



## THE RITE OF MARRIAGE

### THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

*During the Entrance Hymn, the Priest greets and welcomes the bride and groom at the altar. Then they light candles as a reminder of their baptism when they received the light of Christ and so began their respective life journeys with God.*

#### The Greeting

*When the Entrance Hymn is concluded, the Priest and the faithful, standing, sign themselves with the Sign of the Cross, while the Priest, facing the people, says:*

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

The people reply: **Amen.**

*Then the Priest, extending his hands, greets the people, saying:*

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

The people reply: **And with your spirit.**

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

The Penitential Act (Lord have mercy) is omitted. The Gloria in excelsis (Glory to God in the highest) is said.

**G**lory 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.**

### COLLECT (Opening Prayer)

*The Priest, with hands joined, says:*

Let us pray.

*All pray in silence with the Priest for a while.*

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

The people reply: **Amen.**



## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

### ***First Reading***

*A reading from the prophet Jeremiah (31: 3-4, 11-14)*

I have loved you with everlasting love and I am constant in my affection for you. I will build you up and I will protect you in the good times and in bad. So be happy and go forth in the dancing of the merrymakers. I have plans in my heart for you, plans for peace, not disaster, plans to give you a future and a reason to hope. And remember, when you call upon me and come to pray to me, I hear you. You will seek me and find me. When you seek with all your heart, I will be found by you.

The word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

### **Responsorial Psalm (sung)**

#### ***Second Reading***

*A reading from the first Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians*

Love is patient and kind; it is not jealous or conceited or proud; love is not ill-mannered or selfish or irritable; love does not keep a record of wrongs; love is not happy with evil, but is happy with the truth. Love never gives up; and its faith, hope and patience never fail. Love is eternal. There are inspired messages, but they are temporary; there are gifts of speaking in strange tongues, but they will cease; there is knowledge, but it will pass. For our gifts of knowledge and of inspired messages are only partial; but when what is perfect comes, then what is partial will disappear. When I was a child, my speech, feelings and thinking were all those of a child; now that I am an adult, I have no more use for childish ways. What we see now is like a dim image in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. What I know now is only partial; then it will be complete as God's knowledge of me. Meanwhile these three remain: faith, hope and love; and the greatest of these is love.

The word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

#### **Gospel Acclamation**

*All stand as the Gospel Acclamation is sung*

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

**God is love;**

**let us love one another**

**as God has loved us.**

**Alleluia**

#### **Gospel**

Priest: The Lord be with you.

All: **And with your spirit.**

Priest: A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

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

Priest: 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.**



## THE RITE OF MARRIAGE

*All stand, including the bride and bridegroom, whom the priest now addresses in the following or similar words.*

### ADDRESS

Dear children of God, you have come today to pledge your love before God and before the Church here present today 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 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 and without compulsion to marry each other?

**N & N: We have.**

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

**N & N: 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?

**N & N: We are.**

### **DECLARATION OF CONSENT**

I invite you 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,  
all the days of your life?

**Groom: 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,  
all the days of your life?

**N: 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 you have given and enrich you  
with his blessing.

## **BLESSING OF RINGS**

*The Priest says the following prayer of blessing*

Almighty God, bless ☩ these rings, symbols 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.

All reply: **Amen.**

*The bridegroom places the bride's ring on her finger. He 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 places a ring on the bridegroom's finger. She 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.

## PRAYER OF THE NEWLY MARRIED COUPLE

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.

*The bride and groom light one candle representing their union in the sacrament of marriage  
and their desire to keep the flame of faith alive in their hearts.*



## THE UNIVERSAL PRAYER (Prayer of the Faithful)

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

**R/. Lord, graciously hear us.**

2. For the families of N and N, for their friends and all who have helped them to become husband and wife. Lord, hear us...R/.

3. For our community and families, who welcome Christ into their lives; that they learn to receive him in the poor and suffering people of this world. Lord hear us...R/.

4. For all who are victims of injustice, and for those deprived of love and affection. Lord hear us...R/.

5. For married couples everywhere, that their lives will be an example to the world of unity, fidelity and love. Lord hear us...R/.

6. For those who are mourning while we are rejoicing, that in their suffering and loneliness they may experience the strength of God's support. Lord hear us...R/.

7. 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. Lord hear us...R/.





## LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

*The bride and bridegroom may bring the bread and wine to the altar. The preparation of the gifts continues in the usual way. While the Offertory Chant or a hymn is sung, the Priest prays the following:*

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.

*Then he places the paten with the bread on the corporal. If, however, the Offertory Chant is not sung, the Priest may speak these words aloud; at the end, the people may acclaim:*

**Blessed be God for ever.**

*The Priest then takes the chalice and holds it slightly raised above the altar with both hands, saying in a low voice:*

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.

*Then he places the chalice on the corporal. If, however, the Offertory Chant is not sung, the Priest may speak these words aloud; at the end, the people may acclaim:*

**Blessed be God for ever.**

*After this, the Priest, bowing profoundly, says quietly:*

With humble spirit and contrite heart  
may we be accepted by you, O Lord,  
and may our sacrifice in your sight this day  
be pleasing to you, Lord God.

*After the gifts have been prepared, the Priest, standing at the side of the altar, washes his hands, saying quietly:*

Wash me, O Lord, from my iniquity  
and cleanse me from my sin.

*The Priest then invites the people to rise, saying:*

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

The people reply:

**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

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.

The people reply: **Amen.**

## THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Preface: The great Sacrament of Matrimony.

V. The Lord be with you.

R. **And with your spirit.**

V. Lift up your hearts.

R. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

V. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

R. **It is right and just.**

**I**t 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:

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.**

*The people kneel. The Priest, with hands extended, says:*

**Y**ou 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.**

*He shows the consecrated host to the people, places it again on the paten, and genuflects in adoration.*

*After this, he continues:*

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.**

*He shows the chalice to the people, places it on the corporal, and genuflects in adoration.  
Then he says:*

The mystery of faith.

And the people continue, acclaiming:

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

*Then the Priest, with hands extended, says:*

Therefore, as we celebrate  
the memorial of his Death and Resurrection,  
we offer you, Lord,  
the Bread of life and the Chalice of salvation,  
giving thanks that you have held us worthy  
to be in your presence and minister to you.  
Humbly we pray  
that, partaking of the Body and Blood of Christ,  
we may be gathered into one by the Holy Spirit.  
Remember, Lord, your Church,  
spread throughout the world,  
and bring her to the fullness of charity,  
together with Francis our Pope and Donal our Bishop  
and all the clergy.

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

*He joins his hands.*

through your Son, Jesus Christ.

*He takes the chalice and the paten with the host and, raising both, he says:*

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

The people acclaim:

**Amen.**



## THE COMMUNION RITE

*The Priest introduces the Lord's Prayer*  
At the Savior'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.**

## THE 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. The bride and bridegroom remain at their place and kneel.*

*The Priest, with hands joined, calls upon those present to pray, saying:*  
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 favor with his help  
those on whom he has bestowed the Sacrament of Matrimony.

*All pray in silence for a while.*  
*Then the Priest, with hands extended over the bride and bridegroom, continues:*

**H**oly 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.

*The prayer Lord Jesus Christ is omitted and The peace of the Lord is said immediately.  
The peace of the Lord be with you always.*

The people reply:

**And with your spirit.**

Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

*Then the bride and groom and all present offer one another a sign, in keeping with  
local customs, that expresses peace, communion and charity.*

*Then he takes the host, breaks it over the paten, and places a small piece in the chalice,  
saying quietly:*

May this mingling of the Body and Blood  
of our Lord Jesus Christ  
bring eternal life to us who receive it.

*Meanwhile the following is sung or said:*

**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.**

*Then the Priest, with hands joined, says quietly:*

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, who, by the will of the Father and  
the work of the Holy Spirit, through your Death gave life to the world,  
free me by this, your most holy Body and Blood,  
from all my sins and from every evil;  
keep me always faithful to your commandments,

and never let me be parted from you.

*The Priest genuflects, takes the host and, holding it slightly raised above the paten or above the chalice, while facing the people, says aloud:*

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.

*And together with the people he adds once:*

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

*The Priest, facing the altar, says quietly:*

May the Body of Christ  
keep me safe for eternal life.

*And he reverently consumes the Body of Christ.*

*Then he takes the chalice and says quietly:*

May the Blood of Christ  
keep me safe for eternal life.

*And he reverently consumes the Blood of Christ.*

*The Communion now follows.*

*Anyone not presently disposed to receive the Eucharist today for any reason is warmly invited to receive a blessing from the priest. They can indicate that this is their intention by having their arms folded before the chest, and slightly bowing the head. The priest will be happy to offer a personal prayer of blessing for them. Thank you for your respect at this most sacred moment.*

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray.

*All pray silently for a while. Then the Priest says the Prayer after Communion:*

Having been made partakers at your table,  
we pray, O Lord,  
that N and N  
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.

The people reply: **Amen.**



## THE CONCLUDING RITES

### Solemn Blessing at the End of Mass

*The Priest, facing the people and extending his hands, says:*  
The Lord be with you.

The people reply:  
**And with your spirit.**

*The Priest, with hands extended over the bride and bridegroom, says:*  
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.

The people reply:

**Amen.**

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

The people reply:

**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.

The people reply:

**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.

The people reply:

**Amen.**

### **DISMISSAL**

Then the Priest says:

Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life.

The people reply:

**Thanks be to God.**

*The Register may now be signed at some suitable place in or near the sanctuary.*