



Your Catholic Wedding



THE CATHOLIC SACRAMENTAL RITE OF HOLY MATRIMONY

AS PRESCRIBED FOR

Holy Sacrament
Administered out-of Church
Without -Mass
with
(single element communion)

**Non nobis, Dominus, non nobis,
sed nomine Tuo, da gloriam!**

CHEVALIERS DE NOTRE DAME

**SOVEREIGN MILITARY
RELIGIOUS ORDRE OF JERUSALEM**

**ANTIQUUS ORDO PRIORATUS SIONUS
1099 ANNO DOMINI**



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The Preceptory de Saint Jacques

PRIEST PRAYS SILENTLY AT ALTAR

"Almighty God, cleanse my heart and my lips that I may worthily bless and proclaim this Holy Sacrament for these thy servants"

In Nomine Patris, et Filli, (+) et Spiritus Sancti

"Dearly Beloved, Friends, Relatives, Honoured Guests:

WELCOME! To a Celebration of Love:"

THE CONVOCATION

"It is out of affection for this lovely Bride and Groom that we have gathered together to witness and bless their mutual vows which will unite them in Holy Matrimony. To this moment they bring the fullness of their hearts as a treasure to share with one another. They bring the dreams which bind them together. They bring that particular personality and spirit which is uniquely their own, and out of which will grow the reality of their life together. We rejoice with them, as the outward symbol of an inward union of hearts, a union created by friendship, respect and most importantly...love.

To you who are present as friends or relatives...this is your service as well as theirs. Their future together depends upon you as well as upon them. By your thoughts, your feelings and your deeds toward them, on this day and the days to come...you can strengthen the vows and commitment they are about to make.

A noble purpose of life is to share love. Love is not to be kept..it is to be shared. Your presence here [today] is an indication of your desire to support their union, each in your own ways, with love.

Love has a broader meaning than just our personal feelings for each other. While love is difficult to explain or describe, each of us recognises it as the ingredient of life that motivates and leads us to goals above and beyond our individual ambitions.



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THE INVOCATION

In the following passage taken from the greatest Book ever written, the author (Saint Paul) attempts to capture the essence of love when he writes,

"Love is patient and kind...Love is not jealous nor boastful...it is not arrogant or rude...Love does not insist on its own way...It rejoices in the right. Love bears all things...believes all things...hopes all things. There are three things that are eternal: Faith, Hope and Love. The greatest of all these is Love."

MARRIAGE AS A SACRAMENT

The holiness given by Christ to marriage is seen very clearly from the fact that the union of the baptised is a sacrament. This means that marriage itself is a sacred sign through which Christ gives us his Holy Spirit. What does this sign consist of? It is the simplest imaginable: the mutual promise, and the life in accordance with this promise. This is the sacrament. Hence the form of the sacrament is of no particular juridical formula taken in and of itself, nor the marriage ceremony by itself, but the will to belong to each other in love and freely-chosen loyalty, till the day of death. Hence all the love, tenderness, compassion, concern and caring that married people offer each other is a source of grace, of Christ's presence, of the Holy Spirit. This is the nature of the marriage which Christians enter into before God. This then, is the nature of the ceremony you are present today (evening) to witness.

SPECIAL READINGS

(Image here)

SPECIAL VOCAL RENDITIONS

(Image here)

THE ADDRESS

Matrimony symbolizes the ultimate intimacy and commitment between a man and a woman; yet this closeness should not diminish but strengthen the individuality of each partner. For a marriage that lasts is one that always has a little more to grow. Today's celebration of human affection can only be created by a loving purpose, be maintained by abiding will and be renewed by human feelings and intentions. It is in this spirit these two lovely people stand before us this (Morning, Afternoon, Evening)"

BESTOWING OF BRIDE

Priest:

"Who present in this community bestows this woman to be united with this man in Holy Matrimony?"

Respondent stands and replies

" I Do!"

Priest:

"Will you both please face each other and join hands?"

[Pause make certain the couples shoulders are squared for their photographer]



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EXPRESSION OF INTENT

Priest queries Bride and Groom regarding intent:

"Do you promise to love and to cherish each other; do you promise to comfort each other, during sorrow and during joy?"

"Do you promise to support and to tenderly care for each other, to trust and to encourage each others own fulfilment?"

"Do you promise to help and to protect each other, to be giving and to be honest with each other, always?"

To Groom]: " _____ Do you promise these things, and do you take _____ to be your wife?"

[To Bride]: " _____ Do you promise these things, and do you take _____ to be your husband?"

RING BLESSING

[To Groom]"What pledge do you offer in token of these vows?"

(Response) "This Ring."

[To Bride]: "What pledge do you offer in token of these vows?"

(Response) "This Ring."

[To Ringbearer(s)]: "Extend the ring(s) for Blessing, please"

[Ringbearer retains the ring(s) and extends to Priest for Blessing

[Priest blesses the rings]:

"Heavenly Father, Bless these rings, (+) Grant that they who wear them may wear them with deep faith in their love for each other. May they both do your will and always live together in Peace, Love and Abiding Joy. We ask this through Christ our Lord, Amen."

[To Bride and Groom]

"In the presence of God, your families and friends, seal your promises now with these ring(s); signs and tokens of the life you are about to enter together. Bless (+) Oh Lord the giving of these rings that they who wear them may abide in Peace, Good Will and Love forever more."

RING EXCHANGE

[To Groom:] In offering this ring, you mark your desire to enter into the days of your lives together, repeat after me, please."

"This ring,
without beginning or ending,
is a symbol of my undying love for you.
I give you this ring,
as I give you my love."

[To Bride:] Repeat the above Ring Exchange



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(Communion)

BLESSING OF THE WINE

Priest hands Chalice to Bride and Groom,

[they hold it until asked to drink:]

ALMIGHTY GOD, bless this wine to be used in faith to purify our hearts, and to bless this Sacrament of Holy Matrimony. Through it may (Bride and Groom) be inwardly transformed and may God's blessings be bestowed upon them that they may be brought closer to you and gain eternal happiness. May the Holy Spirit here present, continue to watch over, protect and bless this union. May your love remain with you forever In this your pledged devotion and life in Christ.

ABSOLUTION

MAY THE LORD be in your hearts and on your lips that you may rightly receive this gift. Receive my brother and sister, this concentrated wine to bless your Sacrament, that the Holy Spirit may guard and watch over you throughout your days. May our Lord Jesus Christ forgive you and by His authority, I hereby grant you pardon, absolution and remission of all your sins and censures.

In Nomine Patris, et Filii, (+) et Spiritus Sancti, Amen

[Bride and Groom now drink from the Chalice, it is then passed the Groomsman who returns it to the Priest].

BLESSING OF THE COUPLE

"O Heavenly Father, we ask you bless and consecrate this couple in their love for each other. May the ring(s) they have exchanged be a reminder of the love and faithfulness they have pledged one unto the other."

SECOND BENEDICTION

"O God, who not only honoured a wedding feast by thy presence, but did begin there thy wondrous work of miracles, be pleased to bless at this the opening of their married life, these thy servants, _____ and _____. Give them harmony, lasting charity, the beauty of restraint, a humble respect for each other. Grant them also the discipline of behaviour that is pleasing to thee. And in all things, let them have the dignity of a sincere faith. May the angel of God be their unfailing protection. May their days be many and peaceful. Their many children, their joy, that both on earth and in Heaven, They may be crowned by God."

CONGREGATION BENEDICTION

(For those travelers to your Holy Sacrament)

"May the Lord bless and keep you: May the Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious unto you. May the Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and give you Peace. May the Lord implant his spirit within you and grant you length of days, vigour of body, deep and abiding mutual understanding, companionship and love, increasing with the passage of the years and in the fullness of years. Amen"



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PERSONAL BENEDICTION

We wish to give our personal blessing to your Holy Sacrament of Love that you have chosen our Religious Ordre to administer: As you have witnessed these vows of love, may all of you that are married may you confirm your devotion and commitments. May all that are unmarried may this ceremony deepen your understanding of marriage and your resolve to holy love.

"Will all please bow their heads":

"Eternal God, without your grace no promise is sure. Strengthen this loving couple with the gift of thy Holy Spirit, so they may fulfil the vows they have taken (Today). Keep them faithful to each other and fill them with such love and joy that they may build a home where no one is a stranger. Guide them by your word to serve you all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord to whom honour and glories, be forever and ever. Amen."

SACRAMENTAL PRONOUNCEMENT OF MARRIAGE

"For as much as _____ and _____ have consented together in Holy Wedlock, and having pledged themselves each to the other, in the presence of God and this Community-- Being qualified under the Statues of This Sovereign Military Religious Order which we represent, We do now unite them forever in Holy Matrimony in this The One Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church manifest in Chevaliers de Notre Dame. in service to the Sacred Society of St. Pius X. With Confidence in Almighty God, I now pronounce that they are Husband and Wife. Let all others honour their decision and the threshold of their house. For what has been joined together by God, let no man put asunder."

TRADITIONAL SEALING OF THE VOWS

"You may now kiss as husband and wife."

DISMISSAL

"The Marriage Service is now ended. Go now in Peace, Good Will and Love for your Fellowman."

ALTERNATIVE ADDITIONS TO CEREMONY

FLOWER PRESENTATION

"As God has created and nurtured these beautiful flowers as have these Mothers nurtured and cared for these, their beautiful children, please accept these tokens of your grateful childrens love, appreciation and loving devotion.

[PRIEST] WILL THE MOTHERS PLEASE RISE AND COME FORWARD AND ACCEPT THEIR CHILDRENS LOVING GIFTS?"

Candle Lighting (Unity Candle)

The noted and renowned bard, William Shakespeare, in his imortal work on love, Romeo and Juliet, has Juliet's 'Comfortable Friar' bless their union with the words, "...and two shall become one". as the two flames of the candles are blended into union with one faith, one hope, one love and one destiny; So shall you both be one in name, one in aim and one in a happy destiny together

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