

## THE CELEBRATION OF MARRIAGE

*(Please do not use any of the **red print below** in your booklet.  
This is merely for guidance and indicating various choices and options)*

### The Introductory Rites

*The Entrance Antiphon is **ONLY USED** if there is no entrance hymn.*

#### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

(1)

May the Lord send you help from the holy place  
and give you support from Sion.  
May he grant you your heart's desire  
and fulfil every one of your designs (E.T. alleluia).

*or*

(2)

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 (E.T. alleluia).

*or*

(3)

I will bless you day after day, O Lord,  
and praise your name for ever and ever,  
for you are kind to all  
and compassionate to all your creatures (E.T. alleluia).

#### THE GREETING

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

*The people reply:*

**Amen.**

*The priest greets the people saying:*

(1)

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

*or*

(2)

Grace to you and peace from God our Father

and the Lord Jesus Christ.

*or*

**(3)**

The Lord be with you.

**And with your spirit.**

## **PENITENTIAL RITE**

*The Priest speaks to the couple and all present in order to prepare them for the celebration of Marriage.*

**I confess to almighty God  
and to you, my brothers and sisters,  
that I have greatly sinned,  
in my thoughts and in my words,  
in what I have done and in what I have failed to do,  
through my fault, through my fault,  
through my most grievous fault;  
therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin,  
all the Angels and Saints,  
and you, my brothers and sisters,  
to pray for me to the Lord our God.**

*End of Penitential Rite:*

V. Lord, have mercy.

R. **Lord, have mercy.**

V. Christ, have mercy.

R. **Christ, have mercy.**

V. Lord, have mercy.

R. **Lord, have mercy.**

*The Gloria is said:*

**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.**

## **THE COLLECT**

***Priest:***

**(1)**

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.  
**Amen.**

***or***

**(2)**

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.  
**Amen.**

***or***

**(3)**

Be attentive to our prayers, O Lord,  
and in your kindness  
pour out your grace on these your servants (N. and N.),  
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.  
**Amen**

*or*

**(4)**

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.

**Amen.**

*or*

**(5)**

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.

**Amen.**

*or*

**(6)**

O God, who since the beginning of the world  
have blessed the increase of offspring,  
show favour to our supplications  
and pour forth the help of your blessing  
on these your servants (N. and N.),  
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.

**Amen.**

## The Liturgy of the Word

*There may be three readings in the Liturgy of the Word, the first of them from the Old Testament, but during the season of Easter, it is taken from the Book of Revelation. It is recommended that the bride and bridegroom choose the readings to be used. (See [Scripture Readings for Marriages](#) section on this website for the Readings)*

## The Rite of Marriage

### ADDRESS

(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 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?

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.

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.**

*or*

**(3)**

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

Have you come here of your own free will and choice 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.**

*The following question may be omitted if, for example, the couple is advanced in years.*

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.**

## **DECLARATION OF CONSENT**

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

**(1)**

Bridegroom:

**N., do you consent to be my wife?**

Bride:

**I do. Do you N., consent to be my husband?**

Bridegroom:

**I do. 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.**

*They then join hands and say together:*  
**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.)**

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

*or*

**(2)**

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

They join hands:

Bridegroom:

**I, N., take you, N., 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.)**

Bride:

**I, N., take you, N., 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.)**

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

*or*

**(3)**

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

They join hands.

The Priest then asks the bridegroom:

**N., do you take N., 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?)**

Bridegroom:

**I do.**

The Priest then asks the bride:

**N., do you take N., 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 the bride and bridegroom have given their consent the Priest says:  
What God joins together man must not separate.  
May the Lord confirm the consent that you have  
given and enrich you with his blessings.

*or*

**(4)**

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

Bridegroom:

**N., do you consent to be my wife?**

Bride:

**I do. N., do you consent to be my husband?**

Bridegroom:

**I do.**

They join hands and say together:

**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 the bride and bridegroom have given their consent, the Priest says:*

The Lord has joined you together.

May he fulfil his blessing in you; may he keep you in his love.

## **BLESSING OF RINGS**

**(1)**

May the Lord bless these rings which will be the sign  
of your love and fidelity.

**Amen.**

*or*



**(2)**

Lord, bless N. and N. 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.

**Amen.**

*or*

**(3)**

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.

**Amen.**

*or*

**(4)**

Almighty God, bless this ring (these rings), symbol(s) of faithfulness and unbroken love.

May N. and N. 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.

**Amen.**

*The bridegroom places the bride's ring on her finger and says:*

**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 bride may place a ring on the bridegroom's finger and says:*

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

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

*Or, the bride and bridegroom may exchange small symbolic gifts saying:*

**N., I give you this gift, a token of all I possess.**

## **PRAYER OF THE NEWLY MARRIED COUPLE**

*The couple are recommended to say together the following or some similar prayer:*

**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**

*Some of the following intercessions or others may be used.*

1. For N. and N., that the Lord,  
who has brought them to this happy day will  
keep them forever in fidelity and love

*After each intercession:*

Lord, hear us.

**Lord graciously hear us.**

2. For the parents of N. and N., for their friends  
and all who have helped them  
to become husband and wife.
3. That the Lord may bless the world with his peace and the protection of his love.
4. For our community and our families,  
who welcome Christ into their lives;  
that they learn to receive him  
in the poor and suffering people of this world.
5. For God's Church, the Bride of Christ,  
that it may be united in faith and love.
6. For all who are victims of injustice,  
and for those deprived of love and affection.
7. For married couples everywhere,  
that their lives will be an example to the world  
of unity, fidelity and love.

8. For those who mourn, while we are rejoicing,  
that in their suffering and loneliness  
they may experience the strength of God's support.
9. For the faithful departed  
and especially for those  
whom we, ourselves, have loved,  
that God will one day unite us again  
in the joys of our eternal home.

## **The Liturgy of the Eucharist**

*The bride and bridegroom, or their parents, may bring the bread and wine to the altar.  
The preparation of the gifts continues in the usual way.*

Pray, brethren,  
that my sacrifice and yours  
may be acceptable to God,  
the almighty Father.

**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**

**(1)**  
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.  
**Amen.**

*or*  
**(2)**  
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.  
**Amen.**

*or*  
**(3)**  
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.  
**Amen.**

## **The Eucharistic Prayer**

The Lord be with you.  
**And with your spirit.**

Lift up your hearts  
**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right and just.**

### **PREFACE** *(A: THE DIGNITY OF THE MARRIAGE COVENANT)*

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:

At the end of the Preface the people sing or say:  
**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.**

*or*

**PREFACE**      *(B: THE GREAT SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY)*

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  
by the mystery of Christ's Death and Resurrection,  
so in Christ you might make them partakers of divine nature  
and joint heirs with him of heavenly glory.

In the union of husband and wife  
you give a sign of Christ's loving gift of grace,  
so that the Sacrament we celebrate  
might draw us back more deeply  
into the wondrous design of your love.

And so, with the Angels and all the Saints,  
we praise you, and without end we acclaim:

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts ...**

*or*

**PREFACE**      *(C: MATRIMONY AS A SIGN OF DIVINE LOVE)*

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 willed that the human race,  
created by the gift of your goodness,  
should be raised to such high dignity  
that in the union of husband and wife  
you might bestow a true image of your love.

For those you created out of charity  
you call to the law of charity without ceasing  
and grant them a share in your eternal charity.

And so, the Sacrament of holy Matrimony,  
as the abiding sign of your own love,  
consecrates the love of 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 acclaim:

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts ...**

*Choose one of the following three Eucharistic Prayers **if you wish** to include one in your booklet. NB: Insert appropriate Names where 'N' is indicated.*

## **Eucharistic Prayer I**

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 God and Lord, Jesus Christ,  
and blessed Joseph, her Spouse,  
your blessed Apostles and Martyrs,  
Peter and Paul, Andrew  
and all your Saints;  
we ask that through their merits and prayers,  
in all things we may be defended  
by your protecting help.

Therefore, Lord, we pray:  
graciously accept this oblation of our service,  
the offering of your servants N. and N.

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 in your kindness  
to the length of days for which they hope.

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 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 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 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.

*The Priest then says:*

The mystery of faith.

*(if the Mystery of Faith is not sung, one of the following is used)*

**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.**

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 servants and your holy people,  
offer to you 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.

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.

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,  
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.

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.

**Amen.**

*Then follows the Communion Rite.*

## **Eucharistic Prayer II**

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 Priest then says:*  
The mystery of faith.

**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.**

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,  
the clergy and all your people.

Be mindful also, Lord, of N. and N.,  
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 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 your,  
for ever and ever.  
**Amen.**

*Then follows the Communion Rite.*

### **Eucharistic Prayer III**

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.

*The Priest then says:*  
The mystery of faith.

**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.**

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 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 your blessed Apostles and glorious Martyrs  
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 N. and N.,  
whom you have brought happily to their wedding day,  
that under your protection  
they may 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 to 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.

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.  
**Amen.**

*Then follows the Communion Rite.*

## **The Communion Rite**

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

**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.  
Amen.**

### NUPTIAL BLESSING

*After the Our Father, the prayer **Deliver us** is omitted. The Priest, standing and facing the bride and bridegroom, invokes upon them God's blessing. In the invitation, if one or both of the spouses will not be receiving Communion, the words in brackets are omitted, In the prayer, the words in brackets may be omitted if it seems that circumstances suggest it, for example, if the bride and bridegroom are advanced in years. Remove brackets if the relevant text is used.*

#### **(1)**

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 moment.*

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.  
**Amen.**

*or*  
**(2)**

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.  
*And all pray in silence for a while moment.*

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 (N. and N.), 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 N.,  
so that, by being a good wife (and mother),  
she may bring warmth to her home with a love that is pure  
and adorn it with welcoming graciousness.

Bestow a heavenly blessing also, O Lord,  
on N., 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.  
**Amen.**

*or*  
**(3)**

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 in silence for a while.*

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.  
**Amen.**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**And with your spirit.**

Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

**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.**

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.

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

*The Communion now follows.  
The bride and bridegroom may receive Communion under both kinds.*

*During Communion it is recommended that a hymn be sung.  
Only if there is no hymn should you include the ‘Communion Antiphon’*

#### **COMMUNION ANTIPHON**

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*

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

*or*

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**

Let us pray.

**(1)**

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.

**Amen.**

*or*

**(2)**

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.  
**Amen.**

*or*

**(3)**

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.  
**Amen.**

## **The Concluding Rites**

The Lord be with you.  
**And with your spirit.**

### **SOLEMN BLESSING**

**(1)**

May God the eternal Father  
keep you of one heart in love for one another,  
that the peace of Christ may dwell in you  
and abide always in your home.  
**Amen.**

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

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.  
**Amen.**

And he blesses all the people, adding:  
And may almighty God bless all of you, who are gathered here,  
the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

*or*

**(2)**

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

**Amen.**

May the Only Begotten Son of God  
stand by you with compassion in good times and in bad.

**Amen.**

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

**Amen.**

And he blesses all the people, adding:

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

**Amen.**

*or*

**(3)**

May the Lord Jesus,  
who graced the marriage at Cana by his presence,  
bless you and your loved ones.

**Amen.**

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

**Amen.**

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

**Amen.**

And he blesses all the people, adding:

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

**Amen.**

## **DISMISSAL**

**(1)**

Go forth, the Mass is ended.

*or*

**(2)**

Go and announce the Gospel of the Lord.

*or*

**(3)**

Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life.

*or*

**(4)**

Go in peace.

**Thanks be to God.**

*The Marriage Registration Form is now be signed at some suitable place  
in or near the sanctuary.*