

Texts for use in the marriage rite and in the wedding mass

Structure

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Opening Prayer

Liturgy of the Word

Old Testament Reading

Psalm

New Testament Reading

Gospel Acclamation

Gospel (Homily)

Liturgy of the Sacrament

Giving of Consent

Blessing and Exchange of Rings

General Intercessions

Nuptial Blessing

Concluding Rites

Lord's Prayer

Signing of the Register

Solemn Blessing

Texts that are used only in the Nuptial Mass are marked with a side-bar >>>

Prayers

Opening Prayer A

Let us pray.

Father,

you have made the bond of marriage a holy mystery,
a symbol of Christ's love for his Church.

Hear our prayers for N. and N.

With faith in you and in each other they pledge their love today.

May their lives always bear witness to the reality of that love.

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.

Amen.

Opening Prayer B

Let us pray.

Father, when you created humanity,

you willed that man and wife should be one.

Bind N. and N. in the loving union of marriage

and 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.

Amen.

Opening Prayer C

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.
Amen.

Opening Prayer D

Let us pray.

Almighty God, hear our prayers for N. and N.,
who have come here today
to be united in the sacrament of marriage.

Increase their faith in you and in each other,
and through them bless your Church (with Christian children).

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.

Amen.

Liturgy of the Word

See separate booklet for reading suggestions.

Liturgy of the Sacrament

Introduction to the Giving of Consent [A]

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.

Introduction to the Giving of Consent [B]

N. and N. the promise you make to each other today is serious, because it will bind you together for life in a relationship so close and so intimate that it will profoundly influence your whole future. That future, with its hopes and disappointments, its successes and its failures, its pleasures and its pains, its joys and its sorrows, is hidden from your eyes. You know that these elements are mingled in every life and are to be expected in your own. And so, not knowing what is before you, but trusting in God's companionship, you take each other through the best and worst of what lies ahead, until death. I now invite you to join hands, and commit yourselves to each other forever.

Questions (only 1 form)

N. and N. have you come together freely and without reservation to give yourselves to each other in marriage?

Yes, we have.

Will you love and honour each other as husband and wife for the rest of your lives?

Yes, we will.

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

Yes, we will.

Since it is your intention to enter into marriage, join your hands and declare your consent before God, your family and friends.

Giving of Consent A

The bridegroom says:

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 honour you all the days of my life.

The bride says:

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 honour you all the days of my life.

Giving of Consent B

The bridegroom says:

I, N., take you, N., for my lawful wife, to have and to hold, from this day forward, for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, until death do us part.

The bride says:

I, N., take you, N., for my lawful husband, to have and to hold, from this day forward, for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, until death do us part.

Giving of Consent C

The priest asks the bridegroom:

N. do you take N. to be your wife? Do you promise to be true to her in good times and in bad, in sickness and in health, to love her and honour her all the days of your life?

The bridegroom: I do.

Then he asks the bride:

N., do you take N. to be your husband? Do you promise to be true to him in good times and in bad, in sickness and in health, to love him and honour him all the days of your life?

The bride: I do.

Declaration

*You have declared your consent before your families and friends and God.
May the Lord strengthen your consent, and fill you both with His blessings.
What has been joined by God's blessing, no one must divide.*

Blessing of Rings A

May the Lord bless + these rings
which you give to each other
as the sign of your love and fidelity.

Blessing of Rings B

Lord, bless these rings which we bless + in your name.

Grant that those who wear them
may always have a deep faith in each other,

May they do your will and always live together
in peace, good will, and love.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Blessing of Rings C

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,
and always remind them of their love.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Blessing of Rings D

When there is only one ring, the priest says:

Lord, bless this ring which we bless + in your name.

May it always be a sign that this man (or N.)

and this woman (or N.)

are one in heart and mind.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Exchange of Rings A

The bridegroom places his wife's ring on her ring finger. He may say:

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.

The bride places her husband's ring on his ring finger. She may say:

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 Rings B

Where there is only one ring:

N., I give you this ring as a sign of our love for each other. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Prayer of the Faithful A

God the Father, source of all life and love, willed that husband and wife should become one flesh in marriage. Let us pray to him in sincerity of heart on this joyous occasion.

1. For N. and N., that their love for each other may be patterned on Christ's love for his bride, the Church, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

2. For fruitful love, that N. and N. will share in God's creative work and enjoy the gift of children, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

3. For the parents of N. and N., that they will continue to support them on the journey which begins at this altar, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

4. For those preparing for their marriage day, that they may understand well the dignity and responsibilities of the marriage covenant and family life, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

5. For married people everywhere, that they will live in love and faithfulness, for better, for worse, in joy or in sorrow, all the days of their lives, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Father of life and love,
in union with Mary our Mother,
who was a wedding guest at Cana,
we make our requests in prayer,
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Prayer of the Faithful B

My dear friends, let us ask God to bless N. and N. in their marriage and to unite them in love through his Holy Spirit.

1. That their married love may reflect God's saving love for the human family, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

2. That they may be united in love and fidelity as Christ is united with his church, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

3. That, through the Holy Spirit, they may grow into a community of love and show that Christ's Church is present in their home, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

4. That, through loving one another in Christ, they may come to love Christ in their neighbour, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

5. That the Church will bring salvation to the world by expressing Christ's love for all people, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

6. That all Christians may radiate the joy of living in Christ, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Father, you have made Christian marriage the sign of the unity between Christ and his Church. Hear our prayers for N. and N. May they love one another as Christ loves his Church. We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Prayer of the Faithful C

My dear friends, let us pray to the Lord that he will make known to N. and N. the riches of their vocation in marriage.

1. That, through the gift of the Holy Spirit, their lives may be lived in love, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

2. That God will help them to make a home together, and grace it with hospitality, friendship and prayer, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

3. That God will make their love an expression of his creative love, and bless them with children, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

4. (That God will make their love an expression of his saving love for all people, let us pray to the Lord.)

Lord, hear our prayer.

5. That they may minister the grace of marriage to each other in their joys and sorrows, in their hopes and disappointments, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

6. That the Church may reveal to the world God's love for the human family, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

7. That the grace of marriage will be renewed in all Christian families, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Father, you are a God of love, and through your Son you have taught us to love one another. May N. and N. in their marriage take Christ's love into the world.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Prayer of the Faithful D

My dear friends, let us pray to our Father in heaven that he will bless N. and N. throughout their married life, and that he will keep them united in undivided love.

1. That they may always love one another as Christ loves his Church, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

2. That, in their marriage, they will listen to Christ's gospel and pray together, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

3. That, through the joys and sacrifices of their married life, they will give witness to their love for Christ, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

4. That the Christian hope for peace on earth may be fulfilled in their family, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

5. That the grace of marriage may be renewed in all Christian families, and redeem human love from selfishness and indifference, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

6. That all Christians will witness to the gospel of love and offer hospitality to Christ when he comes to them in the form of a stranger, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Father, you are love itself, and you have made man and woman in your likeness.

Hear our prayers for N. and N. May they bring your love to others throughout the years of their marriage.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Prayer of the Faithful E

My dear friends, let us ask God to bless N. and N. in their marriage and to keep them united in their covenant of love.

1. That God will help them to fulfil their human and Christian vocation in marriage, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

2. That, through their love for each other, they will give witness to his eternal covenant of love with the human family, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

3. That they may be faithful as God is faithful, and led to holiness through success and failure, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

4. That, as their faith increases, they may see the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection in their life, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

5. That he will bless their parents, friends and all who are here, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

6. That all Christians may be faithful to the command of his covenant and love one another as Christ has loved them, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

7. That he will grant peace to the world, and help the members of the human family to live for each other, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Father, in the new covenant of Christ you have given us the pledge of your eternal love and fidelity. Hear our prayers for N. and N. May they mirror your love and reflect your fidelity in their married life.

Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Prayer of the Faithful F

My dear friends, let us pray to our Father in heaven that he will keep N. and N. united in undivided love, and that he will bless them throughout their married life.

1. That their love may be patient and gentle, ready to trust, and to endure whatever comes, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

2. That they may pray together in joy and sorrow, and always give thanks for the gift of each other, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

3. That God will bless their daily work and perfect through them his work of creation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

4. That his peace may dwell in their home and give hope of peace to the world, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

5. That all married people may be helped to renew and deepen their love, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

6. That the Church will bring salvation to the world by expressing Christ's love for all people, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Almighty God, you have come into the lives of N. and N. through the gift of married love. Remain with them always, and show your great love for those who call you their Father.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Nuptial Blessing A

My dear friends, let us turn to the Lord and pray that he will bless with his grace this woman (or N.)
now married in Christ to this man (or N.)
and that (through the sacrament of the body and blood of Christ,) he will unite in love the couple he has joined in this holy bond.

Father,

by your power you have made everything out of nothing.

In the beginning you created the universe
and made mankind in your own likeness.

You gave man the constant help of woman
so that man and woman should no longer be two, but one flesh,
and you teach us that what you have united may never be divided.

Father,

by your plan man and woman are united,
and married life has been established

as the one blessing that was not forfeited by original sin
or washed away in the flood.

Look with love upon this woman, your daughter,
now joined to her husband in marriage.

She asks your blessing.

Give her the grace of love and peace.

May she always follow the example of the holy women
whose praises are sung in the scriptures.

May her husband put his trust in her
and recognise that she is his equal
and the heir with him to the life of grace.

May he always honour her and love her
as Christ loves his bride, the Church.

Father,

keep them always true to your commandments.

Keep them faithful in marriage and let them be living examples of
Christian life.

Give them the strength which comes from the gospel so that they may be
witnesses of Christ to others.

(Bless them with children and help them to be good parents. May they
live to see their children's children.)

And, after a happy old age,
grant them fullness of life with the saints
in the kingdom of heaven.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Nuptial Blessing B

Let us pray to the Lord for N. and N.,
who come to God's altar at the beginning of their married life
so that they may always be united in love for each other (as now they
share in the body and blood of Christ).

Holy Father, you created mankind in your own image
and made man and woman to be joined as husband and wife
in union of body and heart and so fulfil their mission in this world.

Father,
to reveal the plan of your love,
you made the union of husband and wife
an image of the covenant between you and your people.

In the fulfilment of this sacrament,
the marriage of Christian man and woman
is a sign of the marriage between Christ and the Church.

Father, stretch out your hand, and bless N. and N.

Lord,
grant that as they begin to live this sacrament
they may share with each other the gifts of your love and become
one in heart and mind
as witnesses to your presence in their marriage.

Help them to create a home together (and give them children to be
formed by the gospel and to have a place in your family).

Give your blessings to N., your daughter,
so that she may be a good wife (and mother),
caring for the home,
faithful in love for her husband,
generous and kind.

Give your blessings to N., your son,
so that he may be a faithful husband
(and a good father).

Father,
grant that as they come together to your table on earth,
so they may one day have the joy of sharing your feast in heaven,
We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Nuptial Blessing C

My dear friends, let us ask God
for his continued blessings upon this bridegroom and his bride (or 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 this woman
who today is united with her husband 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
witnesses 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.

Amen.

Prayer over the Gifts A

Lord, accept our offering
for this newly-married couple, 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.

Amen.

Prayer over the Gifts B

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.

Amen.

Prayer over the Gifts C

Lord, hear our prayers and accept the gifts we offer for N. and N.

Today you have made them one in the sacrament of marriage.

May the mystery of Christ's unselfish love,

which we celebrate in this eucharist,

increase their love for you and for each other.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Prayer after Communion A

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.

Amen.

Prayer after Communion B

Lord, we who have shared the food of your table

pray for our friends N. and N.,

whom you have joined together in marriage.
Keep them close to you always.
May their love for each other proclaim to all the world
their faith in you.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Prayer after Communion C

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.
Amen.

Prayer after Communion D

Lord, we who have shared the food of your table
pray for our friends N. and N.,
whom you have joined together in marriage.
Keep them close to you always.
May their love for each other proclaim to all the world
their faith in you.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Prayer after Communion E

Lord Jesus Christ,
you gave us the eucharist
as the memorial of your suffering and death.
May our worship of this sacrament of your body and blood
help us to experience the salvation you won for us and the peace of the
kingdom
where you live with the Father and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

Solemn Blessing A

God the eternal Father keep you in love with each other,
so that the peace of Christ may stay with you
and be always in your home.

Amen.

May (your children bless you,) your friends console you
and all people live in peace with you.

Amen.

May you always bear witness to the love of God in this world
so that the afflicted and the needy
will find in you generous friends
and welcome you into the joys of heaven.

Amen.

May almighty God bless you,
the Father, and the Son, + and the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Solemn Blessing B

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

Amen.

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

Amen.

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

Amen.

May almighty God bless you,
the Father, and the Son, + and the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Solemn Blessing C

May the Lord Jesus, who was a guest at the wedding, in Cana,
bless you and your families and friends. Amen.

May Jesus, who loved his Church to the end,
always fill your hearts with his love.

Amen.

May he grant that, as you believe in his resurrection,
so you may wait for him in joy and hope. Amen.

May almighty God bless you,
the Father, and the Son, + and the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Solemn Blessing D

May almighty God bless you
the Father, and the Son, + and the Holy Spirit.

Amen.