

## **INTRODUCTION**

### **Gathering, Welcome & Procession**

**Priest:** Today *N.* and *N.* will witness to their love for one another and for God. Within the celebration of the Sacred Liturgy, they will consecrate their love to God and offer it as their gift to Him. We, their parents and friends will entrust them to one another and to God as the two become one body.

**All:** Stand for Entrance Procession

## Greeting

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

**All:** Amen

**Priest:** (*please be seated*) **N.** and **N.** in the name of all your friends gathered here, and on behalf of all in the Christian Community, I wish to congratulate you on this day of your marriage, and welcome you here to this Church. It is our privilege to celebrate with you this new life together which you are about to begin. We pray that the love which brought you together may deepen in the years to come, and that the joy of this day will stay with you through your married life. May God our Father bless you both and give you His peace.

## **PENITENTIAL RITE**

**Priest:** My dear friends, let us prepare to look into the saving face of God by first of all looking into our lives, calling to mind the most obvious differences between the way Christ lived his life and the way we live our own.

**Priest:** By calling us to baptism, you made us into a holy people, Lord have mercy.

**All:** Lord have mercy.

**Priest:** By the gifts of your spirit, you confirmed us in goodness, Christ have mercy.

**All:** Christ have mercy.

**Priest:** By continuing the presence in the Church, you offer us eternal happiness, Lord have mercy.

**All:** Lord have mercy.

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

**All:** Amen

## OPENING PRAYER

**Priest:** Let us pray (to the Father asking His blessing upon this couple):  
Father when you created mankind you willed that man and his wife  
should be one.

Bind **N.** and **N.** in the loving union of marriage; make their love fruitful  
so that they may be living witnesses to your divine love in the world. We  
ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your son, who lives and reigns  
with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

**All:** Amen

*\*Readings*

*\* Homily*

## **LITURGY OF THE WORD**

### **A reading from the book of Genesis Gn 2:18-24**

The Lord God said: "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a suitable partner for him." So the Lord God formed out the ground various wild animals and various birds of the air, and he brought them to the man to see what he would call them; whatever the man called each of them would be its name. The man gave names to all the cattle, all the birds of the air, and all the wild animals; but none proved to be suitable partner for the man.

So the Lord God cast a deep sleep on the man, and while he was asleep, he took out one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. The Lord God then built up into a woman the rib that he had taken from the man.

When he brought her to the man, the man said:

"This one, at last, is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; this one shall be called 'woman,' for out of 'her man' this one has been taken." That is why a man shall leave his father and mother and clings to his wife, and the two of them shall become one body.

**The Word of the Lord.**

**Responsorial Psalm Ps 145:8-9.10.15.17-18**

R/. The Lord is compassionate to all his creatures.

**R. The Lord is compassionate to all his creatures.**

The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and of great kindness.

The Lord is good to all and compassionate towards all his works.

**R/. The Lord is compassionate to all his creatures.**

Let all your works give you thanks, O Lord, and let your faithful ones bless you. The eyes of all look hopefully to you, and you give them their food in due season.

**R/. The Lord is compassionate to all his creatures.**

The Lord is just in all his ways and holy in all his works. The Lord is near to all who call upon him, to all who call him in truth.

**R/. The Lord is compassionate to all his creatures.**

## **A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians**

### **1 Cor:12:31-13:8**

Set your hearts on the greater gifts. I will show you the way which surpasses all the others. If I speak with human tongues and angelic as well, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong, a clanging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy and, with full knowledge, comprehend all mysteries, if I have faith great enough to move mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. If I give everything I have to feed the poor and have over my body to be burned, but have not love, I am nothing. Love is patient; love is kind. Love is not jealous, it does not put on airs, it is not snobbish. Love is never rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not prone to anger; neither does it brood over injuries. Love does not rejoice in what is wrong but rejoices with the truth. There is no limit to love's forbearance, to its trust, its hope, its power to endure. Love never fails.

### **The Word of the Lord**

**ALLELUIA 1 Jn 4: 8.11**

*Alleluia, alleluia*

God is love; let us love one another as he has loved us.

*Alleluia, alleluia*

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to John **Jn 15: 9-12****

Jesus said to his disciples:

"As the Father has loved me, so I love you. Live on in my love. You will live in my love, if you keep my commandments, even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and live in his love.

All this I tell you that my joy may be yours and your joy may be complete. This is my commandment: love one another as I have loved you."

**The Gospel of the Lord.**

# Homily

## THE RITE OF MARRIAGE

**Priest:** My dear friends, you have come together in this Church so that the Lord may seal and strengthen your love in the presence of the Church's minister and this community. Christ abundantly blesses this love. He has already consecrated you in baptism and now He enriches and strengthens you by a special sacrament so that you may assume the duties of marriage in mutual and lasting fidelity. And so, in the presence of the Church, I ask you to state your intentions.

**Priest:** *N.* and *N.*, have you come here freely and without reservation to give yourselves to each other in marriage?

**Both:** I do (*Yes*)

**Priest:** Will you love and honor each other as man (husband) and wife for the rest of your lives?

**Both:** I do (*Yes*)

**Priest:** Will you accept children lovingly from God, and bring them up according to the law of Christ and His Church?

**Groom:** I do (*Yes*)

**Bride:** I do (*Yes*)

## Consent

**Priest:** Since it is your intention to enter into marriage, join your right hands (join hands briefly), and declare your consent before God and His Church.

**Groom:** I, *N.*, take you *N.*, to be my wife. I promise to be true to you in good times and in bad, in sickness and in health. I will love you and honor you all the days of my life.

**Bride:** I, *N.*, take you, *N.*, to be my husband. I promise to be true to you in good times and in bad, in sickness and in health. I will love you and honor you all the days of my life.

**Priest:** You have declared your consent before the Church. May the Lord in His goodness strengthen your consent and fill you both with His blessings. What God has joined, men (people) must not divide.

**Both:** Amen.

## **Blessings of Rings *and* Coins**

**Priest:** Lord, bless **+** and consecrate **N.** and **N.** in their love for each other. May these rings be a symbol of true faith in each other, always reminding them of their love (*and may those these coins be a symbol of mutual help throughout their lives*). Through Christ our Lord.

**All:** Amen

## **Exchange of Rings**

**Groom: N.**, take this ring as a sign of my love and fidelity, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Bride: N.**, take this ring as a sign of my love and fidelity, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

## ***Exchange of Coins***

**Groom: N.**, *receive also these coins as a symbol of my dedication in caring for our home and providing for our family's worldly necessities.*

**Bride:** *I accept your symbolic gift of dedication and promise on my part that everything provided will be used with care for the benefit of our home and family.*

# Lighting of Unity Candles

&

## *Placing of the Veil*

### ***Placing of the Cord***

***Priest: N. and N. let the union binding together with this rosary (cord) of the Blessed Virgin Mary be an inspiration to you both. Remember the holiness necessary to preserve your new found family as a family of God, can only be obtained by mutual sacrifice and love. May the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph be your example for life.***

## Prayer of the Faithful

**Priest:** My brothers and sisters, in our joy at this sacrament of marriage, we come with Jesus who worked his first miracle at a wedding, to ask God our Father for all the needs of our Church and the world.

**Lector:** For **N.** and **N.**, who today received the sacrament of marriage, that their lives together may be blessed with happiness and peace and that they may help each other to become more fully human and Christian.

*We pray to the Lord.*

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

**Lector:** For the parents of the bride and bridegroom that their joy at first bringing their children into the world may be renewed today in hope as they wish them every blessing in their new life together.

*We pray to the Lord.*

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

**Lector:** For their families and friends, that the Lord may bless all those who by their prayers and practical help have brought **N.** and **N.**, to this happy day.

*We pray to the Lord.*

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

**Lector:** For those preparing for marriage that they may see today, in this joyful celebration of marriage, a goal towards which they aim by a sincere and honest preparation.

*We pray to the Lord.*

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

**Lector:** We pray with Mary, who interceded with her Son at Cana.

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

**Lector:** We make our own petitions in silence to God, our loving Father. *pause*

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

**Priest:** Father, you will grant all we ask, not through any merit on our part, but because of your great love you have shown to us. Through Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

## **LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST**

### **PREPARATION OF THE ALTAR AND THE GIFTS**

**Priest:** Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation. Through your goodness we have this bread to offer, which earth has given and human hands have made. It will become for us the bread of life.

**All:** Blessed be God for ever

**Priest:** Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation. Through your goodness we have this wine to offer, fruit of the vine and work of human hands. It will become our spiritual drink.

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

**Priest:** Pray, brethren, that our sacrifice  
may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

**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 Church.

## **PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS**

Lord,  
accept the gifts we offer you  
on this happy day.  
In your fatherly love  
watch over and protect *N.* and *N.*  
whom you have united in marriage.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

*All:* Amen.

## **PREFACE [72] & EUCHARISTIC PRAYER II**

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

**All:** And also with you.

**Priest:** Lift up your hearts.

**All:** We lift them to the Lord.

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

**All:** It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Father, all-powerful and ever-living God, we do well always and everywhere to give you thanks.

By the sacrament your grace unites man and woman in an unbreakable bond of love and peace.

You have designed the chaste love of husband and wife for the increase of both of the human family and of your own family born in baptism.

You are the loving Father of the world of nature; you are the loving Father of the new creation of grace. In Christian marriage you bring together the two orders of creation: nature's gifts of children enriches the world and your grace enriches also your Church.

Through Christ the choirs of angels and all the saints praise and worship your glory.

May our voices blend with theirs as we join in their unending hymn:

**All:** Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
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.

**Invocation of the Holy Spirit:** Lord, you are holy indeed, the fountain of all holiness. Let your Spirit come upon these gifts to make them holy, so that they may become for us the body + and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

**The Lord's Supper:** Before he was given up to death, a death he freely accepted, he took bread and gave you thanks, He broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said:

Take this, all of you, and eat it;  
this is my body which will be given up for you.

When the supper was ended, he took the cup. Again he gave you thanks and praise, gave the cup to his disciples, and said:

Take this, all of you, and drink from it;  
this is the cup of my blood, the blood of the new and everlasting covenant. It will be shed for you and for all so that sins may be forgiven.  
Do this in memory of me.

**Priest:** Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

**All:** Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

**Memorial Prayer:** In memory of his death and resurrection, we offer you, Father, this life-giving bread, this saving cup. We thank you for counting us worthy to stand in your presence and serve you. May all of us who share in the body and blood of Christ be brought together in unity by the Holy Spirit.

**For the Church:** Lord, remember your Church throughout the world; make us grow in love, together with { } our Pope, { }, our bishop, and all the clergy.

**For the Dead:** Remember our brothers and sisters who have gone to their rest in the hope of rising again; bring them and all the departed into the light of your presence.

**In Communion with the Saints:** Have mercy on us all; make us worthy to share eternal life with Mary, the virgin Mother of God, with the apostles, and with all the saints who have done your will throughout the ages. May we praise you in union with them, and give you glory through your Son, Jesus Christ.

**Doxology:** Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, forever and ever.

**All:** Amen

## **COMMUNION RITE**

### **LORD'S PRAYER.**

**INVITATION TO LORD'S PRAYER:** Let us pray with confidence to the Father in the words our savior gave us:

**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.

**NUPTIAL BLESSING** (*remove veil & cord*).

My dear friends, let us ask God for his continued blessing upon **N.** and **N.**

Holy Father, creator of the universe, maker of man and woman in your own likeness, source of blessing for married life, we humbly pray to you for **N.** who today is united with her husband, **N.**, in this sacrament of marriage.

May your fullest blessing come upon her and her husband so that they may together rejoice in your gift of married love (and enrich your church with their children).

Lord, may they both praise you when they are happy and turn to you in their sorrows.

May they be glad that you help them in their work and know that you are with them in their need.

May they pray to you in the community of the Church, and be your witness in the world.

May they reach old age in the company of their friends, and come at last to the kingdom of heaven. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**All:** Amen

**Priest:** Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles: I leave you peace, my peace I give you. Look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church, and grant us the peace and unity of your kingdom where you live for ever and ever.

**All:** Amen.

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

**All:** And also with you.

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

## *Sign of Peace*

## Breaking of the Bread

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

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

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

## Communion

**Priest:** This is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.  
Happy are those who are called to his supper.

**All:** Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word and I shall be healed.

**Priest: N.** and **N.** will receive the Body and Blood of Christ and the rest can come forward. *Those who are not Catholics, you may remain seated or you may come forward for a blessing.*

**Priest:** The body of Christ.

**Communicant:** Amen.

**Communion Minister:** The blood of Christ.

**Communicant:** Amen

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Almighty God, may the sacrifice we have offered and the eucharist we have shared strengthen the love of **N.** and **N.,** and give us all your fatherly aid. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**All:** Amen

**Presentation of flowers to the Blessed Mother (*Bride & Groom*).**

**Introducing & applause for *Mr. & Mrs. N* (*Bride & Groom face the congregation*).**

## CONCLUDING RITE

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

**All:** And also with you.

## SOLEMN BLESSING

May God, the almighty Father, give you his joy and bless you (in your children).

**All:** *Amen.*

May the only Son of God have mercy on you and help you in good times and in bad.

**All:** *Amen.*

May the Holy Spirit of God always fill your hearts with his love.

**All:** *Amen.*

And may almighty God bless you all, the Father, and the Son, + and the Holy Spirit.

**All:** *Amen*

**DISMISSAL**

**Priest:** Go in the peace to love and serve the Lord.

**All:** Thanks be to God.