

Thought for the week
27th Sunday of the Year (B)
7th October 2018

“Some Pharisees approached Jesus and asked: “Is it against the law for a man to divorce his wife?” Mark 10:2-16

Not the easiest subject for a thought for the week, but here are some reflections after being married for 48 years. They are best summed up in the slogan: *“A Family that prays together stays together”*.

For the last 30 years we have found it helpful to read together the daily readings followed by the “Bible Alive” commentary and a short period of meditation. Initially we did this in the evening, but I was asleep within minutes! A change to 5:30 am was more profitable and this we have continued although the time has slipped to 6 am. <https://www.alivepublishing.co.uk/> (Free sample copies on offer.)

We have also been together on retreats and would particularly recommend the Cana Week Cana Weekends for married couples run by Chemin Neuf. We also embarked on a more challenging silent one week Ignatian Retreat. The Spiritual Director kept saying that he realised that the silence was difficult for married couples. Embarrassingly we were the only married couple! <https://www.chemin-neuf.org.uk/en/>

In recent years, we have joined with 3 other married couples from our parish in a monthly supper. “Teams” is for Christian married couples who want to develop their relationship with God both personally and as a couple. (Contact Deacon Brian) <http://www.teamsgb.org.uk/>

Now in retirement, we make time for a daily Rosary. The 7th October is the Feast of “Our Lady of the Rosary” and what better day to make a start. Most helpful is Fr Michael’s booklet available at the back of Church for £3. This explains the history of the Rosary and ways of praying the Rosary followed by Meditations and pictures on the Mysteries.

The slogan “A Family that prays together, stays together” was originally promoted by Fr Patrick Peyton who some of us will remember as promoting Rosary crusades across the world. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Peyton

Stephen and Judy