

Thoughts on the Daily Word

30th Week of the Year. *Tuesday 29th October. Readings: Ephesians 5:21-33; Psalm: 127; Gospel: Luke 13:18-21.*

One of the things I miss in life, occasionally! Is not having the experience of being married and being a parent. I say occasionally as I am getting older and thirty-six years celibate! Many times, I have been grateful for being on my own, especially as I have seen my friends and parishioners struggle with married life over the years. Paul makes it quite clear though that the married state is the basis of being church. The relationship between Christ and his Church, described as his body, is based on the marriage covenant. Two people becoming one body. So, in a way I am married! Paul uses this marriage image of Christ and his Body as a template to look upon all relationships. The Gospel presents two different images but complementary. They are about growth in relationships, just how we come together to change the world and ourselves in the process. Perhaps we celibates have failed often to appreciate our marital status! Long before I was ordained a great priest remarked to me that men aren't ready to be ordained until they are ready to marry! Never was a truer word spoken!