

A reading from the book of Genesis

The LORD God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make a suitable partner for him."

So out of the ground the LORD God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name.

The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field; but for the man there was not found a suitable partner.

So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh.

And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man.

Then the man said,  
"This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh;  
this one shall be called Woman, for out of Man this one was taken."

Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and  
clings to his wife, and they become one flesh.

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the book of Ruth

Then Ruth said,

"Do not ask me to abandon or forsake you.

For wherever you go I will go,  
wherever you lodge I will lodge,

your people shall be my people,  
and your God shall be my God too.

Wherever you die I will die,  
and there will I be buried.

May the LORD do so to me, and more besides,  
if anything but death separates me from you!"

The Word of the Lord.

A Reading from the book of Tobit

On their wedding night Tobiah arose from bed and said to his wife,  
“My love, get up.

Let us pray and beg our Lord to have mercy on us  
and to grant us deliverance.” She got up,  
and they started to pray and beg that deliverance might be theirs.  
He began with these words:

“Blessed are you, O God of our fathers;  
praised be your name forever and ever.  
Let the heavens and all your creation praise you forever.

“You made Adam and you gave him his wife Eve  
to be his help and support;  
and from these two the human race descended.  
You said, ‘It is not good for the man to be alone;  
let us make him a partner like himself.’

“Now, Lord, you know that I take this wife of mine  
not because of lust, but for a noble purpose.  
Call down your mercy on me and on her,  
and allow us to live together to a happy old age.”  
They said together, “Amen, amen,”

The word of the Lord

A reading from the book of Proverbs

When one finds a worthy wife, her value is far beyond pearls.  
Her husband, entrusting his heart to her, has an unfailing prize.  
She brings him good, and not evil, all the days of her life.

She reaches out her hands to the poor,  
and extends her arms to the needy.

Many are the women of proven worth,  
but you have excelled them all.

Charm is deceptive and beauty fleeting;  
the woman who fears the LORD is to be praised.

Give her a reward of her labors,  
and let her works praise her at the city gates.

The word of the lord

A reading from the book of Sirach

Happy the husband of a good wife,  
twice-lengthened are his days;

A worthy wife brings joy to her husband,  
peaceful and full is his life.

A good wife is a generous gift bestowed upon him  
who fears the LORD;

Be he rich or poor, his heart is content,  
and a smile is ever on his face.

A gracious wife delights her husband,  
her thoughtfulness puts flesh on his bones;

A gift from the LORD is her governed speech,  
and her firm virtue is of surpassing worth.

Choicest of blessings is a modest wife,  
priceless her chaste soul.

Like the sun rising in the LORD'S heavens,  
the beauty of a virtuous wife is the radiance of her home.

The word of the Lord

A reading from the letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Do not conform yourselves to this age  
but be transformed by the renewal of your mind,  
that you may discern what is the will of God,  
what is good and pleasing and perfect.

Let love be sincere; hate what is evil, hold on to what is good;  
love one another with mutual affection;  
anticipate one another in showing honor.

Do not grow slack in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord.  
Rejoice in hope, endure in affliction, persevere in prayer.  
Contribute to the needs of the holy ones, exercise hospitality.  
Bless those who persecute you, bless and do not curse them.

Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep.  
Have the same regard for one another;  
do not be haughty but associate with the lowly;  
do not be wise in your own estimation.

Do not repay anyone evil for evil;  
be concerned for what is noble in the sight of all.  
If possible, on your part, live at peace with all.

The word of the Lord

A reading from the letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

We ought to put up with the failings of others

and not please ourselves;

let each of us please our neighbor for the good, for building up.

For Christ did not please himself.

May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to think in harmony with one another, in keeping with Christ Jesus, that with one accord you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the holy Spirit.

The word of the Lord

A reading from the first letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians

Set your heart on the greater gifts.

Now I will show you the way which surpasses all the others.

If I speak with human tongues and angelic as well,

but do not have love,

I am a resounding gong or a clashing cymbal.

And if I have the gift of prophecy

and comprehend all mysteries and all knowledge;

if I have all faith so as to move mountains but do not have love,

I am nothing.

If I give away everything I have to feed the poor

and hand my body over so that I may boast but do not have love,

I gain nothing.

Love is patient, love is kind. It is not jealous,

love is not pompous, it is not inflated, it is not rude,

it does not seek its own interests, it is not quick-tempered,

neither does it brood over injury,

it does not rejoice over wrongdoing but rejoices with the truth.

There is no limit to love's forbearance,

to its trust, its hope, its power to endure. Love never fails.

The Word of the lord.

A reading from the letter of Saint Paul to the Ephesians

Live in love, as Christ loved us and handed himself over for us.

Be subordinate to one another out of reverence for Christ.

Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ loved the church  
and handed himself over for her to sanctify her,  
cleansing her by the bath of water with the word,  
that he might present to himself the church in splendor,  
without spot or wrinkle or any such thing,  
that she might be holy and without blemish.

So also husbands should love their wives as their own bodies.

He who loves his wife loves himself.

For no one hates his own flesh

but rather nourishes and cherishes it,  
even as Christ does the church,  
because we are members of his body.

“For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother

and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.”

This is a great mystery,

but I speak in reference to Christ and the church.

In any case, each one of you should love his wife as himself, and the wife should respect her husband.

The word of the Lord

A reading from the letter of Saint Paul to the Philippians

Rejoice in the Lord always. I shall say it again: rejoice!  
Your kindness should be known to all. The Lord is near.

Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God.

Then the peace of God that surpasses all understanding  
will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable,  
whatever is just, whatever is pure,  
whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious,  
if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise,  
think about these things.

Keep on doing what you have learned and received and heard  
and seen in me.

Then the God of peace will be with you.

The word of the Lord

A reading from the letter of Saint Paul to the Colossians

Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved,  
heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness,  
and patience, bearing with one another and forgiving one another,  
if one has a grievance against another;  
as the Lord has forgiven you, so must you also do.

And over all these put on love, that is, the bond of perfection.

And let the peace of Christ control your hearts,  
the peace into which you were also called in one body.  
And be thankful.

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly,  
as in all wisdom you teach and admonish one another,  
singing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs  
with gratitude in your hearts to God.

And whatever you do, in word or in deed,  
do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus,  
giving thanks to God the Father through him.

The word of the Lord

A reading from the first letter of Peter

You wives should be subordinate to your husbands so that, even if some disobey the word, they may be won over without a word by their wives' conduct when they observe your reverent and chaste behavior.

Your adornment should not be an external one: braiding the hair, wearing gold jewelry, or dressing in fine clothes, but rather the hidden character of the heart, expressed in the imperishable beauty of a gentle and calm disposition, which is precious in the sight of God.

For this is also how the holy women who hoped in God  
once used to adorn themselves  
and were subordinate to their husbands;  
thus Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him "lord."  
You are her children when you do what is good  
and fear no intimidation.

Likewise, you husbands should live with your wives in understanding, since we are joint heirs of the gift of life, so that your prayers may not be hindered.

Finally, all of you, be of one mind, sympathetic, loving toward one another, compassionate, humble. Do not return evil for evil, or insult for insult; but, on the contrary, a blessing, because to this you were called, that you might inherit a blessing.

The word of the Lord

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he had sat down, his disciples came to him. He began to teach them, saying:

“Blessed are the poor in spirit,  
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are they who mourn, for they will be comforted.

Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the land.

Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness,  
for they will be satisfied.

Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.

Blessed are the clean of heart, for they will see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness,  
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you  
and utter every kind of evil against you falsely because of me.  
Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.”

The Gospel of the Lord

Gospel

Matthew 7:21, 24-25

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus said to his disciples:

“Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,'  
will enter the kingdom of heaven,  
but only the one who does the will of my Father in heaven.

“Everyone who listens to these words of mine and acts on them  
will be like a wise man who built his house on rock.  
The rain fell, the floods came, and the winds blew  
and buffeted the house.  
But it did not collapse; it had been set solidly on rock.

The Gospel of the Lord

Gospel

Mark 10:6-9

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

Jesus said:

“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 one must separate.”

The Gospel of the Lord

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

There was a wedding in Cana in Galilee,  
and the mother of Jesus was there.

Jesus and his disciples were also invited to the wedding.

When the wine ran short, the mother of Jesus said to him,  
"They have no wine."

And Jesus said to her, "Woman, how does your concern affect me?  
My hour has not yet come."

His mother said to the servers, "Do whatever he tells you."

Now there were six stone water jars there

for Jewish ceremonial washings,

each holding twenty to thirty gallons.

(120-180 Gal.)

Jesus told them, "Fill the jars with water."

So they filled them to the brim. Then he told them,

"Draw some out now and take it to the headwaiter." So they took it.

And when the headwaiter tasted the water that had become wine,  
without knowing where it came from,

although the servers who had drawn the water knew,

the headwaiter called the bridegroom and said to him,

"Everyone serves good wine first,

and then when people have drunk freely, an inferior one;

but you have kept the good wine until now."

Jesus did this as the beginning of his signs in Cana in Galilee

and so revealed his glory, and his disciples began to believe in him.

The Gospel of the Lord

Please respond: "Lord, we ask you, hear our Prayer"

1. That these faithful Christians, newly joined in Holy Matrimony,  
may always enjoy health and well-being,  
let us pray to the Lord. *(Lord, we ask you, hear our Prayer.)*
2. That God will bless their covenant  
as he chose to sanctify marriage at Cana in Galilee,  
let us pray to the Lord. *(Lord, we ask you, hear our Prayer.)*
3. That they be granted perfect and fruitful love, peace and strength,  
and that they bear faithful witness to the name of Christian,  
let us pray to the Lord. *(Lord, we ask you, hear our Prayer.)*
4. That the Christian people may grow in virtue day by day  
and that all who are burdened by any need  
may receive the help of grace from above,  
let us pray to the Lord. *(Lord, we ask you, hear our Prayer.)*
5. That the grace of the sacrament  
will be renewed by the Holy Spirit  
in all married persons here present,  
let us pray to the Lord. *(Lord, we ask you, hear our Prayer.)*

Please respond: “Lord, we ask you, hear our Prayer”

1. For this bride and groom,  
and for their well-being as a family,  
let us pray to the Lord. *(Lord, we ask you, hear our Prayer.)*
2. For their relatives and friends,  
and all who have assisted this couple,  
let us pray to the Lord. *(Lord, we ask you, hear our Prayer.)*
3. For young people preparing to enter Marriage,  
and for all whom the Lord is calling to another state in life,  
let us pray to the Lord. *(Lord, we ask you, hear our Prayer.)*
4. For all families throughout the world  
and for last peace among all people,  
let us pray to the Lord. *(Lord, we ask you, hear our Prayer.)*
5. For all members of our families who have passed from this world,  
and for all the departed,  
let us pray to the Lord. *(Lord, we ask you, hear our Prayer.)*
6. For the Church, the Holy People of God,  
and for unity among all Christians,  
let us pray to the Lord. *(Lord, we ask you, hear our Prayer.)*