

27TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



THE GOSPEL. [Mark 10:2-16](#)

*Then he embraced them and blessed them,  
placing his hands on them.*

At the  
end of hard days  
we who are ragged and bothered,  
come running like children, to you, Lord.

We take shelter in your warm embrace.  
Your hands are on our heads and  
on our whole weary world.

Bring  
all the works of your hands  
and all of your children  
into your kingdom,  
together, and  
hold us all  
there,  
safe.

THE FIRST READING [Genesis 2:18-24](#)

*It is not good for man to be alone.*

You are made  
of love,

O  
God.

Three persons  
loving and  
free.  
Yet,  
one  
God.

Let us too  
be not alone,  
but at one—with the  
whole created universe,  
especially one with each other,  
all together in the fullness of your love.

THE SECOND READING [Hebrews 2:9-11](#)

*He “for a little while” was made “lower than the angels.”*

O  
God,  
who are we,  
that  
you are mindful of us?  
Just flesh. Yet you care for us.

Tiny we are.

Yet, Jesus,  
for a little while,  
you walked with us.  
You ate and drank with us,  
shared our life, shared our death.

Because of you we now call  
your father Our Father,  
and God calls us “beloved.”

*(Annie Osdiéck)*



**REFLECTION:** *(St. Bueno's Outreach Team)*

**'He put his arms round them and gave them his blessing'.**

*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.*

The scriptures this Sunday teach us about the importance and centrality of loving relationships to the expression of our faith.

The excerpt from Genesis (First Reading) begins our salvation story with a vision of humanity in harmonious relationship with nature. We are formed of the same elements as the earth we live upon and share with creation. Women and men are helpmates for each other and tasked with caring for God's creation.

The song of the Lord's blessings upon us in the Psalm uses images of abundance to describe God's relationship with creation.

The theology outlined in the Second Reading reveals the solidarity and compassion of the Lord with the world and humanity by sharing with us in suffering, death, and in leading us towards Resurrection.

The Gospel contrasts two different aspects of human nature. The Pharisees attempt to exert authority and power over Jesus by testing his understanding of contested aspects of the law. Jesus responds by reminding them that the law was only given to them because they

had lost touch with the essential truth of loving relationship at the heart of creation. His response to them and subsequent welcoming of little children is a stark challenge to the patriarchy of the time to respect both women and children as equals to men in God's eyes.

Let us pray that we will be blessed with the same compassionate spirit of Jesus to build a more just society that urgently focuses on restoring our harmony with nature.

*May the Lord bless us all the days of our life. Psalm*

*Let the little children come to me; do not stop them;  
for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Gospel*

*The best way to restore men and women to their rightful place, putting an end to their claim to absolute dominion over the earth, is to speak once more of the figure of a Father who creates and who alone owns the world.*

*Pope Francis, Laudato Si, 70*