

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

The Lord God said, “It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him.”

<sup>19</sup> Now the Lord God had formed out of the ground all the beasts of the field and all the birds of the air. He brought them to the man to see what he would name them; and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name. <sup>20</sup> So the man gave names to all the livestock, the birds of the air and all the beasts of the field.

But for Adam no suitable helper was found. <sup>21</sup> So the Lord God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep; and while he was sleeping, he took one of the man’s ribs and closed up the place with flesh. <sup>22</sup> Then the Lord God made a woman from the rib he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man.

<sup>23</sup> The man said,

“This is now bone of my bones  
and flesh of my flesh;  
she shall be called ‘woman,’  
for she was taken out of man.”

<sup>24</sup> For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh.

### **The Second Reading: Hebrews 2:9-11**

But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honor because he suffered death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

<sup>10</sup> In bringing many sons to glory, it was fitting that God, for whom and through whom everything exists, should make the author of their salvation perfect through suffering. <sup>11</sup> Both the one who makes men holy and those who are made holy are of the same family. So Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers.

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## The Gospel Reading: Mark 10:2-16

Some Pharisees came and tested him by asking, “Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?”

<sup>3</sup> “What did Moses command you?” he replied.

<sup>4</sup> They said, “Moses permitted a man to write a certificate of divorce and send her away.”

<sup>5</sup> “It was because your hearts were hard that Moses wrote you this law,” Jesus replied. <sup>6</sup> “But at the beginning of creation God ‘made them male and female.’ <sup>7</sup> ‘For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, <sup>8</sup> and the two will become one flesh.’ So they are no longer two, but one. <sup>9</sup> Therefore what God has joined together, let man not separate.”

<sup>10</sup> When they were in the house again, the disciples asked Jesus about this.

<sup>11</sup> He answered, “Anyone who divorces his wife and marries another woman commits adultery against her. <sup>12</sup> And if she divorces her husband and marries another man, she commits adultery.”

<sup>13</sup> People were bringing little children to Jesus to have him touch them, but the disciples rebuked them. <sup>14</sup> When Jesus saw this, he was indignant. He said to them, “Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. <sup>15</sup> I tell you the truth, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.” <sup>16</sup> And he took the children in his arms, put his hands on them and blessed them.

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