

## Readings for October 6, 2024

### Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

#### First Reading: Genesis 2:18-24

*Genesis 2 stresses that people are not meant to live in isolation but in relationship. Out of love for humanity, God creates them male and female, to provide companionship for each other and to become with each other “one flesh.” The Hebrew words used here are ish (man) and ishshah (woman).*

<sup>18</sup>The Lord God said, “It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner.” <sup>19</sup>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. <sup>20</sup>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 helper as his partner. <sup>21</sup>So the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and while he slept, took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. <sup>22</sup>And the rib that the Lord God had taken from the man the Lord God made into a woman and brought her to the man. <sup>23</sup>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.”

<sup>24</sup>Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh.

## Psalm: Psalm 8

*You crown us with glory and honor. (Ps. 8:5)*

<sup>1</sup>O | Lord our Lord,  
how majestic is your name in | all the earth!—

<sup>2</sup>**you whose glory is chanted above the heavens out of the mouths of  
in- | fants and children;**

**you have set up a fortress against your enemies, to silence the  
foe | and avenger.**

<sup>3</sup>When I consider your heavens, the work | of your fingers,  
the moon and the stars you have set | in their courses,

<sup>4</sup>**what are mere mortals that you should be mind- | ful of them,  
human beings that you should | care for them? R**

<sup>5</sup>Yet you have made them little less | than divine;  
with glory and hon- | or you crown them.

<sup>6</sup>**You have made them rule over the works | of your hands;  
you have put all things un- | der their feet:**

<sup>7</sup>all | flocks and cattle,  
even the wild beasts | of the field,

<sup>8</sup>**the birds of the air, the fish | of the sea,  
and whatever passes along the paths | of the sea.**

<sup>9</sup>O | Lord our Lord,  
how majestic is your name in | all the earth! **R**

## Second Reading: Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12

*Quoting from the psalms, this passage from Hebrews emphasizes that Jesus, the one through whom God created everything and who sits at God's right hand, is also the one who experienced human suffering and death in order to blaze the path of salvation for us.*

<sup>1</sup>Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, <sup>2</sup>but in these last days God has spoken to us by a Son, whom God appointed heir of all things, through whom God also created the worlds. <sup>3</sup>He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and sustains all things by his powerful word. When the Son had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, <sup>4</sup>having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

<sup>2:5</sup>Now God did not subject the coming world, about which we are speaking, to angels. <sup>6</sup>But someone has testified somewhere,

“What are human beings that you are mindful of them,  
or mortals, that you care for them?

<sup>7</sup>You have made them for a little while lower than the angels;  
you have crowned them with glory and honor,

<sup>8</sup>subjecting all things under their feet.”

Now in subjecting all things to them, God left nothing outside their control. As it is, we do not yet see everything in subjection to them, <sup>9</sup>but we do see Jesus, who for a little while was made lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

<sup>10</sup>It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. <sup>11</sup>For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one origin. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, <sup>12</sup>saying,

“I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters,  
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.”

## **Gospel: Mark 10:13-16**

<sup>13</sup>People were bringing little children to Jesus in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. <sup>14</sup>But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, “Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the dominion of God belongs. <sup>15</sup>Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the dominion of God as a little child will never enter it.” <sup>16</sup>And Jesus took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.