

*I am sure it comes as no surprise to you that we, as human beings, need other people. But do we ever really think about why that is? Why exactly do we need others? The simple answer is...because that's precisely how we were created. God made us to need others. We just heard a beautiful example of this truth in the first Reading from Genesis, a passage many of us are familiar with. In the reading of this sacred text, we hear how God knew that the man needed a suitable partner, for **it was not good for him to be alone**. And so, he creates a suitable partner, a woman, from the man's rib, from his very being..." **bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh**", to use the man's words.*

*What a beautiful image! From the man's side God fashions one who will **stand alongside him throughout life's journey**. Together, they will live out their days as one flesh. Of course, this text is rightly considered to be Scriptural foundation for marriage. And it reflects and reveals that God made the relationship between a man and woman to be a **unique one** in the created world. God made men and women to **be together in a very particular way**, as a holy reality. Jesus reaffirms this in the Gospel passage we heard from John (wedding) Mark.*

*And so, most of us spend a good portion our lives **trying to make those kinds of connections**, searching for those people who can provide us with that ever it is that we think we need. We continually seek out those who can shower us with love, or emotional support, or affirmation, or financial support, or even sexual relief. Sometimes, the ways we go about finding people and building relationships with them to satisfy our needs **aren't helpful, healthy, or productive**. But the instinct we have to find suitable partners is a good one...one which reflects the way God made us.*

*And so, when we are able to be in loving communion with one another, when we build relationships not based on what we can get out of them but based on what **we can give**, we reflect God in a more perfect way. Our God is a God of relationships of love...Father, Son, and Spirit. To be there for others **no matter what** is to be God-like.... imagine that.... Just as God himself laid down his life for each of us.*

*Who in your life **needs you**? Today, let's pledge to **do something about it**.*