



The Shepherd's Voice

October 2, 2012

By Fr. Joe Rees

“One Flesh”

“And the two shall become one flesh; so they are no longer two, but one flesh.”

Mark 10:8

I just dropped off my wife Lucy at the airport to go to the east coast to see our daughters and their husbands, and to be there for our Lily's delivery of her little boy, Joseph James Nelson, her first-born child. Yes, it's an exciting time in the family. Lily is due next week so actually the baby could come at any time now. As I dropped Lucy at the airport for her flight this morning I couldn't help but pray for her and her safety, to also mention that if anything ever happened to her that we'd meet again in heaven. She said something like, “oh come on Joe!” But it's true. I felt the separation aspect of not being near her and having that daily hug and kiss, that talking and nearness, our companionship, our “one flesh” aspect of our marriage. Of course, it's only a trip and I'll see her in eight days again, but you know...it's realizing how wonderful marriage is and precious too.

When Jesus talked about this sacred and holy mystery of two lives becoming as one, He meant it! This was in answer to the question about divorce. “It was due to the hardness of your hearts that Moses gave you a writ of divorce (for the men only).” And as I spoke on this past Cursillo weekend, it is predominantly the men of our world who believe they can exit out of a sacred duty to uphold the most cherished covenant they will ever make. It is the men who are not under submission to God who wind up looking for love in all the wrong places, acting as if they never got out of puberty, and generally figure that the grass is greener on the adventurous and intriguing side of adultery. Well, it's not! In fact, most people who have suffered from divorce have had innumerable troubles from it and if they do get married again,

very often pick the same kind of person with the same characteristics and fascinatingly the same flaws. But, what Jesus was talking about is God's plan for life on earth!

Thinking about the ‘no longer two’ gives me pause. I'm no longer an individual man who thinks independently. I'm no longer that kind of guy who thinks about other women the way I did in early life when I was in the hunt. I'm no longer that guy who criticizes my wife because she isn't fulfilling every one of my expectations, because, she is fully integrated into my person and being. We are one. It's extraordinary what God did in creation! He gave us a challenge, didn't He?! He said to be fruitful and multiply. He hoped we would find our way into His plan for our lives (He gives pointers along the way!) and marry in spiritual covenant and communion that would introduce us to the greater way of God's blessings. He also gave us the incredible joys of helping Him to create life and bring forth the next generation that really represents the ‘oneness’ of our lives. In fact, there is no way you can divorce your children. They genetically represent your marriage and personhood. They are the product of the two being made one flesh.

If anyone is interested, Fr. Jose Poch and his wife are leading a marriage weekend up near LA. We have the details so call the office if you would like information.

I know when I hold my grandson Joseph James in my arms in just a week or so that I'll be holding part of me, and, part of Lucy. It truly is a miracle and my prayer is that each of our couples, families, and soon to be married ones, and also those who are widowed and looking for the reunion in heaven, will always understand that God is doing His greatest training and imparting of Himself in the covenantal marriages that we commit to for our entire lives. It's time we ended the scourge of

divorce amongst Christian peoples who are believers in this Gospel that Jesus underscored for us emphatically. We need marriages that will bow to Jesus Christ and obediently carry His love into the future. If you have problems, call me. Before it's too late!

your love and hold ourselves in submission to You, Lord of all heaven and earth. Lord Jesus bless our marriages and make them 'one flesh'!

In Christ's Love,
Fr. Joe

Lord Jesus, heal our marriages and engage us in the highest challenge of life to love our spouses with

Sunday Servers this week...

October 7, 2012		8:00 a.m. Service	10:15 a.m. Service
First Reader	Genesis 2:18-24	Jani Dubski	Frank Comstock
Psalm Reader	Psalm 8	Choir	Frances Slaughter
Second Reader	Hebrews 2:1-18	Paula Sholly	Ann Fox
Intercessor		Mitch Dubski	Caitlin Bergen
Lay Euch. Ministers		Dick Phelps, Jane Rost	Frances Slaughter, Petey Seibold
Acolytes		Mitch Dubski	Caitlin B (C); April K (T1); Dasiahmarie V (T2)
Welcomers		Paula Sholly, Cheryl Martel	Judi & Bill Collins, Paula Sholly
Ushers		David Green, Dick Sholly	Dink Nash, Ted Vallas, Ray Seibold, JR Fox
Vestry person of day			
Healing Ministers		Jan Simon, Rudy Theobald	Connie F, Kari C, Sarah F, Ann F
Counters			Cline Handy & Michael Murphy

It's Kairos Cookie Time!

On **October 21, 2012** we will collect cookies for this Prison Ministry. The idea of this ministry is "come for the cookies, stay for the message".

It's not too early to start baking cookies and put them in your freezer. Please put one to two dozen cookies per clear ziplock bag. No paper plates inside and no raisins. The cookies will be refused if either of these are present.

Call Randy Stewart for more information.

Save the Date!

November 12, 2012

OSL Healing Conference

at Grace

with

Mike Endicott

See flyers for more information.

Women's Autumn Country Tea
Saturday, October 27 from 2-4 p.m.

At the home of
Myrna & John Lipnicke in
Fallbrook.

There are still several seats available.
Contact Joy Rosendale to sign up.

Tuesday Evenings at Grace
It's the place to be!

At 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday evenings there will be a potluck fellowship dinner in the fellowship room.

7:15 p.m. – Fr. Richard's last class on the book of Philippians followed by lively discussion will be tonight..

Next Tuesday, October 9th, will be a potluck fellowship dinner and ...fellowship. Come have dinner with your church family and stay to get to know some of them a little better in a relaxed and informal evening.

Stand Up for Kids
Outreach Ministry to Homeless Teens
Next Outreach
Monday, October 8, 2012
Contact Colleen Monroe for more information.

Sunday at Grace

8:00 a.m. – Traditional Service
9:30 a.m. – Fellowship
10:00 a.m. – Nursery opens
10:15 a.m. – Family Service with
Worship Team & Children's
Church

OSL prayer training
for Mike Endicott
healing conference
6:30 tonight.

Readings for Sunday

Genesis 2:18-24
Psalm 8
Hebrews 2:1-18
Mark 10:2-9

We are using the English Standard
Version of the Bible and the Lectionary
from the Book of Common Prayer (Year B)

This Week at Grace –Sept.25 – Oct. 2

Tues. October 2

11:30 a.m. Rector's Bible Study – Revelation
4:30 p.m. Healing Eucharist at the Oasis
6:30 p.m. OSL Prayer Training for Mike Endicott
6:30 p.m. Fellowship Potluck
7:15 p.m. Philippians Teaching

Wed October 3

8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer
9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting
6:30 p.m. Youth Group
7:00 p.m. Healing Prayer Service

Thurs. October 4

7:00 a.m. – Bible Study
8:00 a.m. Clergy Meeting
10-Noon Play Group
11:30 a.m. Healing Eucharist – Oasis
3:30 p.m. Alpha Club
6:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Fri. October 5

Fr. Joe's Day Off
6:00 p.m. Evening Prayer and Healing at Grace

Sat. October 6

8:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study
11:00 a.m. Sharon Pappas Memorial Service

Sun. October 7

8:00 a.m. Traditional Service
9:30 a.m. Fellowship & Coffee
10:00 a.m. Nursery opens
10:15 a.m. Family Worship Service
& Children's Church

Mon. October 8

6:30 a.m. Men's Prayer
6:30 p.m. OSL Training

Tues. October 9

11:30 a.m. Rector's Bible Study at Grace
4:30 p.m. Healing Eucharist at the Oasis
6:30 p.m. Potluck fellowship dinner
7:15 p.m. Fellowship time

Rector's Bible Study

Tuesdays
11:30 a.m.

Fr. Joe is leading the group through a study of
the Book of Revelation. Everyone is welcome.
B.Y.O.L. (Bring your own lunch)

Wednesdays at 8:30 a.m.
Morning Prayer At Grace Anglican
All are welcome to attend.

Weekly – There are over 25 small groups meeting
during the week. Check our newsletter for a list of
all the groups or you can find the list on our website:
www.graceanglicanchurch.com.

Save the date!

Oct. 2 OSL Training
Oct. 3 Healing Prayer Service
Oct. 6 Sharon Pappas Memorial Service
Oct. 8 Stand Up For Kids – Outreach Project
Oct. 10 Soaking Prayer
Oct. 17 Vestry meeting
Oct. 27 Women's Autumn Country Tea
Oct. 28 Saints & Angels party at Grace
Nov. 10 2:00 p.m. – Helen Fritz Memorial Service
Nov. 12 Mike Endicott – OSL Healing Conference
at Grace Anglican Church

Did you know?

There's a service of Evening Prayer and Healing on
Friday evenings at 6:00 p.m. Stop by on your way
home from work and decompress for the weekend.