

THE WEDDING MASS

THE ENTRANCE PROCESSION (ENTRANCE MUSIC / HYMN)

INTRODUCTORY RITE

ALL STAND

GREETING

Priest: The Lord be with you

All: **And with your spirit.**

PENITENTIAL RITE

My brothers and sisters, we the family and friends of N. and N., are called here today to celebrate these sacred mysteries, let us call to mind our sins.

The Sacrament of Matrimony asks us to love in good times and in bad, in sickness and in health all the days of our lives. We are sorry for the times we have failed to love.

Lord have mercy.

Lord have mercy

Love means “to give and not count the cost”. We are sorry for all the times we were selfish and inconsiderate.

Christ have mercy

Christ have mercy

To live is to change. To be perfect is to have changed often. We are sorry for all the times we have overlooked our faults and criticised and condemned others.

Lord have mercy

Lord have mercy

May Almighty God have mercy on us,
forgive us our sins and bring us to everlasting life.

Amen.

GLORIA

**Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.
We praise you,
we bless you,
we adore you,
we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us.**

**For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.**

OPENING PRAYER

Priest: Let us pray.

All pray in silence for a moment. Then the Priest, with hand extended, prays the opening prayer.

Grant, we pray, almighty God,
that these your servants,
now to be joined by the Sacrament of Matrimony,
may grow in the faith they profess
and enrich your Church with faithful offspring.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

ALL SIT

(insert Readings and Psalm – suggestions given on website)

First Reading...

Reader: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Psalm...

Second Reading...

Reader: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

ALL STAND

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, Alleluia...

Priest: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

Priest: A reading from the holy Gospel according to

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

THE RITE OF MARRIAGE

ALL STAND

THE ADDRESS *(choose one)*

1. Dear children of God, you have come to this church so that the Lord may seal your love in the presence of the priest and this community. Christian marriage is a sacred union, which enriches natural love. It binds those who enter it to be faithful to each other forever; it creates between them a bond that endures for life and cannot be broken; it demands that they love and honour each other (and that they accept from God the children he may give them and bring them up in his love). To help them in their marriage a husband and wife receive the life-long grace of the sacrament. Is this your understanding of marriage?

Both: It is.

OR

2. Dear children of God, you have come to this church so that the Lord may seal your love in the presence of the priest and this community. Christ blesses this love. He has already consecrated you in Baptism; now, by a special sacrament, he strengthens you to fulfil the duties of your married life.

3.

The priest then questions the bride and bridegroom.

N. and N. you are about to celebrate this sacrament. Have you come here of your own free will and choice and without compulsion to marry each other?

Both: We have.

Will you love and honour each other in marriage all the days of your life?

Both: We will.

Are you willing to accept with love the children God may send you and bring them up in accordance with the law of Christ and his Church?

Both: We are.

THE DECLARATION OF CONSENT *(choose one)*

The priest invites the couple to declare their consent.

I invite you to declare before God and his Church your consent to become husband and wife.

1. Bridegroom. **I, N., take you N. as my wife,
for better, for worse,
for richer, for poorer,
in sickness and in health,
all the days of my life.**

Bride. **I, N., take you N. as my husband,
for better, for worse,
for richer, for poorer,
in sickness and in health,
all the days of my life.**

Priest What God joins together man must not separate.
May the Lord confirm the consent you have given
and enrich you with his blessing.

OR

2. Priest N., do you take N. as your wife
for better, for worse,
for richer, for poorer,
in sickness and in health,
all the days of your life?

Bridegroom **I do.**

Priest N., do you take N. as your wife
for better, for worse,
for richer, for poorer,
in sickness and in health,
all the days of your life?

Bride **I do.**

Priest What God joins together man must not separate.
 May the Lord confirm the consent you have given and enrich
 you with his blessing.

THE BLESSING OF RINGS

The priest blesses the rings.

Lord, bless N. and N. and consecrate their married life. May these rings be symbols of their faith in each other and reminders of their love.
We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Bridegroom **N. wear this ring as a sign of our faithful love, in
 the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the
 Holy Spirit.**

Bride **N. wear this ring as a sign of our faithful love, in
 the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the
 Holy Spirit.**

THE EXCHANGE OF GIFTS *(optional)*

The bride and bridegroom may exchange gold and silver saying:

I give you this gold and silver, tokens of all I possess.

THE PRAYER OF THE NEWLY MARRIED COUPLE

(The newly married couple pray together)

**We thank you, Lord, and we praise you
for bringing us to this happy day.
You have given us to each other,
now, together, we give ourselves to you.**

**Make us one in our love,
Keep us one in your peace,
Protect our marriage,**

**Bless our home,
Make us gentle,
Keep us faithful.**

**And when life is over unite us again
where parting is no more in the kingdom of your love.
There we will praise you in the happiness of our eternal home.
Amen.**

THE PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL *(examples)*

ALL STAND

For N. and N. as they begin their married life together; for happiness in their home. Let us pray to the Lord. **Lord hear our prayer.**

For their parents, family and friends and all who helped them to this happy day. Let us pray to the Lord. **Lord hear our prayer.**

For our community and families, that we might share the love we celebrate today with the poor and suffering of the world. Let us pray to the Lord. **Lord hear our prayer.**

For all married couples and those preparing for marriage; remembering especially those here present and those experiencing difficulties in married life. Let us pray to the Lord. **Lord hear our prayer.**

For our friends and relatives who have departed this life (especially) and for all the faithful departed. Let us pray to the Lord. **Lord hear our prayer.**

Bless N. and N. May their commitment made here today in your presence, be a witness to the power of their love. May their lives be filled with all your gifts, may they always be faithful to you and to each other, and may they be blessed with much joy. Let us pray to the Lord. **Lord hear our prayer**

For the families of N. and N., for their friends and relatives, who have been a

great source of love, support and inspiration, and for all who have helped them to this special day. May God reward them for the enrichment they have brought to their lives.

Let us pray to the Lord. **Lord hear our prayer**

For peace in our hearts, in our homes and in the world. We ask you Father to send your spirit to quell the chaos of war and violence in our world and in our country. May you ease all tension and strain in our hearts and bring us your peace.

Let us pray to the Lord. **Lord hear our prayer**

Lord you have said that you hold each of us in the palm of your hand. We entrust the future of each one here to you, asking you to nurture, shield, provide for and bless us as we go forward. May we find deep fulfilment in the vocation you call us to in life

Let us pray to the Lord. **Lord hear our prayer**

God our Father bless all those who cannot be with us today to share this happy occasion, especially those who are ill or suffering. Grant eternal rest to all our loved ones who have died. We remember especiallywho are forever in our hearts.

Let us pray to the Lord. **Lord hear our prayer**

God our Father, you have taught us that love is the fulfilling of the Law. May N. and N. grow in love for each other, and always remain in your love. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS OF BREAD AND WINE

ALL SIT

(INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC / HYMN)

Priest: Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation,
for through your goodness we have received the bread we offer you:
fruit of the earth and human hands,
it will become for us the bread of life.

All: Blessed be God forever.

Priest: Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation.
for through your goodness we have received the wine we offer you:
fruit of the earth and human hands,
it will become our spiritual drink.

All: Blessed be God forever.

ALL STAND

Priest: Pray, brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours, may be
acceptable to God, the Almighty Father.

**All: May the Lord accept the sacrifice of your hands
for the praise and glory of his name,
for our good and the good of all his holy Church.**

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Priest: Receive, we pray, O Lord,
the offering made on the occasion
of this sealing of the sacred bond of Marriage,
and, just as your goodness is its origin,
may your providence guide its course.
Through Christ our Lord.

ALL: Amen.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER II

Priest: The Lord be with you

All: And with your spirit.

Priest: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

Priest: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right and just.

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God.

For you have forged the covenant of marriage

as a sweet yoke of harmony
and an unbreakable bond of peace,
so that the chaste and fruitful love of holy Matrimony
may serve to increase the children you adopt as your own.

By your providence and grace, O Lord,
you accomplish the wonder of this twofold design:
that, while the birth of children brings beauty to the world,
their rebirth in Baptism gives increase to the Church,
through Christ our Lord.

Through him, with the Angels and all the Saints,
we sing the hymn of your praise,
as without end we acclaim:

**All: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of hosts.
 Heaven and earth are full of your glory
 Hosanna in the highest.
 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord
 Hosanna in the highest.**

ALL KNEEL

You are indeed Holy, O Lord,
the fount of all holiness.
Make holy, therefore, these gifts, we pray,
by sending down your Spirit upon them like the dewfall,
so that they may become for us
the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ.
At the time he was betrayed
and entered willingly into his Passion,
he took bread and, giving thanks, broke it,
and gave it to his disciples, saying:

**TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND EAT OF IT,
FOR THIS IS MY BODY,
WHICH WILL BE GIVEN UP FOR YOU.**

In a similar way, when supper was ended,
he took the chalice
and, once more giving thanks,

he gave it to his disciples, saying:

TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND DRINK FROM IT,
FOR THIS IS THE CHALICE OF MY BLOOD,
THE BLOOD OF THE NEW AND ETERNAL COVENANT,
WHICH WILL BE Poured OUT FOR YOU AND FOR MANY
FOR THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS.
DO THIS IN MEMORY OF ME.

The mystery of faith.

**All: We proclaim your Death, O Lord,
 and profess your Resurrection
 until you come again.**

Therefore, as we celebrate
the memorial of his Death and Resurrection,
we offer you, Lord,
the Bread of life and the Chalice of salvation,
giving thanks that you have held us worthy
to be in your presence and minister to you.

Humbly we pray
that, partaking of the Body and Blood of Christ,
we may be gathered into one by the Holy Spirit.
Remember, Lord, your Church,
spread throughout the world,
and bring her to the fullness of charity,
together with Francis our Pope and Christopher our Bishop
and all the clergy.

Remember also our brothers and sisters
who have fallen asleep in the hope of the resurrection,
and all who have died in your mercy:
welcome them into the light of your face.
Have mercy on us all, we pray,
that with the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God,
with the blessed Apostles,
and all the Saints who have pleased you throughout the ages,

we may merit to be coheirs to eternal life,
and may praise and glorify you
through your Son, Jesus Christ.

Through him, and with him, and in him,
O God, almighty Father,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory and honour is yours,
for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

ALL STAND

COMMUNION RITE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Priest: At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching,
we dare to say:

All: **Our Father, who art in heaven...**

After the Lord's Prayer the prayer 'Deliver us' is omitted and the priest prays the nuptial blessing over the couple.

Priest: Dear brothers and sisters,
let us humbly pray to the Lord
that on these his servants, now married in Christ,
he may mercifully pour out
the blessing of his grace
and make of one heart in love
by the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood
those he has joined by a holy covenant.

And all pray in silence for a while.

Priest: O God, who by your mighty power
created all things out of nothing,
and, when you had set in place

the beginnings of the universe,
formed man and woman in your own image,
making the woman an inseparable helpmate to the man,
that they might no longer be two, but one flesh,
and taught that what you were pleased to make one
must never be divided;

O God, who consecrated the bond of Marriage
by so great a mystery
that in the wedding covenant you foreshadowed
the Sacrament of Christ and his Church;

O God, by whom woman is joined to man
and the companionship they had in the beginning
is endowed with the one blessing
not forfeited by original sin
nor washed away by the flood.

Look now with favour on these your servants,
joined together in Marriage,
who ask to be strengthened by your blessing.
Send down on them the grace of the Holy Spirit
and pour your love into their hearts,
that they may remain faithful in the Marriage covenant.

May the grace of love and peace
abide in your daughter N.,
and let her always follow the example of those holy women
whose praises are sung in the Scriptures.
May her husband entrust his heart to her,
so that, acknowledging her as his equal
and his joint heir to the life of grace,
he may show her due honour
and cherish her always
with the love that Christ has for his Church.

And now, Lord, we implore you:
may these your servants
hold fast to the faith and keep your commandments;
made one in the flesh,

may they be blameless in all they do;
and with the strength that comes from the Gospel,
may they bear true witness to Christ before all;

(may they be blessed with children,
and prove themselves virtuous parents,
who live to see their children's children).

And grant that,
reaching at last together the fullness of years
for which they hope,
they may come to the life of the blessed
in the Kingdom of Heaven.
Through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

Priest: Lord Jesus Christ, who said to your Apostles:
Peace I leave you, my peace I give you;
look not on our sins but on the faith of your Church
and graciously grant her peace and unity in accordance with your will
who live and reign for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

Priest: The peace of the Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

Priest: Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

ALL KNEEL

**All: Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
grant us peace.**

Priest: Behold the Lamb of God,
Behold him who takes away the sins of the world.
Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

All: **Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof,
but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.**

THE DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

COMMUNION HYMNS.

Communion Reflection (Prayed by the Couple)

Thank you
for the life you have given us
for the love that has moulded us
for the support that has encouraged us
for the gifts that have enabled us
for the friends that have enriched us
for the work that has engaged us
for the trials that have challenged us
for the mistakes that have taught us
for the forgiveness that has healed us
for the caring that has led us
to recognise and love our God.
May God continue to be with us,
guide us, help us, guard us, keep us, mould us,
use us and love us all the days of our life. Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

ALL STAND

Priest: Let us pray.
*All pray in silence for a moment. Then the Priest, with hand
extended, prays the concluding prayer.*

By the power of this sacrifice, O Lord,
accompany with your loving favour

what in your providence you have instituted,
so as to make of one heart in love
those you have already joined in this holy union
(and replenished with the one Bread and the one Chalice).
Through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

FINAL BLESSING

Priest: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

Priest: God, the eternal Father keep you in love with each other so that the peace of Christ may stay with you and be always in your home.

All: Amen.

Priest: May you be blessed in your children, have solace in your friends and enjoy true peace with everyone.

All: Amen.

Priest: May you be witnesses in the world to God's charity, so that the afflicted and needy who have known your kindness may one day receive you thankfully into the eternal dwelling of God.

All: Amen.

People: And may almighty God bless all of you, who are gathered here, the Father, and the Son, + and the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Priest: Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life.

All: Thanks be to God.

The congregation sit as the Marriage Schedule is signed.

RECESSIONAL MUSIC / HYMN