



## *Our Wedding Ceremony*



*Church of*

*Date*



**Priest:** Let us go in peace and love to continue our celebration.

**All:** Thanks be to God

### **Signing of the Register**

**Recessional Music**

**Priest:**

**Bride:**

**Groom :**

**Bridesmaids:**

**Best Man:**

**Groomsmen:**

**Flower Girl/Boy:**

**Readers:**

**Prayers of the Faithful:**

**Communion Reflection:**

**Music:**

## INTRODUCTORY RITES

### Entrance Music

*(After the priest personally greets the couple, he invites each of them to light a single candle symbolising their coming to the church as single people. This is optional.)*

**Priest:** May the Lord send you help from His holy place and from Zion may He watch over you. May He grant you your heart's desire and lend His aid to all your plans.

*See Alternative Readings & Prayers for other antiphons*

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

**All:** Amen

*See Alternative Readings & Prayers for other greetings*

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

**All:** And with your spirit

## PENITENTIAL RITE

*See Alternative Readings & Prayers for other forms of the Penitential Rite.*

**Priest:** Brothers and sisters, let us acknowledge our sins,  
and so prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred  
mysteries.

**All:** I confess to almighty God  
and to you, my brothers and sisters,  
that I have greatly sinned,  
in my thoughts and in my words,

**Priest:** Let us pray:  
Lord,

In your love you have given us this Eucharist to unite us with one another and with you. As you have made N. and N. one in this sacrament of marriage and in the sharing of the one bread and the one cup, so now make them one in love for each other.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

*(See Alternative Readings & Prayers for other forms of the prayer after Communion)*

**All:** Amen.

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

**All:** And also with you.

## Blessing

*(See alternative Readings & Prayers for other forms of the Blessing)*

**Priest:** God of love and life, out of this world two souls have found each other. Their destinies shall now be woven into one design and their joys shall not be known apart. N. and N, may your home be a place of happiness for all who enter it, a place where the old and the young are renewed in each other's company, a place for growing and a place for sharing, a place for music and a place for laughter, a place for prayer and a place for love. May those who are nearest to you be constantly enriched by the beauty and the bounty of your love for one another. May your work be a joy of your life that serves the world and may your days be good and long upon the earth.

**Priest:** May almighty God bless you all, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

**All:** Amen.

grant us peace.

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

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

### Communion Antiphon

**Priest:** I will bless the Lord at all times, his praise shall be ever on my lips. Taste and see the goodness of the Lord. Blessed are they who hope in God.

**(See Alternative Readings & Prayers for other forms of the antiphon)**

### Communion Reflection

#### A Blessing for Marriage.

As spring unfolds the dream of the earth,  
May you bring each other's hearts to birth.  
As the ocean finds calm in view of land.  
May you love the gaze of each other's mind.  
As the wind arises free and wild,  
May nothing negative control your lives.  
As kindly as moonlight might search the dark,  
So gentle may you be when light grows scarce.  
As surprised as the silence that music opens,  
May your words for each other be touched with reverence.  
As warmly as the air draws in the light,  
May you welcome each other's every gift.  
As elegant as dream absorbing the night,  
May sleep find you clear of anger and hurt.  
As twilight harvests all the day's colour,  
May love bring you home to each other.

John O'Donohue

### Prayer after Communion:

in what I have done and in what I have failed to do,

*And, striking their breast, they say:*

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.

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

**All:** Amen.

**Priest:** Lord have mercy  
**All:** Lord have mercy

**Priest:** Christ have mercy  
**All:** Christ have mercy.

**Priest:** Lord have mercy  
**All:** Lord have mercy.

### GLORIA

*The Gloria may be sung*

Glory to God in the highest,  
and on earth peace to people of good will.  
We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you,  
we give you thanks for your great glory,  
Lord God, heavenly King, O God, Almighty Father.  
Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,  
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,  
You take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us;  
You take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer;  
You are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy

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

### Opening Prayer:

**(Please see Alternative Readings & Prayers for more Opening Prayers)**

**Priest:** Let us pray  
Father, hear our prayers for N. and N. who today are  
united in marriage before your altar. Give them your  
blessing and strengthen their love for each other.  
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

### LITURGY OF THE WORD

A Reading from the Book of Ecclesiasticus  
6: 14-17

A faithful friend is a sure shelter. Whoever finds one has found a rare  
treasure. A faithful friend is something beyond price; there is no  
measuring their worth. A faithful friend is the elixir of life and those  
who love the Lord will find one. Whoever loves the Lord makes true  
friends, for as a person is, so is their friend.

### THE WORD OF THE LORD.

**All:** Thanks be to God

**(Please see Alternative Readings & Prayers for more Old Testament  
Readings. Only one O. T. reading is required)**

understanding, joy, fortitude and peace.  
Strengthen them to do Your will and in the trials of life to  
bear the cross with Christ.

May they praise You during the bright days and call on  
You in times of trouble. Let their love be strong as death,  
a fire that floods cannot drown, a jewel beyond all price.

May their life together give witness to their faith in  
Christ. May they see long and happy days and be united  
forever in the kingdom of Your glory.

**Priest:** We ask this through Christ, our Lord.

**(See Alternative Readings & Prayers for other forms of the Nuptial  
Blessing. A Blessing of parents can also be added here).**

**All:** Amen.

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

**All:** Amen.

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

**All:** And with your spirit.

### Sign of Peace

**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

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.

**Priest:** Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil,  
graciously grant peace in our days,  
that, by the help of your mercy,  
we may be always free from sin  
and safe from all distress,  
as we await the blessed hope  
and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

**All:** For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours  
now and for ever.

### Nuptial Blessing

**Priest:** We call God, our Father. Let each of us now ask Him,  
in silence, to bless N. and N, as they begin their married  
life.

*Pause for silent prayer*

**Priest:** Father, from You, every family in heaven and earth takes  
its name. You made us. You made all that exists.  
You made man and woman like Yourself in their power  
to know and love. You call them to share life with each  
other, saying, 'It is not good for man or woman to be  
alone'. You bless them with children to give new life to  
your people, telling them, 'increase and multiply, and fill  
the earth'.

Father, You take delight in the love of husband and wife,  
that love which hopes and shares, heals and forgives. We  
ask You to bless N. and N. as they set out on their new  
life.

Fill their hearts with Your Holy Spirit, the spirit of

### Responsorial Psalm

*The psalm can be sung*  
Ps. 32 : 12. 18. 20 - 22

The response is: *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. (R)

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. (R)

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

**(Please Alternative Readings & Prayers for more psalms.  
Only one psalm is required)**

A Reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

8: 31 - 35, 37 - 39

*Nothing can come between us and the love of Christ*

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 even attacked. These are the trials  
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.

**(Please see Alternative Readings & Prayers for more New Testament Readings. Only one reading N. T. is required.)**

*Please stand to greet the Gospel*

**Gospel Acclamation:**

Alleluia, Alleluia!  
God is love; let us love one another  
As God has loved us.  
Alleluia!

**(See Alternative Readings & Prayers for more Gospel Acclamations. Only one acclamation is required).**

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

**All:** And with your spirit.

**Priest:** A Reading from the holy Gospel according to John  
15: 9 - 12  
*Remain in my love.*

**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.**

Remember, Lord, your Church,  
spread throughout the world,  
and bring her to the fullness of charity,  
together with Francis our Pope and Seán & Eamon our  
Bishops and all the clergy.

Remember also our brothers and sisters  
who have fallen asleep in the hope of the resurrection,  
and all who have died in your mercy:  
welcome them into the light of your face.

Have mercy on us all, we pray,  
that with the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God,  
with 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.

**COMMUNION RITE**

**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.



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.

**Acclamation:**

**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.

**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.

## RITE OF MARRIAGE

**Priest:** Dear Children of God, (Dear N. & N.)  
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?

**Couple:** We have.

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

**Couple:** 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?

**Couple:** We are.

**(Please see other forms of this address in Alternative Readings &  
Prayers)**

### Declaration of Consent

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

*The Bride & Groom join hands:*

**Groom:** I, N., take you N. as my wife,  
In friendship and in love,  
To have and to hold from this day forward.  
I promise to be true to you  
In good times and in bad,  
In sickness and in health.  
I will love and cherish you all the days of my life.

**Bride:** I, N., take you N. as my husband,  
In friendship and in love,  
To have and to hold from this day forward.  
I promise to be true to you  
In good times and in bad,  
In sickness and in health.  
I will love and cherish you all the days of my life.

**(Please see other forms of the Declaration of Consent in Alternative Readings & Prayers )**

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

**Priest:** What God joins together, no one should separate. May the Lord confirm the consent that you have given and enrich you with his blessing.

**or**

The Lord has joined you together.  
May He fulfil his blessing in you;  
May He keep you in his love.

### **Blessing of Rings**

**Priest:** 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:** Amen.

### **Exchange of Rings**

*The Groom places a ring on the Bride's finger saying:*

**Groom:** N., wear this ring as a sign of our friendship and faithful love.  
In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
Amen.

imprint of your own divine love.  
Love is people's origin. Love is their constant calling.  
Love is their fulfilment in heaven.  
The love of man and woman is made holy in the sacrament of marriage, and becomes the mirror of your everlasting love.  
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 of praise.

**(See Alternative Readings & Prayers for more forms of the Preface)**

**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.

### **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,

it will become our spiritual drink.

**All:** Blessed be God forever.

**Priest:** Pray, my sisters and brothers 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

**Priest:** Lord accept our offering for N. and N. By your love and providence you have brought them together; now bless them all the days of their married life. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

*(See Alternative Readings & Prayers for more forms of the Prayer over the Gifts)*

**All:** Amen

### EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

**Priest:** The Lord be with you

**All:** And also with you

**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.

### PREFACE

**Priest:** Father, all powerful and ever living God, we do well always and everywhere to give you thanks. You created us in love to share your divine life. We see our high destiny in the love of husband and wife, which bears the

*The Bride then places a ring on the groom's finger saying:*

**Bride:** N., wear this ring as a sign of our friendship and faithful love.

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

Amen.

*The Groom may give gold and silver to the Bride saying:*

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

*Or The bride and groom may exchange small symbolic gifts, each saying:*

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

**Bride:** 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 our love;

Keep us one in your peace.

Protect our marriage.

Bless our home.

Make us gentle.

Keep us faithful.

And when life is over

Unite us again

Where parting is no more in the kingdom of your love.

There we will praise you in the happiness and peace of our eternal home.

Amen.

## Lighting of the Marriage Candle

*Together the couple light a single candle from the two that were lit at the beginning of the Mass, as a symbol of their union as husband and wife. This is optional.*

### Prayers of the Faithful

*(Sample prayers)*

**Priest:** *Now that N. and N. 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 love.*

**Reader 1:** For the parents of N. and N., for their friends and all who have helped them to become husband and wife.

Lord hear us.

**All:** Lord graciously hear us.

**Reader 2:** We pray especially today 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.

**All:** Lord graciously hear us.

**Reader 3:** For those who have died, especially those whom we have known and loved, that they may enjoy perfect happiness and total fulfilment in eternal life.

Lord hear us.

**All:** Lord graciously hear us.

**Reader 4:** While we are rejoicing, we remember all those who are experiencing difficulties in their lives; the lonely, the sick, victims of injustice and all those deprived of love and affection.

Lord hear us.

**All:** Lord graciously hear us.

**Reader 5:** For our families, relatives and friends who walk with us on life's journey and especially for all those who have helped N. and N. reach this happy day.

Lord hear us.

**All:** Lord graciously hear us.

**Priest:** *We ask for God's blessing on N. and N. 's life together. May they always remember that marriage is a caring and sharing, a giving and forgiving, a loving and being loved, a walking hand in hand and talking heart to heart, always trusting and believing and thanking God for his courage to support them and his love to unite them, now and forever.*

**All:** Amen.

**(More sample prayers are available in Alternative Readings & Prayers )**

## LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

**Music:**

**Offertory Procession:**

**Preparation of the Gifts:**

**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 forever.

**Priest:** By the mystery of this water and wine, may we come to share in the divinity of Christ who humbled Himself to share in our humanity

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,