

# PLANNING YOUR WEDDING BOOKLET

1. I would recommend that you would copy this file and save it elsewhere, in case of any difficulties.
2. Please pick one option from each section (a, b, c, d, etc.) and delete other alternatives.
3. Read through the text and insert names for the Bride, the Groom, the Bridesmaid, the Best Man, the Priest, the readers and offertory gift bearers, etc.
4. When you have chosen all texts, let the priest celebrating the wedding check over it to make sure everything is there, in the right order. Only when he confirms that everything is in order should the booklet be printed.

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## THE WEDDING CEREMONY

### ENTRANCE HYMN

[PLEASE STAND]

*If there is no entrance hymn, the following may be used:*

### **ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

**(1a)** – Psalm 19:3,5

May the Lord send you help from the holy place and give you support from Sion.

May he grant your heart's desire and fulfil every one of your designs (In Easter Time add alleluia).

**OR**

**(1b)** – Psalm 89:14,17

At dawn, O Lord, fill us with your merciful love, and we shall exult and rejoice all our days.

Let the favour of the Lord our God be upon us and upon the work of our hands (In Easter Time add alleluia).

**OR**

**(1c)** – Psalm 114:2,9

I will bless you day after day, O Lord, and praise your name for and ever,

for you are kind to all and compassionate to all your creatures (In Easter Time add alleluia).

**(The following declaration is standard but may be omitted from booklet.  
May be declared at the rehearsal if within 48 hours of the wedding)**

### **Declaration of 'No Impediment'**

*(Bride) and (Groom) are about to exchange marriage vows that are valid in Church Law and also in Civil Law. They must first declare that there is no impediment to their marriage taking place today.*

**Priest:** Groom, do you declare  
that you do not know of any civil impediment  
to the marriage you are about to enter with **Bride**?

**Groom:** I do.

**Priest:** Bride, do you declare  
that you do not know of any civil impediment  
to the marriage you are about to enter with **Groom**?

**Groom:** I do.

### **(Optional) Lighting of the Candles**

*Bride and Groom then light one candle each, symbols of their uniqueness and individuality as they stand before God, preparing to commit themselves to a life of unity.*

### **(Standard) The Introductory Rites**

**Priest:** In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**All:** Amen.

#### **(2a)**

**Priest:** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**All:** And with your spirit.

**OR**

#### **(2b)**

**Priest:** Grace to you and peace from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

**All:** And with your spirit.

**OR**

#### **(2c)**

**Priest:** The Lord be with you.

**All:** And with your spirit.

### **(Standard) Kyrie, eleison**

**Priest:** Lord, have mercy.

**All:**

**Lord, have mercy**

**Priest:** Christ, have mercy.

**All:**

**Christ, have mercy**

**Priest:** Lord, have mercy.

**All:**

**Lord, have mercy**

### (Standard) Gloria

*Priest:* Glory to God in the highest,  
*All:* 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.

**(3a)** Be attentive to our prayers, O Lord,  
and in your kindness uphold  
what you have established for the increase of the human race,  
so that the union you have created  
may be kept safe by your assistance.  
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.

**OR**

**(3b)** O God, who in creating the human race  
willed that man and wife should be one,  
join, we pray, in a bond of inseparable love  
these your servants who are to be united in the covenant of Marriage,  
so that, as you make their love fruitful,  
they may become, by your grace, witnesses to charity itself.  
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.

**OR**  
**(3c)**

Be attentive to our prayers, O Lord,  
and in your kindness  
pour out your grace on these your servants **Bride** and **Groom**,  
that, coming together before your altar,  
they may be confirmed in love for one another.  
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.

**OR**  
**(3d)**

O God, who consecrated the bond of Marriage  
by so great a mystery  
that in the wedding covenant you foreshadow  
the Sacrament of Christ and his Church,  
grant, we pray, to these your servants,  
that what they receive in faith  
they may live out in deeds.  
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.

**OR**  
**(3e)**

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.

**OR**  
**(3f)**

O God, who since the beginning of the world  
have blessed the increase of offspring,  
show favour to our supplications  
and pour forth to help of your blessing  
on these your servants **Bride** and **Groom**,  
so that in the union of Marriage  
they may be bound together  
in mutual affection,  
in likeness of mind,  
and in shared holiness.  
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

[PLEASE SIT]

### First Reading

Read by.....

#### (4a) A reading from the book of Genesis

(1:26-28, 31a)

God said, "Let us make man in our own image, in the likeness of ourselves, and let them be masters of the fish of the sea, the birds of heaven, the cattle, all the wild beasts and all the reptiles that crawl upon the earth."

God created man in the image of himself,  
in the image of God he created him,  
male and female he created them.

God blessed them, saying to them, "Be fruitful, multiply, fill the earth and conquer it. Be master of the fish of the sea, the birds of heaven and all living animals on the earth." God saw all he had made, and indeed it was very good.

The word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

#### (4b) A reading from the book of Genesis

(2:18-24)

The Lord God said, 'It is not good that the man should be alone. I will make him a helpmate.' So from the soil the Lord God fashioned all the wild beasts of heaven. These he brought to the man to see what he would call them; each one was to bear the name the man would give it. The man gave names to all the cattle, all the birds of heaven and all the wild beasts. But no helpmate suitable for man was found for him. So the Lord God made the man fall into a deep sleep. And while he slept, he took one of his ribs and enclosed it in flesh. The Lord built the rib he had taken from the man into a woman, and brought her to the man. The man exclaimed:

'This at last is bone from my bones,  
and flesh from my flesh!  
This is to be called woman,  
for this was taken from man.'

That is why a man leaves his father and mother and joins himself to his wife, and they become one body.

The word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

**(4c) A reading from the book of Genesis**

(24:48-51, 58-67)

Abraham's servant said to Laban: "I bless the Lord, God of my master Abraham, who had so graciously led me to choose the daughter of my master's brother for his son. Now tell me whether you are prepared to show kindness and goodness to my master; if no, say so, and I shall know what to do."

Laban and Bethuel replied, "This is from the Lord; it is not on our own power to say yes or no to you. Rebekah is there before you. Take her and go; and let her become the wife of your master's son, as the Lord has decreed." They called Rebekah and asked her "Do you want to leave with this man?" "I do," she replied. Accordingly they let their sister Rebekah go, with her nurse, and Abraham's servant and his men. They blessed Rebekah in these words:

'Sister of ours, increase  
to thousands and tens of thousands!  
May your descendants gain possession  
of the gates of their enemies!"

Rebekah and her servants stood up, mounted the camels, and followed the man. The servants took Rebekah and departed.

Isaac, who lived in Negeb, had meanwhile come into the wilderness of the well of Lahai roi. Now Isaac went walking in the fields as evening fell, and looking up saw camels approaching. And Rebekah looked up and saw Isaac. She jumped down from her camel, and asked the servant, "Who is that man walking through the fields to meet us?" The servant replied, "That is my master." Then she took her veil and hid her face. The servant told Isaac the whole story, and Isaac led Rebekah into his tent and made her his wife; and he loved her. And so Isaac was consoled for the loss of his mother.

The word of the Lord.  
*All:* **Thanks be to God.**

**(4d) A Reading from the Book of Ruth**

(1:16-17)

Ruth said,

"Do not press me to leave you  
or to turn back from following you!  
Where you go, I will go;  
Where you lodge, I will lodge;  
your people shall be my people,  
and your God my God.

Where you die, I will die  
-there will I be buried.  
May the Lord do thus and so to me,  
and more as well, if even death parts me from you!"

The word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

**(4e) A reading from the book of Tobit**

(7:6-14)

Raguel kissed Tobias and wept. Then finding these words, he said, 'Blessings on you, child! You are the son of a noble father. How sad it is that someone so virtuous and full of good deeds should have gone blind!' He fell on the neck of his kinsman Tobias and wept. And his wife Edna wept for him, and so did his daughter Sarah. Raguel killed a sheep from the flock, and they gave Tobias and Raphael a warm-hearted welcome.

They washed and bathed and sat down to table. Then Tobias said to Raphael, 'Brother Azarias, will you ask Raguel to give me my sister Sarah?' Raguel over heard these words, and said to the young man, 'Eat and drink, and make the most of your evening; no one else has the right to take my daughter Sarah – no one but you, my brother. In any case I, for my own part, am not at liberty to give her to anyone else, since you are her next of kin. However, my boy, I must be frank with you: I have tried to find a husband for her seven times among our kinsmen, and all of them have died the first evening, on going to her room. But for the present, my boy, eat and drink; the Lord will grant you his grace and peace.' Tobias spoke out, 'I will not hear of eating and drinking till you have come to a decision about me'. Raguel answered, 'Very well. Since, as prescribed by the Book of Moses, she is given to you, heaven itself decrees she shall be yours. I shall therefore entrust your sister to you. From now you are her brother and she is your sister. She is given to you from today for ever. The Lord of heaven favour you tonight, my child, and grant you his grace and peace.' Raguel called for his daughter Sarah, took her by the hand and gave her to Tobias with these words, 'I entrust her to you; the law and the ruling recorded in the Book of Moses assign her to you as your wife. Take her; take her home to your father's house with a good conscience. The God of heaven grant you a good journey in peace.' Then he turned to her mother and asked her to fetch him writing paper. He drew up the marriage contract, how he gave his daughter as bride to Tobias according to the ordinance in the Law of Moses.

After this they began to eat and drink.

The word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

**(4f) A reading from the book of Tobit**

(8:4-8)

on the evening of their marriage, Tobias said to Sarah,  
'Let us pray and implore our Lord that he grant us mercy and safety.'  
Tobias began by saying,  
'Blessed are you, O God of our ancestors,  
and blessed is your name in all generations forever.  
Let the heavens and the whole creation  
bless you forever.  
You made Adam,  
and for him you made his wife Eve  
as a helper and support.  
From the two of them the human race has sprung.  
You said,  
"It is not good that the man should be alone;  
let us make a helper for him like himself."  
I now am taking this kinswoman of mine,  
not because of lust,  
but with sincerity.  
Grant that she and I may find mercy  
and that we may grow old together.'  
And they both said, 'Amen, Amen.'

The word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

**(4g) A reading from the Song of Songs**

(2:8-10,14,16; 8:6-7)

I hear my Beloved.  
See how he comes  
leaping on the mountains,  
bounding over the hills.  
My Beloved is like a gazelle,  
like a young stag.  
  
See where he stands  
behind our wall.  
He looks in at the windows,  
He peers through the lattice.  
My beloved lifts up his voice,  
he says to me,  
'Come then, my love,  
my lovely one, come.  
My dove, hiding in the clefts of the rock.  
In the covert of the cliff,  
Show me your face,



let me hear your voice;  
for your voice is sweet,  
and your face is beautiful.'

My beloved is mine and I am his.

Set me as a seal upon your heart,  
as a seal on your arm.  
For love is strong as Death,  
jealousy relentless as Sheol.  
The flash of it is a flash of fire,  
a flame of the Lord himself.  
Love no flood can quench, no torrents drown.

The word of the Lord.

*All:* **Thanks be to God.**

#### **(4h) A Reading from the Song of Songs**

(2:10-14, 16)

My beloved lifts up his voice,  
he says to me,  
'Come then, my love,  
my lovely one, come.  
For see, winter is past,  
the rains are over and gone.  
The flowers appear on earth.  
The season of glad songs has come,  
the cooing of the turtledove is heard  
in our land.

The fig tree is forming its first figs  
and the blossoming vines give out their fragrance.  
Come then, my love,  
my lovely one, come.

My dove, hiding in the clefts of the rock.  
In the covert of the cliff,  
Show me your face,  
let me hear your voice;  
for your voice is sweet,  
and your face is beautiful.'

My beloved is mine and I am his.

The word of the Lord.

*All:* **Thanks be to God.**

**(4i) A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus**

(26: 1-4.13-16)

Happy the husband of a really good wife;  
The number of his days will be doubled.  
A perfect wife is the joy of her husband,  
He will live out the years of his life in peace.  
A good wife is the best of portions,  
Reserved for those who fear the Lord;  
Rich or poor, they will be glad of heart,  
cheerful of face, whatever the season.  
The grace of a wife will charm her husband,  
Her accomplishments will make him stronger.  
A silent wife is a gift from the Lord,  
No price can be put on a well-trained character.  
A modest wife is a boon twice over,  
A chaste character cannot be weighed on scales.  
Like the sun rising over the mountains of the Lord  
Is the beauty of a good wife in a well-kept house.

The word of the Lord.

*All:* **Thanks be to God.**

**(4j) A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah**

(61: 10-11)

I will greatly rejoice in the Lord,  
my whole being shall exult in my God;  
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,  
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,  
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,  
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

For as the earth brings forth its shoots,  
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,  
so the Lord God will cause righteousness  
and praise to spring up before all the nations.

The word of the Lord.

*All:* **Thanks be to God.**

**(4k) A reading from the prophet Jeremiah**

(31:31-34)

See, the days are coming – it is the Lord who speaks – when I will make a new covenant with the House of Israel and the House of Judah, but not like the one I made with their ancestors on the day I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt. No, this is the covenant I will make with the House of Israel when those days arrive – it is the Lord who speaks. Deep within them I will plant my law, writing it on their hearts. Then I will be their God and they shall be my people. There will be no further need for neighbour to try to teach neighbour, or brother to say to brother, ‘Learn to know the Lord!’ No, they will all know me, the least no less than the greatest – it is the Lord who speaks.

The word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

*(The following reading or another from the same book or Acts of the Apostles is used during Eastertide only – from Easter Sunday to Pentecost Sunday).*

**(4l) A reading from the book of the Apocalypse**

(19:1.5-9)

I, John, seemed to hear the great sound of a huge crowd in heaven, singing, ‘Alleluia! Victory and glory and power to our God!’

Then a voice came from the throne; it said, ‘Praise our God, you servants of his and all who, great and small, revere him’. And I seemed to hear the voices of a huge crowd, like the sound of the ocean or the great roar of thunder, answering, ‘Alleluia! The reign of the Lord our God Almighty has begun; let us be glad and joyful and give praise to God, because this is the time for the marriage of the Lamb. His bride is ready, and she has been able to dress herself in dazzling white linen, because her linen is made of the good deeds of the saints.’ The angel said, ‘Write this: Happy are those who are invited to the wedding feast of the lamb.’

The word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

**Responsorial Psalm** (If not sung, can be read by the person who does the first reading)

**(5a) Psalm 32**

(Ps 32:12,18,20-22, □ v.5)

**Response:** *The Lord fills the earth with His love.*

They are happy, whose God is the Lord,  
the people he has chosen as his own.  
The Lord looks on those who revere him,  
on those who hope in his love.

**Response**

Our soul is waiting for the Lord.  
The Lord is our help and our shield.  
In him do our hearts find joy.  
We trust in his holy name.

**Response**

May your love be upon us, O Lord,  
as we place all our hope in you.

**Response**

**(5b) Psalm 33**

(Ps 33:12,18,20-22, □ v.5)

**Response:** *I will bless the Lord at all times.*

*Or*

**Response:** *Taste and see that the Lord is good.*

I will bless the Lord at all times,  
his praise always on my lips;  
in the Lord my soul shall make its boast.  
The humble shall hear and be glad.

**Response**

Glorify the Lord with me.  
Together let us praise his name.  
I sought the Lord and he answered me;  
from all my terrors he set me free.

**Response**

Look towards him and be radiant;  
let your faces not be abashed.  
This poor man called; the Lord heard him  
and rescued him from all his distress.

**Response**

The angel of the Lord is encamped  
around those who revere him, to rescue them.  
Taste and see that the Lord is good.  
He is happy who seeks refuge in him.

**Response**

**(5c) Psalm 102**

(Ps 102:1-2, 8, 13, 17-18 □ v. 8 Alt □ v.17)

**Response:**            *The Lord is compassion and love.*

*Or*

**Response:**            *The love of the Lord is everlasting upon those who hold him in fear.*

My soul, give thanks to the Lord,  
all my being bless his holy name.  
My soul, give thanks to the Lord  
and never forget all his blessings.

**Response**

The Lord is compassion and love,  
slow to anger and rich in mercy.  
As a father has compassion on his sons,  
the Lord has pity on those who fear him.

**Response**

The love of the Lord is everlasting  
upon those who hold him in fear;  
his justice reaches out to children's children  
when they keep his covenant in truth.

**Response**

**(5d) Psalm 111**

(Ps 111:1-9. □ cf v.1)

**Response:**    **Happy the man who takes delight in the Lord's commands.**

Happy the man who fears the Lord,  
who takes delight in his commands.  
His sons will be powerful on earth;  
the children of the upright are blessed.

**Response**

Riches and wealth are in his house;  
his justice stands firm for ever.  
He is a light in the darkness for the upright:  
he is generous, merciful and just.

**Response**

The good man takes pity and lends.  
he conducts his affairs with honour.  
The just man will never waver:  
he will be remembered for ever.

**Response**

He has no fear of evil news;  
with a firm heart he trusts in the Lord.  
With a steadfast heart he will not fear;  
he will see the downfall of his foes.

**Response**

Open-handed, he gives to the poor;  
his justice stands firm for ever.  
His head will be raised in glory.

**Response**

**(5e) Psalm 127**

*(Ps 127:1-5 □ cf. v.1 Alt. □ v.4)*

**Response: O blessed are those who fear the Lord!**

Or

**Response: Indeed thus shall be blessed the man who fears the Lord.**

O blessed are those who fear the Lord  
and walk in his ways!  
By the labour of your hands you shall eat.

**Response**

You will be happy and prosper.  
Your wife will be like a fruitful vine  
in the heart of your house;  
your children like shoots of the olive,  
around your table.

**Response**

Indeed thus shall be blessed  
the man who fears the Lord.  
May the Lord bless you from Zion  
all the days of your life!

**Response**

**(5f) Psalm 144**

*(Ps 144:8-10, 15, 17-18 □ v.9)*

**Response: *How good is the Lord to all.***

The Lord is kind and full of compassion.  
slow to anger, abounding in love.  
How good is the Lord to all,  
compassionate to all his creatures.

**Response**

All your creatures shall thank you, O Lord,  
and your friends shall repeat their blessing.  
The eyes of all creatures look to you  
and you give them their food in due time.

**Response**

The Lord is just in all his ways  
and loving in all his deeds.  
He is close to all who call him,  
who call on him from their hearts.

**Response**

**(5g) Psalm 148**

*(Ps 148:1-4, 9-14. □ v.12)*

**Response: Praise the name of the Lord.**

Praise the Lord from the heavens,  
praise him in the heights.  
Praise him, all his angels,  
praise him, all his host.

**Response**

Praise him, sun and moon,  
praise him, shining stars.  
Praise him, highest heavens,  
and the waters about the heavens.

**Response**

All the mountains and hills,  
all fruit trees and cedars,  
beasts wild and tame,  
reptiles and birds on the wing.

**Response**

All earth's kings and peoples,  
earth's princes and rulers:  
young men and maidens,  
old men together with children.

**Response**

Let them praise the name of the Lord  
for he alone is exalted.  
The splendour of his name  
reaches beyond heaven and earth

**Response**

**Second Reading**

**Read by \_\_\_\_\_**

**(6a) A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans**

*(8:31-35, 37-39)*

With God on our side who can be against us? Since God did not spare his own Son, but gave him up to benefit us all, we may be certain, after such a gift, that he will not refuse anything he can give. Could anyone accuse those that God has chosen? When God acquits, could anyone condemn? Could Christ Jesus? No! He not only died for us - he rose from the dead, and there at God's right hand he stands and pleads for us.

Nothing therefore can come between us and the love of Christ, even if we are troubled or worried, or being persecuted, or lacking food or clothes, or being threatened or attacked. These are the trails through which we triumph, by the power of him who loved us.

For I am certain of this: neither death nor life, no angel, no prince, nothing that exists, nothing still to come, not any power, or height or depth, nor any created thing, can ever come between us and the love of God made visible in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The word of the Lord.

*All:* **Thanks be to God.**

**(6b) A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans** (12:1-2,9-18)

Think of God's mercy, my brothers, and worship him, I beg you, in a way that is worthy of thinking beings, by offering your living bodies as a holy sacrifice, truly pleasing to God. Do not model yourselves on the behaviour of the world around you, but let your behaviour change, modelled by your new mind. This is the only way to discover the will of God and know what is good, what it is that God wants, what is the perfect thing to do.

Do not let your love be a pretence, but sincerely prefer good to evil. Love each other as much as brothers should, and have a profound respect for each other. Work for the Lord with untiring effort and with great earnestness of spirit. If you have hope, this will make you cheerful. Do not give up if trials come; and keep on praying. If any of the saints are in need you must share with them; and you should make hospitality your special care.

Bless those who persecute you: never curse them, bless them. Rejoice with those who rejoice and be sad with those in sorrow. Treat everyone with equal kindness; never be condescending but make real friends with the poor. Do not allow yourselves to become self-satisfied. Never repay evil with evil but let everyone see that you are interested only in the highest ideals. Do all you can to live at peace with everyone.

The word of the Lord.

*All:* **Thanks be to God.**

**(6c) A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians** (6:13-15, 17-20.)

The body is not meant for fornication; it is for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. God, who raised the Lord from the dead, will by his power raise us up too.

You know, surely, that your bodies are members making up the body of Christ. But anyone who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with him.

Keep away from fornication. All the other sins are committed outside the body; but to fornicate is to sin against your own body. Your body, you know, is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you since you received him from God. You are not your own property; you have been bought and paid for. That is why you should use your body for the glory of God.

The word of the Lord.

*All:* **Thanks be to God.**



**(6d) A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians (12:31-13:8.)**

Be ambitious for the higher gifts. And I am going to show you a way that is better than any of them.

If I have all the eloquence of men or of angels, but speak without love, I am simply a gong booming or a cymbal clashing. If I have the gift of prophecy, understanding all the mysteries there are, and knowing everything, and if I have faith in all its fullness, to move mountains, but without love, then I am nothing at all. If I give away all that I possess, piece by piece, and if I even let them take my body to burn it, but am without love, it will do me no good whatever.

Love is always patient and kind; it is never jealous; love is never boastful or conceited; it is never rude or selfish; it does not take offence, and is not resentful. Love takes no pleasure in other people's sins but delights in the truth; it is always ready to excuse, to trust, to hope, and to endure whatever comes.

Love does not come to an end.

The word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

**(6e) A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians (5:2,21-33)**

Follow Christ by loving as he loved you, giving himself up for us as an offering and a sweet-smelling sacrifice to God. Husbands should love their wives, just as Christ loved the Church and sacrificed himself for her to make her holy by washing her in cleansing water with a form of words, so that when he took the Church to himself she would be glorious, with no speck or wrinkle or anything like that, but holy and faultless. In the same way, husbands must love their wives as they love their own bodies; for a man to love his wife is for him to love himself. A man never hates his own body, but he feeds it and looks after it; and that is the way Christ treats the Church because we are part of his Body. This is why a man leaves his father and mother and becomes attached to his wife, and the two become one flesh. This mystery has great significance, but I am applying it to Christ and the Church. To sum up: you also, each one of you, must love his wife as he loves himself; and let every wife respect her husband.

The word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

**(6f) A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Colossians**

*(3: 12-17.)*

You are God's chosen race, his saints; he loves you, and you should be clothed in sincere compassion, in kindness and humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with one another; forgive each other as soon as a quarrel begins. The Lord has forgiven you; now you must do the same. Over all these clothes, to keep them together and complete them, put on love. And may the peace of Christ reign in your hearts, because it is for this that you were called together as parts of one body.

Always be thankful. Let the message of Christ, in all its richness, find a home with you. Teach each other, and advise each other, in all wisdom. With gratitude in your hearts sing psalms and hymns and inspired songs to God; and never say or do anything except in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

The word of the Lord.

*All:*     **Thanks be to God.**

**(6g) A reading from the first letter of St Peter**

*(3:1-9)*

Wives should be obedient to their husbands. Then, if there are some husbands who have not yet obeyed the word, they may find themselves won over, without a word spoken, by the way their wives behave, when they see how faithful and conscientious they are. Do not dress up for show: doing up your hair, wearing gold bracelets and fine clothes; all this should be inside, in a person's heart, imperishable: the ornament of a sweet and gentle disposition – this is what is precious in the sight of God. That was how the holy women of the past dressed attractively – they hoped in God and were tender and obedient to their husbands; like Sarah, who was obedient to Abraham, and called him her lord. You are now her children, as long as you live good lives and do not fear or worry.

In the same way, husbands must always treat their wives with consideration in their life together, respecting a woman as one who, though she may be the weaker partner, is equally an heir to the life of grace. This will stop anything from coming in the way of your prayers.

Finally: you should all agree among yourselves and be sympathetic; love the brothers, have compassion and be self-effacing. Never pay back one wrong with another one; instead, pay back with a blessing. That is what you are called to do, so that you inherit a blessing yourself.

The word of the Lord.

*All:*     **Thanks be to God.**

**(6h) A reading from the first letter of St John**

(3: 18-24)

My children,  
our love is not to be just words or mere talk,  
but something real and active;  
only by this can we be certain  
that we are children of the truth  
and be able to quieten our conscience in his presence,  
whatever accusations it may raise against us,  
because God is greater than our conscience and he knows everything.  
My dear people,  
if we cannot be condemned by our own conscience,  
we need not be afraid in God's presence,  
and whatever we ask him,  
we shall receive,  
because we keep his commandments  
and live the kind of life he wants.  
His commandments are these:  
that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ  
and that we love one another  
as he told us to.  
Whoever keeps his commandments  
lives in God and God lives in him.  
We know that he lives in us  
by the Spirit that he has given us.

The word of the Lord.

*All:* **Thanks be to God.**

**(6i) A reading from the first letter of St John**

(4: 7-12)

My dear people,  
Let us love one another  
Since love comes from God  
And everyone who loves is begotten by God and knows God.  
Anyone who fails to love can never have known God,  
Because God is love.  
God's love for us was revealed  
When he sent into the world his only Son  
So that we could have life through him;  
This is the love I mean:  
Not our love for God,  
But God's love for us when he sent his Son  
To be the sacrifice that takes our sins away.  
My dear people,  
Since God has loved us so much,

We too should love one another.  
No one has ever seen God;  
But as long as we love one another  
God will live in us  
And his love will be complete in us.

The word of the Lord.

*All:* **Thanks be to God.**

### **Gospel Acclamation**

[PLEASE STAND]

*One of the following, or a similar piece, is sung before the proclamation of the Gospel.  
If not sung, it can be read by the person who did the second reading.*

**(7a) Alleluia, Alleluia!**  
**God is love;**  
**Let us love one another**  
**as God has loved us.**  
**Alleluia!**

**(7c) Alleluia, Alleluia!**  
**Anyone who lives in love**  
**lives in God**  
**and God lives in him**  
**Alleluia!**

**(7b) Alleluia, Alleluia!**  
**As long as we love one another**  
**God will live in us**  
**and his love will be complete in us**  
**Alleluia!**

**(7d) Alleluia, Alleluia!**  
**Everyone who loves**  
**is born of God**  
**and knows him**  
**Alleluia!**

### **Gospel**

**(8a)**

*Priest:* The Lord be with you.

*All:* **And with your spirit.**

*Priest:* A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew. (5:1-12)

*All:* **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up to the hill. There he sat down, and was joined by the disciples. Then he began to speak. This is what he taught them:

Blessed are the poor in spirit: theirs is the kingdom of heaven.  
Blessed are the gentle: they shall have the earth for their heritage.  
Blessed are those who mourn: they shall be comforted.  
Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for what is right: they shall be satisfied.  
Blessed are the merciful: they shall have mercy shown them.  
Blessed are the pure in heart: they shall see God.  
Blessed are the peacemakers: they shall be called children of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted in the cause of right: theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are you when people abuse you and persecute you and speak all kinds of calumny against you on my account.

Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.

The Gospel of the Lord.

*All:* **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**(8b)**

*Priest:* The Lord be with you.

*All:* **And with your spirit.**

*Priest:* A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew. (5:13-16)

*All:* **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said to his disciples: 'You are the salt of the earth. But if salt becomes tasteless, what can make it salty again? It is good for nothing, and can only be thrown out to be trampled underfoot by men. You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill-top cannot be hidden. No one lights a lamp to put it under a tub; they put it on the lampstand where it shines for everyone in the house. In the same way your light must shine in the sight of men, so that, seeing your good works, they may give the praise to your Father in heaven.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

*All:* **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**(8c)**

*Priest:* The Lord be with you.

*All:* **And with your spirit.**

*Priest:* A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew (7:21,24-29)

*All:* **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said to his disciples, 'Not everyone who says to me, "Lord, Lord," will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father in heaven. 'Everyone then who hears these words of mine and acts on them will be like a wise man who built his house on rock. The rain fell, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on rock.

And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not act on them will be like a foolish man who built his house on sand. The rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell – and great was its fall!

Now when Jesus had finished saying these things, the crowds were astonished at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as their scribes.

The Gospel of the Lord.

*All:* **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**(8d)**

*Priest:* The Lord be with you.

*All:* **And with your spirit.**

*Priest:* A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew (19:3-6)

*All:* **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Some Pharisees approached Jesus, and to test him they said "Is it against the Law for a man to divorce his wife on any pretext whatever?" Jesus answered: "Have you not read that the creator from the beginning made them male and female and that he said: This is why a man must leave his father and mother, and cling to his wife, and the two become one body. So then, what God has united, man must not divide."

The Gospel of the Lord.

*All:* **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**(8e)**

*Priest:* The Lord be with you.

*All:* **And with your spirit.**

*Priest:* A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew (22:35-40)

*All:* **Glory to you, O Lord.**

A lawyer, to disconcert Jesus, put a question, "Master, which is the greatest commandment of the Law?" Jesus said, "You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second resembles it: You must love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments hang the whole Law, and the prophets also."

The Gospel of the Lord.

*All:* **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**(8f)**

*Priest:* The Lord be with you.

*All:* **And with your spirit.**

*Priest:* A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Mark (10:6-9)

*All:* **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said: "From the beginning of creation God made them male and female. That is why a man must leave father and mother, and the two become one body. They are no longer two, therefore, but one body. So then, what God has united, man must not divide."

The Gospel of the Lord.

*All:* **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**(8g)**

*Priest:* The Lord be with you.

*All:* **And with your spirit.**

*Priest:* A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John (2:1-11)

*All:* **Glory to you, O Lord.**

There was a wedding at Cana in Galilee. The mother of Jesus was there, and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited. When they ran out of wine, since the wine provided for the wedding was all finished, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." Jesus said, "Woman, why turn to me? My hour has not yet come." His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." There were six stone jars standing there, meant for the ablutions that are customary among the Jews: each could hold twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to the servants, "Fill the jars with water", and they filled them to the brim. "Draw some out now," he told them, "and take it to the steward." They did this; the steward tasted the water, and it turned into wine. Having no idea where it came from – only the stewards who had drawn the water knew – the steward called the bridegroom and said: "People generally serve the best wine first, and keep the cheaper sort till the guests have had plenty to drink; but you have kept the best wine till now." This was the first of the signs given by Jesus: it was given at Cana in Galilee. He let his glory be seen, and his disciples believed in him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

*All:* **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**(8h)**

*Priest:* The Lord be with you.

*All:* **And with your spirit.**

*Priest:* A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John (15:9-12)

*All:* **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said to his disciples;  
'As the Father has loved me,  
so I have loved you.

Remain in my love.  
If you keep my commandments  
You will remain in my love,  
Just as I have kept my Father's commandments  
And remain in his love.  
I have told you this  
So that my own joy may be in you  
And your joy be complete  
This is my commandment:  
Love one another,  
as I have loved you'.

The Gospel of the Lord.

*All:* **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**(8i)**

*Priest:* The Lord be with you.

*All:* **And with your spirit.**

*Priest:* A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John (15:12-16).

*All:* **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said to his disciples,  
'This is my commandment:  
love one another,  
as I have loved you.  
No one can have greater love  
than to lay down his life for his friends.  
You are my friends  
if you do what I command you.  
I shall no longer call you servants,  
because a servant does not know  
his master's business;  
I call you friends,  
because I have made known to you  
everything I have learnt from my Father.  
You did not choose me,  
no, I chose you;  
and I commissioned you  
to go out and to bear fruit, fruit that will last;  
so that the Father will give you  
anything you ask him in my name.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

*All:* **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**



**(8j)**

*Priest:* The Lord be with you.

*All:* **And with your spirit.**

*Priest:* A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John (17:20-26)

*All:* **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said:

“Holy Father,  
I pray not only for these,  
but for those also  
who through their words will believe in me.  
May they all be one.

Father, may they be one in us,  
as you are in me and I am in you,  
so that the world may believe it was you who sent me.  
I have given them the glory you gave to me,  
that they may be one as we are one.  
With me in them and you in me,  
may they be so completely one  
that the world will realise that it was you who sent me  
and that I have loved them as much as you loved me.

Father,  
I want those you have given me  
to be with me where I am,  
so that they may always see the glory  
you have given me  
because you loved me  
before the foundation of the world.

Father, Righteous One,  
the world has not known you,  
but I have known you,  
and these have known  
that you have sent me.  
I have made your name known to them  
and will continue to make it known,  
so that the love with which you loved me may be in them,  
and so that I may be in them.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**All:** Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

## HOMILY

### THE RITE OF MARRIAGE

#### Address

(9a)

*Bride and Groom and their witnesses Chief bridesmaid and Best man stand before the priest who addresses them in these words.*

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 for ever; it creates between them a bond that endures for life and cannot be broken; it demands that they love and honour each other, (that they accept from God the children he may give them, and bring them up in his love). To help them in their marriage the husband and wife receive the life-long grace of the sacrament.

Is this your understanding of marriage?

***Bride and Groom:* It is.**

OR

(9b)

*Bride and Groom and their witnesses Chief bridesmaid and Best man stand before the priest who addresses them in these words.*

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.

*The priest then questions the bride and groom.*

***Priest:*** **Bride and Groom,** 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?

***Bride and Groom:*** **We have.**

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

***Bride and Groom:*** **We will.**

*Priest:* 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?

*Bride and Groom:* **We are.**

**OR**

**(9c)**

*Bride and Groom and their witnesses Chief bridesmaid and Best man stand before the priest who addresses them in these words.*

Dear children of God, you have come today to pledge your love before God and before the Church here present in the person of priest, your families and friends.

In becoming husband and wife you give yourselves to each other for life. You promise to be true and faithful, to support and cherish each other until death, so that your years together will be the living out in love of the pledge you now make. May your love for each other reflect the enduring love of Christ for his Church.

As you face the future together, keep in mind that the sacrament of marriage unites you with Christ, and brings you, through the years, the grace and blessing of God our Father. Marriage is from God: he alone can give you the happiness which goes beyond human expectation, and which grows deeper through the difficulties and struggles of life.

Put your trust in God as you set out together in life. Make your home a centre of Christian family life. (In this you will bequeath to your children a heritage more lasting than temporal wealth).

The Christian home makes Christ and his Church present in the world of everyday things. May all who enter your home find there the presence of the Lord; for he has said: "Where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them."

Now, as you are about to exchange your marriage vows, the Church wishes to be assured that you appreciate the meaning of what you do, and so I ask you:

*Priest:* Have you come here of your own free will and choice and without compulsion to marry each other?

*Bride and Groom:* **We have.**

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

*Bride and Groom:* **We will.**

*Priest:* 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?

*Bride and Groom:* **We are.**

## Declaration of Consent

### (10a)

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

*The Bride and Groom turn to face towards each other.*

*Groom:* **Bride**, do you consent to be my wife?

*Bride:* I do. Do you **Groom** consent to be my husband?

*Groom:* I do.

*Groom:* I take you as my wife  
and I give myself to you as your husband –

*Bride:* I take you as my husband  
and I give myself to you as your wife –

*Joining hands, they say together:*

*Both:* - to love each other truly  
for better, for worse,  
for richer, for poorer,  
in sickness and in health,  
till death do us part.  
*(or all the days of our life.)*

*When (Bride) and (Groom) have given their consent, the priest says:*

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

**OR**

### (10b)

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

*Bride and Groom turn to face towards each other and join hands.*

*Groom:* I, **Groom**, take you **Bride**, as my wife,  
for better, for worse,  
for richer, for poorer,

in sickness and in health,  
till death do us part.  
(*or* all the days of our life.)

*The bride says:*

**Bride:** I, **Bride**, take you **Groom**, as my husband,  
for better, for worse,  
for richer, for poorer,  
in sickness and in health,  
till death do us part.  
(*or* all the days of our life.)

*When **Bride** and **Groom** have given their consent, the priest says:*

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

**OR**

**(10c)**

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

***Bride** and **Groom** turn to face towards each other and join hands.*

**Priest:** **Groom**, do you take **Bride**, as your wife,  
for better, for worse,  
for richer, for poorer,  
in sickness and in health,  
till death do you part?  
(*or* all the days of your life?)

**Groom:** **I do.**

**Priest:** **Bride**, do you take **Groom**, as your husband,  
for better, for worse,  
for richer, for poorer,  
in sickness and in health,  
till death do you part?  
(*or* all the days of your life?)

**Bride:** **I do.**

*When **Bride** and **Groom** have given their consent, the priest says:*

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

**OR**

**(10d)**

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

*Bride and Groom turn to face towards each other and join hands.*

*Groom:* **Bride**, do you consent to be my wife?

*Bride:* I do. **Groom**, do you consent to be my husband?

*Groom:* I do.

*Joining hands, they say together:*

*Both:* We take each other as husband and wife  
and promise to love each other truly  
for better, for worse,  
for richer, for poorer,  
in sickness and in health,  
till death do us part.  
**(or all the days of our life.)**

*When **Bride** and **Groom** have given their consent, the priest says:*

*Priest:* The Lord has joined you together.  
May he fulfil his blessing in you; may he keep you in his love.

### **Blessing of Rings**

*After the exchange of vows, the best man now holds the tray containing the rings*

**(11a)** May the Lord bless + this ring **(these rings)**  
which will be the sign of your love and fidelity.

**OR**

**(11b)** Lord, bless + **Bride** and **Groom** and consecrate their married life.  
May this ring **(these rings)** be a symbol of their faith in each other,  
and a reminder of their love.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**OR**

**(11c)** Lord, bless + these rings.

Grant that those who wear them  
may always be faithful to each other.  
May they do your will  
and live in peace with you in mutual love.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**OR**

**(11d)**

Almighty God, bless + this ring (these rings),  
symbol(s) of faithfulness and unbroken love.  
May **Bride** and **Groom** always be true to each other,  
may they be one in heart and mind,  
may they be united in love forever,  
through Christ our Lord.

*All:* **Amen.**

*Groom* places *Bride's* ring on her finger saying:

*Groom:* **Bride**, 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* places *Groom's* ring on his finger saying:

*Bride:* **Groom**, 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.

### **(Optional) Exchange of Token(s)**

**(12a)**

*Groom* may give gold and silver to the bride saying:

*Groom:* I give this gold/silver/gift, a token of all I possess.

**OR**

**(12b)**

*Bride* and *Groom* may exchange small symbolic gifts, saying:

*Bride:* **Groom**, I give you this gold/silver/gift, a token of all I possess.

*Groom:* **Bride**, I give you this gold/silver/gift, a token of all I possess.

### **(Optional) Lighting of the Marriage Candle**

*All sit down as **Bride** and **Groom** go to the Sanctuary  
to light the central wedding candle together.*

### **(Optional but recommended) Prayer of the Newly Married Couple**

Then *Bride* and *Groom* may pray together the following.

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.

We ask you, Lord:  
make us one in your 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 and peace  
of our eternal home. Amen.

### **Prayer of the Faithful *(Sample)***

*Priest:* Now that *Bride* and *Groom* have given themselves to each other in Christian marriage  
let us ask God our Father to keep them and all married couples faithful to him,  
and united in themselves:

*(Person #1):* We pray for *Bride* and *Groom* as they begin their married life together, and for happiness in their home: *(Pause)*  
Let us pray to the Lord.

*All:* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*(Person #2):* We pray for their parents, their friends and all who have helped them to this happy day: *(Pause)*  
Let us pray to the Lord.

*All:* **Lord, hear our prayer.**



**(Person #3):** We pray for all people who are preparing for marriage, and for those called to other vocations: *(Pause)*

Let us pray to the Lord.

**All:** **Lord, hear our prayer.**

**(Person #4):** We pray for all who are victims of injustice, and for those deprived of love and affection: *(Pause)*

Let us pray to the Lord.

**All:** **Lord, hear our prayer.**

**(Person #5):** We pray for all married couples, especially those experiencing difficulty in their marriage: *(Pause)*

Let us pray to the Lord.

**All:** **Lord, hear our prayer.**

**(Person #6):** We pray for our friends and relatives, who have departed this life, and for all the faithful departed: *(Pause)*

Let us pray to the Lord.

**All:** **Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Priest:** Heavenly Father, help us to keep our hearts pure, our minds clean, our words true, and our deeds kind. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**All:** **Amen.**

## THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

**Offertory Hymn** \_\_\_\_\_

*The gifts of bread and wine, which will become the Lord's Body and Blood,  
are brought to the altar by **N.** and **N.***

**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 work of human hands,  
it will become for us the bread of life.

**All:** **Blessed be God for ever.**

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

**All:** **Blessed be God forever.**

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

[PLEASE STAND]

*All:* **May the Lord accept the sacrifice at 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

**(13a)** 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.

**OR**

**(13b)** Receive in your kindness, Lord,  
the offerings we bring in gladness before you,  
and in your fatherly love  
watch over those you have joined in a sacramental covenant.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**OR**

**(13c)** Show favour to our supplications, O Lord,  
and receive with a kindly countenance  
the oblations we offer for these your servants,  
joined now in a holy covenant,  
that through these mysteries  
they may be strengthened  
in love for one another and for you.  
Through Christ our Lord.

*All:* **Amen.**

### Preface of Christian Marriage

#### **(14a) – The Dignity of the Marriage Covenant**

*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.**

*Priest:* 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.**

[PLEASE KNEEL]

**OR**

### **(14b) – The Great Sacrament of Matrimony**

*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.**

*Priest:* 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,  
through Christ our Lord.

For in him you have made a new covenant with your people,  
so that, as you have redeemed man and woman



through Christ our Lord.

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

*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.**

[PLEASE KNEEL]

### The Eucharistic Prayer

**(15a)**

#### **Eucharistic Prayer I (The Roman Canon)**

To you, therefore most merciful Father,  
we make humble prayer and petition  
through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord:  
that you accept

and bless ☐ these gifts, these offerings,  
these holy and unblemished sacrifices,  
which we offer you firstly  
for your holy catholic Church.

Be pleased to grant her peace,  
to guard, unite and govern her  
throughout the whole world,  
together with your servant **N.** our Pope  
and **N.** our Bishop,  
and all those who, holding to the truth,  
hand on the catholic and apostolic faith.

Remember, Lord, your servants **N.** and **N.**  
and all gathered here,  
whose faith and devotion are known to you.  
For them, we offer you this sacrifice of praise  
or they offer it for themselves  
and all who are dear to them:  
for the redemption of their souls,  
in hope of health and well-being,  
and paying their homage to you,  
the eternal God, living and true.

In communion with those whose memory we venerate,  
especially the glorious ever-Virgin Mary,  
Mother of our God and Lord, Jesus Christ,

and blessed Joseph, her Spouse,  
your blessed Apostles and Martyrs,  
Peter and Paul, Andrew,  
(James, John,  
Thomas, James, Philip,  
Bartholomew, Matthew,  
Simon and Jude;  
Linus, Cletus, Clement, Sixtus,  
Cornelius, Cyprian,  
Laurence, Chrysogonus,  
Cosmas and Damien)  
and all your saints;  
we ask that through their merits and prayers,  
in all things we may be defended  
by your protecting help.  
(Through Christ our Lord. Amen.)

---

(From the Mass of the Easter Vigil until the Second Sunday of Easter only)

Celebrating the most sacred day  
of the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ in the flesh,  
and in communion with those whose memory we venerate,  
especially the glorious ever-Virgin Mary,  
Mother of our God and Lord, Jesus Christ,...

---

Therefore, Lord, we pray:  
graciously accept this oblation of our service,  
the offering of your servants **Bride** and **Groom**,  
and of your whole family,  
who entreat your majesty on their behalf;  
and as you have brought them to their wedding day,  
so (gladden them with your gift of the children they desire and)  
bring them into your kindness  
to the length of days for which they hope.  
(Through Christ our Lord. Amen.)

---

(From the Mass of the Easter Vigil until the Second Sunday of Easter only)

Therefore, Lord, we pray:  
graciously accept this oblation of our service,  
that of your whole family,  
which we make to you  
also for those to whom you have pleased to give  
the new birth of water and the Holy Spirit,  
granting them forgiveness of all their sins;

order our days in your peace,  
and command that we be delivered from eternal damnation  
and counted among the flock of those you have chosen.  
(Through Christ our Lord. Amen.)

---

Be pleased, O God, we pray,  
to bless, acknowledge,  
and approve this offering in every respect;  
make it spiritual and acceptable,  
so that it may become for us  
the Body and Blood of your most beloved Son,  
our Lord Jesus Christ.

On the day before he was to suffer,  
he took the bread in his holy and venerable hands,  
and with eyes raised to heaven  
to you, O God, his almighty Father,  
giving you thanks, he said his blessing,  
broke the bread  
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 this precious chalice  
in his holy and venerable hands,  
and once more giving you thanks, he said the blessing  
and gave the chalice 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.

*Priest:* The mystery of faith.

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

*Or:*

When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup,  
we proclaim your Death, O Lord,  
until you come again.

**Or:**

Save us, Saviour of the world,  
for by your Cross and Resurrection  
you have set us free.

**Or:**

My Lord and my God.

*Priest:*

Therefore, O Lord,  
as we celebrate the memorial of the blessed Passion,  
the Resurrection from the dead,  
and the glorious ascension into heaven  
of Christ, your Son, our Lord,  
we, your servant and your holy people,  
offer to your glorious majesty  
from the gifts that you have given us,  
this pure victim,  
this holy victim,  
this spotless victim,  
the holy Bread of eternal life  
and the Chalice of everlasting salvation.

Be pleased to look upon these offerings  
with a serene and kindly countenance,  
and to accept them,  
as once you were pleased to accept  
the gifts of your servant Abel the just,  
the sacrifice of Abraham, our father in faith,  
and the offering of your high priest Melchizedek,  
a holy sacrifice, a spotless victim.

In humble prayer we ask you, almighty God:  
command that these gifts be borne  
by the hands of your holy Angel  
to your altar on high  
in the sight of your divine majesty,  
so that all of us, who through this participation at the altar  
receive the most holy Body and Blood of your Son,  
may be filled with every grace and heavenly blessing.  
(Through Christ our Lord. Amen.)

Remember also, Lord, your servants **N.** and **N.**,  
who have gone before us with the sign of faith  
and rest in the sleep of peace.



Grant them, O Lord, we pray,  
and all who sleep in Christ,  
a place of refreshment, light and peace.  
(Through Christ our Lord. Amen.)

To us, also, your servants, who, though sinners,  
hope in your abundant mercies,  
graciously grant some share  
and fellowship with your holy Apostles and Martyrs:  
with John the Baptist, Stephen,  
Matthias, Barnabas,  
(Ignatius, Alexander,  
Marcellinus, Peter,  
Felicity, Perpetua,  
Agatha, Lucy,  
Agnes, Cecilia, Anastasia)  
and all your Saints;  
admit us, we beseech you,  
into their company,  
not weighing our merits,  
but granting us your pardon,  
through Christ our Lord.

Through whom  
you continue to make all these good things , O Lord;  
you sanctify them, fill them with life,  
bless them, and bestow them upon us.

*Priest:* 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.

**OR**

**(15b) Eucharistic Prayer II**

*Priest:* 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.

*Priest:* The mystery of faith.

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

*Or:*

When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup,  
we proclaim your Death, O Lord,  
until you come again.

*Or:*

Save us, Saviour of the world,  
for by your Cross and Resurrection  
you have set us free.

*Or:*

My Lord and my God.

*Priest:* 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 **N.** our Pope and **N.** our Bishop  
and all the clergy.

Be mindful also, Lord, of **Bride** and **Groom**,  
whom you have brought to their wedding day,  
so that by your grace  
they may abide in mutual love and in peace.

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 blessed Joseph, her Spouse,  
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.

*Priest:* 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.

**OR**

**(15c) Eucharistic Prayer III**

*Priest:* You are indeed Holy, O Lord,  
and all you have created  
rightly gives you praise,  
for through your Son our Lord Jesus Christ,  
by the power and working of the Holy Spirit,  
you give life to all things and make them holy,  
and you never cease to gather a people to yourself,  
so that from the rising of the sun to its setting  
a pure sacrifice may be offered to your name.

Therefore, O Lord, we humbly implore you:  
by the same Spirit graciously make holy  
these gifts we have brought to you for consecration,  
that they may become the Body and + Blood  
of your Son our Lord Jesus Christ,  
at whose command we celebrate these mysteries.

For on the night he was betrayed  
he himself took bread,  
and, giving you thanks, he said the blessing,  
broke the bread 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, giving you thanks, he said the  
blessing,  
and gave the chalice 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.

*Priest:* The mystery of faith.

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

*Or:*

When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup,  
we proclaim your Death, O Lord,  
until you come again.

*Or:*

Save us, Saviour of the world,  
for by your Cross and Resurrection  
you have set us free.

*Or:*

My Lord and my God.

*Priest:* Therefore, O Lord, as we celebrate the memorial  
of the saving Passion of your Son,  
his wondrous Resurrection  
and Ascension into heaven,  
and as we look forward to his second coming,  
we offer you in thanksgiving  
this holy and living sacrifice.

Look, we pray, upon the oblation of your Church  
and, recognising the sacrificial Victim by whose death  
you willed to reconcile us to yourself,  
grant that we, who are nourished  
by the Body and Blood of your Son  
and filled with his Holy Spirit,  
may become one body, one spirit in Christ.

May he make of us  
an eternal offering to you,  
so that we may obtain an inheritance with your elect,  
especially with the most Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God,  
with blessed Joseph, her Spouse,  
with your blessed Apostles and glorious Martyrs  
(with Saint N.: **the Saint of the day or Patron Saint**)  
and with all the Saints,  
on whose constant intercession in your presence  
we rely for unfailing help.

May this Sacrifice of our reconciliation,  
we pray, O Lord,  
advance the peace and salvation of all the world.  
Be pleased to confirm in faith and charity  
your pilgrim Church on earth,  
with your servant N. our Pope and N. our Bishop,  
the Order of Bishops, all the clergy,  
and the entire people you have gained for your own.

Listen graciously to the prayers of this family,  
whom you have summoned before you.  
Strengthen, we pray, in the grace of Marriage **Bride** and **Groom**,  
whom you have brought happily to their wedding day,  
that under your protection  
they will always be faithful in their lives  
to the covenant they have sealed in your presence,  
In your compassion, O merciful Father, gather to yourself all your children  
scattered throughout the world.  
To our departed brothers and sisters  
and all who were pleasing to you

at their passing from this life,  
give kind admittance to your kingdom.  
There we hope to enjoy for ever the fullness of your glory  
through Christ our Lord,  
through whom you bestow on the world all that is good.

*Priest:* 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.

### **(Standard) Our Father**

**[PLEASE STAND]**

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

*All:* **Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread,  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.**

### **(Alternative) Ár nAthair**

*Sagart:* Guímis chun an Athar faoi mar a mhúin ár Slánaitheoir dúinn a dhéanamh:

*Pobal:* **Ár nAthair, atá ar neamh,  
go naofar d'ainm;  
go dtaga do ríocht;  
go ndéantar do thoil ar an talamh  
mar a dhéantar ar neamh.  
Ár n-arán laethúil tabhair dúinn inniu;  
agus maith dúinn ár bhfiacha  
mar a mhaithimidne dár bhféichiúna féin;  
agus ná lig sinn i gcathú,  
ach saor sinn ó olc.**

### **Nuptial Blessing**

(16a)

*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.

*All pray for a short while. The priest then extends his hands and continues:*

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 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 asked 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 (Bride),  
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 you servants  
hold fast to the faith and keep your commandments;  
made one in 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.**

**OR**

**(16b)**

*Priest:* Let us pray to the Lord for this bride and groom,  
who come to the altar as they begin their married life,  
that (partaking of the Body and Blood of Christ)  
they may always be bound together by love for one another.

*All pray for a short while. The priest then extends his hands and continues:*

Holy Father, who formed man in your own image,  
male and female you created them,  
so that as husband and wife, united in body and heart,  
they might fulfil their calling in the world;

O God, who, to reveal the great design you formed in your love,  
willed that the love of spouses for each other  
should foreshadow the covenant you graciously made with your people,  
so that, by fulfilment of the sacramental sign,  
the mystical marriage of Christ with his Church  
might become manifest  
in the union of husband and wife among your faithful;

Graciously stretch out your right hand



over these your servants **Bride** and **Groom** we pray,  
and pour into their hearts the power of the Holy Spirit.

Grant, O Lord,  
that, as they enter upon this sacramental union,  
they may share with one another the gifts of your love  
and, by being for each other a sign of your presence,  
become one heart and one mind.

May they also sustain, O Lord, by their deeds  
the home they are forming  
(and prepare their children  
to become members of your heavenly household  
by raising them in the way of the Gospel).

Graciously crown with your blessings your daughter **Bride**  
so that, by being a good wife (and mother),  
she may bring warmth to her home with a love that is pure  
and adore it with welcoming graciousness.

Bestow a heavenly blessing also, O Lord,  
on **Groom**, your servant,  
that he may be a worthy, good and  
faithful husband (and a provident father).

Grant, holy Father,  
that, desiring to approach your table  
as a couple joined in Marriage in your presence,  
they may one day have the joy  
of taking part in your great banquet in heaven.  
Through Christ our Lord.

*All:* **Amen.**

**OR**

**(16c)**

*Priest:* Let us humbly invoke by our prayers, dear brothers and sisters,  
God's blessing upon this bride and groom,  
that in his kindness he may favour with his help  
those on whom he has bestowed the Sacrament of Matrimony.

*All pray for a short while. The priest then extends his hands and continues:*

Holy Father, maker of the whole world,  
who created man and woman in your own image  
and willed that their union be crowned with your blessing,  
we humbly beseech you for these your servants,

who are joined today in the Sacrament of Matrimony.

May your abundant blessing, Lord,  
come down upon this bride, **N.**,  
and upon **N.** her companion for life,  
and may the power of your Holy Spirit  
set their hearts aflame from on high,  
so that, living out together the gift of Matrimony,  
they may (adorn their family with children  
and) enrich the Church.

In happiness may they praise you, O Lord,  
in sorrow may they seek you out;  
may they have the joy of your presence  
to assist them in their toil,  
and know that you are near  
to comfort them in their need;  
let them pray to you in the holy assembly  
and bear witness to you in the world,  
and after a happy old age,  
together with the circle of friends that surrounds them,  
may they come to the Kingdom of Heaven.  
Through Christ our Lord.

*All:* **Amen.**

### **(Standard) The Sign of Peace**

*Priest:* The peace of the Lord be with you always.

*All:* **And with your spirit.**

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

*(Bride) and (Groom), greet each other, then (Priest), before going to greet their families together.*

### **Lamb of God**

**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.**

[PLEASE KNEEL]

*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.

*(Bride) and (Groom) receive communion under both species before communion is distributed to the congregation. Anyone who for whatever reason is unable to receive communion is invited to receive a blessing from the priest. They should indicate so by crossing their arms across their chest as they come forward.*

## COMMUNION HYMNS \_\_\_\_\_

**Communion Antiphon** *(Read only when there is no music)*

**(17a) – Ephesians 5:25,27**

Christ loved the Church and handed himself over for her, to present her as a holy and spotless bride for himself (E.T. alleluia).

OR

**(17b) – John 13:34**

I give you a new commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you, says the Lord (E.T. alleluia).

OR

**(17c) – Psalm 33:1,8**

I will bless the Lord at all times, praise of him is always in my mouth.

Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed the man who seeks refuge in him (E.T. alleluia).

## Prayer after Communion

*Priest:* Let us pray.

[PLEASE STAND]

**(18a)** By the power of this sacrifice, O Lord,  
accompany with your loving favour  
what in your providence you have instituted,  
so as to make one heart in love  
those you have already joined in this holy union  
(and replenished with one Bread and the one Chalice).  
Through Christ our Lord.

OR

**(18b)** Having been made partakers at your table,  
we pray, O Lord,  
that those who are united by the Sacrament of Marriage  
may always hold fast to you  
and proclaim your name to the world,  
Through Christ our Lord.

OR

**(18c)** Grant, we pray, almighty God,  
that the power of the Sacrament we have received

may find growth in these your servants  
and that the effects of the sacrifice we have offered  
may be felt by us all.  
Through Christ our Lord.

*All:* **Amen.**

### **Solemn Blessing at the End of Mass**

**(19a)**

*Priest:* The Lord be with you

*All:* **And with your spirit.**

*Priest:* Bow down for the blessing.

*Priest:* May God the eternal Father  
keep you of one heart in love with one another,  
that the peace of Christ may dwell in you  
and abide 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 may one day receive you thankfully  
into the eternal dwelling of God.

*All:* **Amen.**

*Priest:* 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 and announce the Gospel of the Lord.

*All:* **Thanks be to God.**

**OR**

**(19b)**

*Priest:* The Lord be with you

*All:* **And with your spirit.**

*Priest:* Bow down for the blessing.

*Priest:* May God the all-powerful Father grant you his joy and bless you in your children.

*All:* **Amen.**

*Priest:* May the only Begotten Son of God stand by you with compassion in good times and in bad.

*All:* **Amen.**

*Priest:* May the Holy Spirit of God always pour forth his love into your hearts.

*All:* **Amen.**

*Priest:* 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 and announce the Gospel of the Lord.

*All:* **Thanks be to God.**

**OR**

**(19c)**

*Priest:* The Lord be with you

*All:* **And with your spirit.**

*Priest:* Bow down for the blessing.

*Priest:* May the Lord Jesus Christ, who graced the marriage of Cana by his presence, bless you and your loved ones.

*All:* **Amen.**

*Priest:* May he, who loved the Church to the end, unceasingly pour his love into your hearts.

*All:* **Amen.**

*Priest:* May the Lord grant that, bearing witness to faith in his Resurrection, you may await with joy the blessed hope to come.

*All:* **Amen.**

*Priest:* 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 and announce the Gospel of the Lord.

*All:* **Thanks be to God.**

**RECESSIONAL MUSIC/HYMN**

**SIGNING OF THE CIVIL REGISTER**