—11

Heb 4:12—13

Mk 10:17—30

or 10:17—27

### Know Someone Overly Anxious About Sin?

Since 1964, the Redemptorists' *Scrupulous Anonymous* free monthly newsletter has ministered compassionately to those struggling with scrupulosity. To subscribe, visit [ScrupulousAnonymous.org](http://ScrupulousAnonymous.org).

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