

# Nuptial Blessings

## Note

This excerpt from the *Order of Celebrating Matrimony* gives the texts of the Nuptial Blessing from Chapter 1 *Order of Celebrating Matrimony within Mass*, Chapter 2 *Order of Celebrating Matrimony without Mass*, Chapter 4 *Order of Celebrating Matrimony between a Catholic and a Catechumen or a Non-Christian* and Chapter 5 *Various Texts to be used in the Rite of Marriage and the Mass for the Celebration of Marriage: VII Other Prayers of Nuptial Blessing*.

The rubrics follow those given in Chapter 5.

There are 3 Invitations and 3 Blessings. In the *Order of Celebrating Matrimony* they are paired as follows but they may be used in any combination.

- Chapter 1 *Order of Celebrating Matrimony within Mass* 73 + 74
- Chapter 2 *Order of Celebrating Matrimony without Mass* 104 (=243) + 105 (=74)

For these texts musical notation is also provided.

- Chapter 3 *Order of Celebrating Matrimony before an Assisting Layperson* has an proper form for use by the assisting layperson.
- Chapter 4 *Order of Celebrating Matrimony between a Catholic and a Catechumen or a Non-Christian* uses 104 for the Invitation and a modified form of 244 for the Blessing.

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### Invitations

*Dear brothers and sisters* (73)

Text	2
Music	3

*Now let us humbly invoke God's blessing* (104/243)

Text	2
Music	3

*Let us pray to the Lord for this bride and groom* (241)

Text	2
Music	3

### Blessing

*O God, who by your mighty power* (74)

Text	4
Music	6

*Holy Father, who formed man in your own image* (242)

Text	8
Music	9

*Holy Father, maker of the whole world* (244)

Text	12
Music	13

*Holy Father, maker of the whole world* (172≈244)

Text	15
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## The Nuptial Blessing

In the invitation, if one or both of the spouses will not be receiving Communion, the words in parentheses are omitted. In the prayer, the words in parentheses may be omitted if it seems that circumstances suggest it, for example, if the bride and bridegroom are advanced in years.

The Priest (or Deacon), with hands joined, calls upon those present to pray, saying:

Dear brothers and sisters, 73  
let us humbly pray to the Lord  
that on these his servants, now married in Christ,  
he may mercifully pour out  
the blessing of his grace  
and make of one heart in love  
(by the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood)  
those he has joined by a holy covenant.

Or:

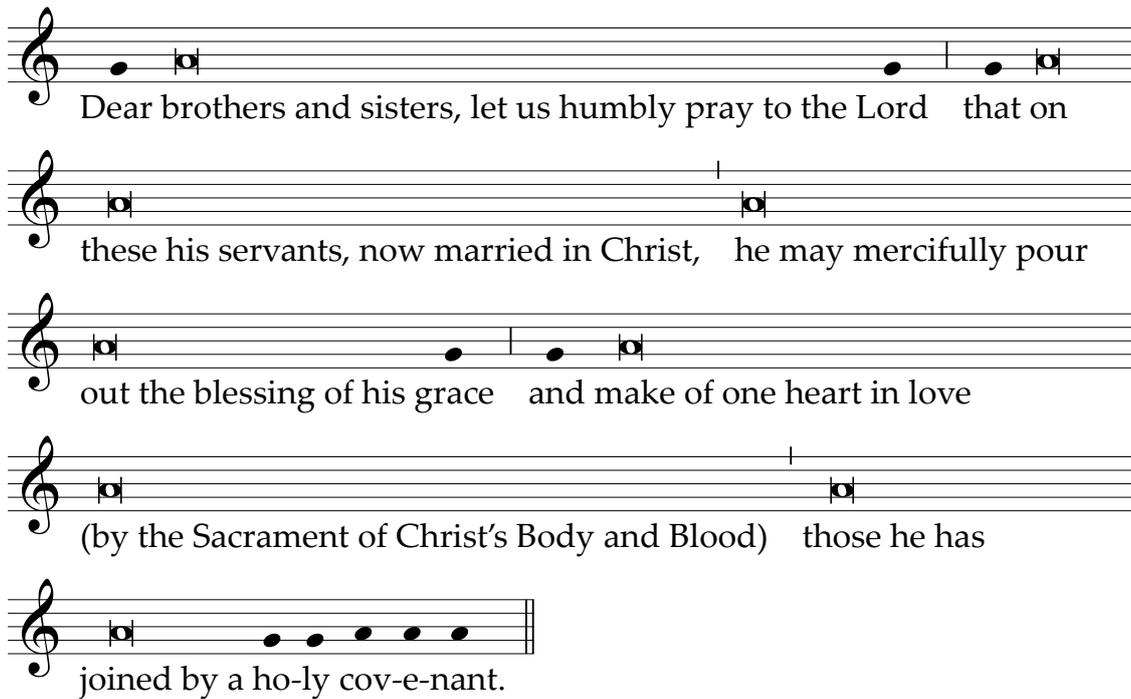
Now let us humbly invoke God's blessing 104=243  
upon this bride and groom,  
that in his kindness he may favour with his help  
those on whom he has bestowed the Sacrament of Matrimony.

Or:

Let us pray to the Lord for this bride and groom, 241  
who come to the altar as they begin their married life,  
that (partaking of the Body and Blood of Christ)  
they may always be bound together by love for one another.

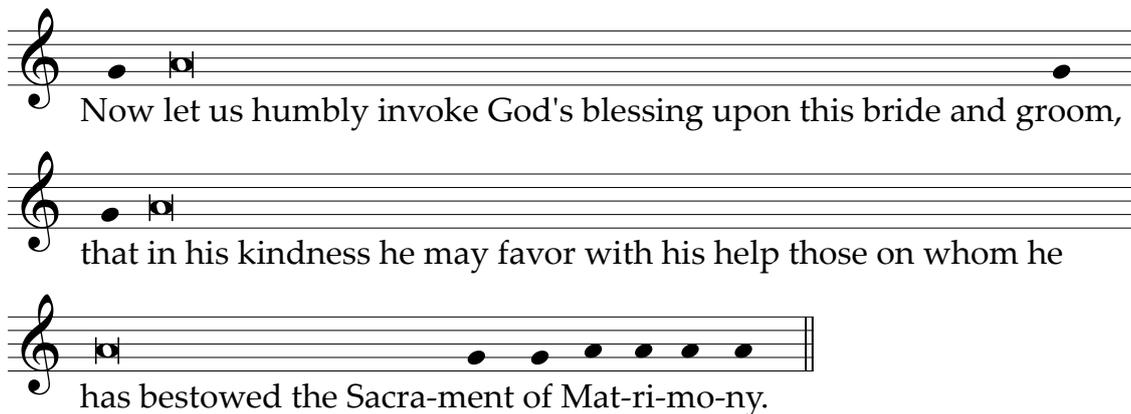
And all pray in silence for a while.

## Texts with Music



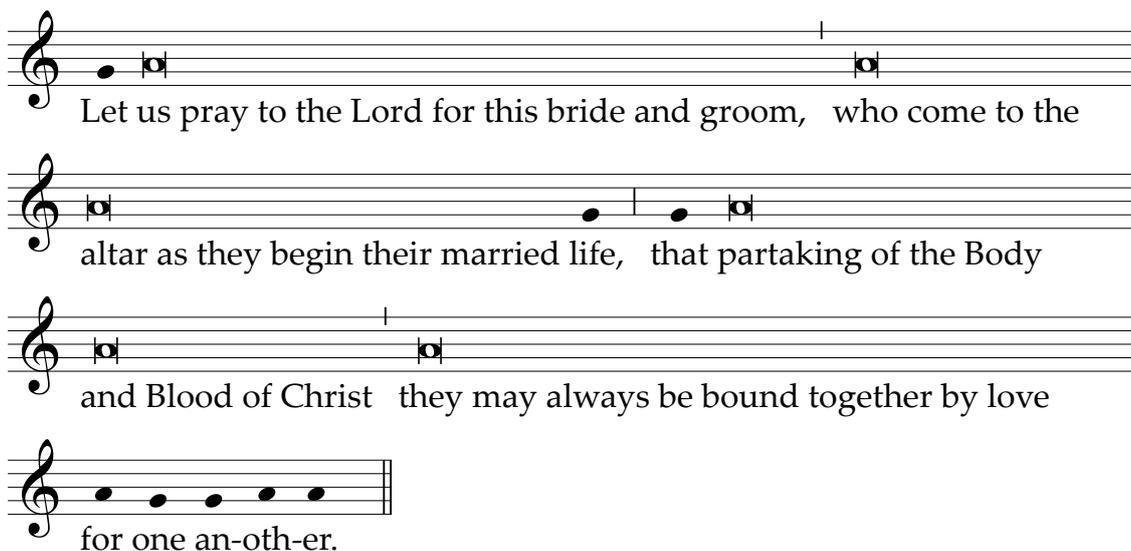
Dear brothers and sisters, let us humbly pray to the Lord that on these his servants, now married in Christ, he may mercifully pour out the blessing of his grace and make of one heart in love (by the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood) those he has joined by a ho-ly cov-e-nant.

Or:



Now let us humbly invoke 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 Sacra-ment of Mat-ri-mo-ny.

Or:



Let us pray to the Lord for this bride and groom, who come to the altar as they begin their married life, that partaking of the Body and Blood of Christ they may always be bound together by love for one an-oth-er.

And all pray in silence for a while.

Then the Priest (or Deacon), with hands extended over the bride and bridegroom, continues:

74

O God, who by your mighty power  
created all things out of nothing,  
and, when you had set in place  
the beginnings of the universe,  
formed man and woman in your own image,  
making the woman an inseparable helpmate to the man,  
that they might no longer be two, but one flesh,  
and taught that what you were pleased to make one  
must never be divided;

O God, who consecrated the bond of Marriage  
by so great a mystery  
that in the wedding covenant you foreshadowed  
the Sacrament of Christ and his Church;

O God, by whom woman is joined to man  
and the companionship they had in the beginning  
is endowed with the one blessing  
not forfeited by original sin  
nor washed away by the flood.

Look now with favour on these your servants,  
joined together in Marriage,  
who ask to be strengthened by your blessing.  
Send down on them the grace of the Holy Spirit  
and pour your love into their hearts,  
that they may remain faithful in the Marriage covenant.

May the grace of love and peace  
abide in your daughter **N.**,  
and let her always follow the example of those holy women  
whose praises are sung in the Scriptures.

May her husband entrust his heart to her,  
so that, acknowledging her as his equal  
and his joint heir to the life of grace,  
he may show her due honour  
and cherish her always  
with the love that Christ has for his Church.

And now, Lord, we implore you:  
may these your servants  
hold fast to the faith and keep your commandments;  
made one in the flesh,  
may they be blameless in all they do;  
and with the strength that comes from the Gospel,  
may they bear true witness to Christ before all;

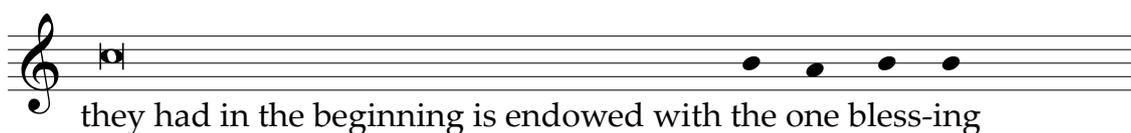
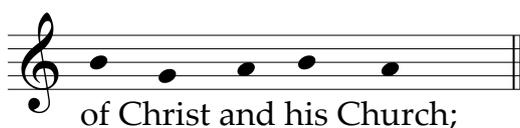
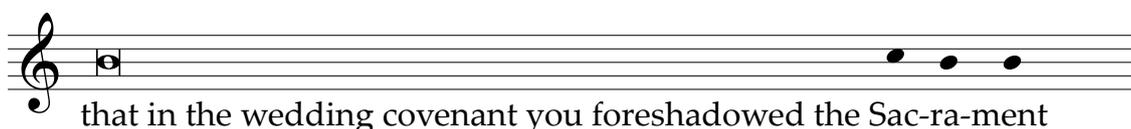
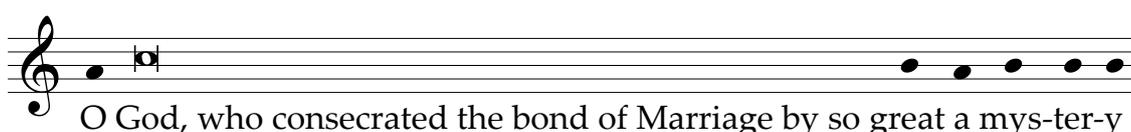
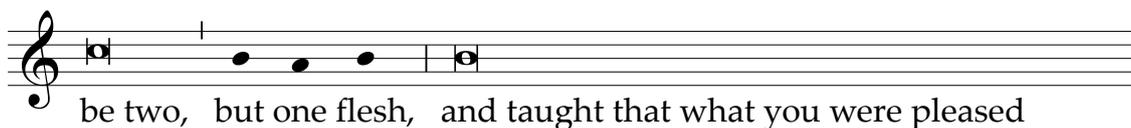
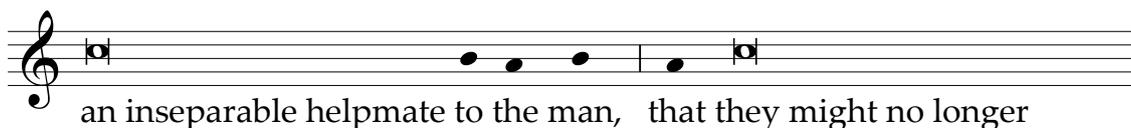
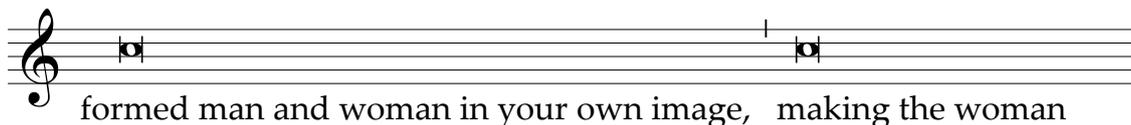
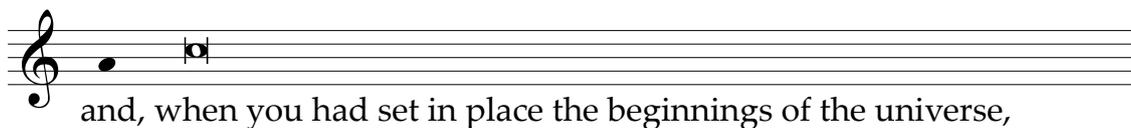
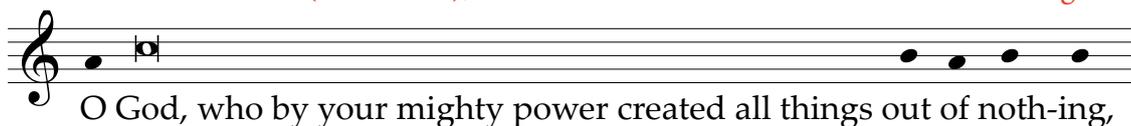
(may they be blessed with children,  
and prove themselves virtuous parents,  
who live to see their children's children).

And grant that,  
reaching at last together the fullness of years  
for which they hope,  
they may come to the life of the blessed  
in the Kingdom of Heaven.  
Through Christ our Lord.

℟ Amen.

## Text with Music

Then the Priest (or Deacon), with hands extended over the bride and bridegroom, continues:



Look now with favour on these your ser-vants, joined together in  
 Mar-riage, who ask to be strengthened by your bless-ing. Send  
 down on them the grace of the Ho-ly Spir-it and pour your love  
 in-to their hearts, that they may remain faithful in the Mar-riage  
 cov-e-nant.

May the grace of love and peace abide in your daughter N.,  
 and let her always follow the example of those ho-ly wom-en  
 whose praises are sung in the Scrip-tures.

May her husband entrust his heart to her, so that, acknowledg-ing  
 her as his equal and his joint heir to the life of grace, he may show  
 her due hon-our and cher-ish her al-ways with the love that Christ  
 has for his Church.

Then the Priest (or Deacon), with hands extended over the bride and bridegroom, continues:

242

Holy Father,  
who formed man in your own image,  
male and female you created them,  
so that as husband and wife, united in body and heart,  
they might fulfill their calling in the world;  
O God, who, to reveal the great design you formed in your love,  
willed that the love of spouses for each other  
should foreshadow the covenant you graciously made with your people,  
so that, by fulfillment of the sacramental sign,  
the mystical marriage of Christ with his Church  
might become manifest  
in the union of husband and wife among your faithful;  
Graciously stretch out your right hand  
over these your servants (N. and N.), we pray,  
and pour into their hearts the power of the Holy Spirit.

Grant, O Lord,  
that, as they enter upon this sacramental union,  
they may share with one another the gifts of your love  
and, by being for each other a sign of your presence,  
become one heart and one mind.

May they also sustain, O Lord, by their deeds  
the home they are forming  
(and prepare their children  
to become members of your heavenly household  
by raising them in the way of the Gospel).

Graciously crown with your blessings your daughter N.,  
so that, by being a good wife (and mother),  
she may bring warmth to her home with a love that is pure  
and adorn it with welcoming graciousness.

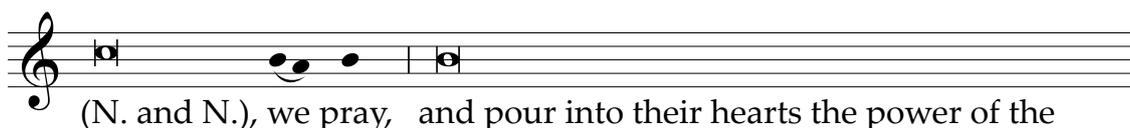
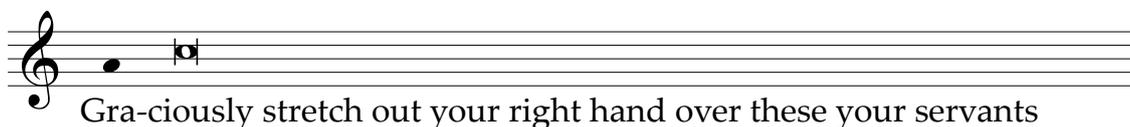
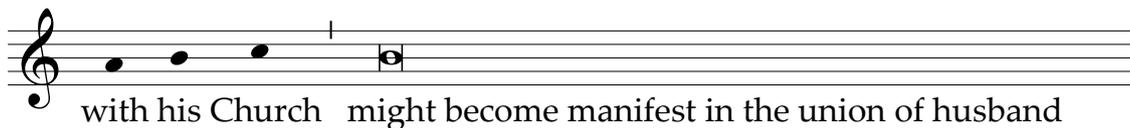
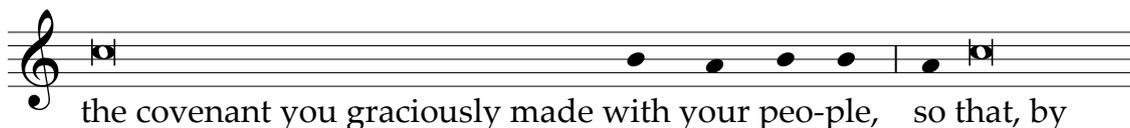
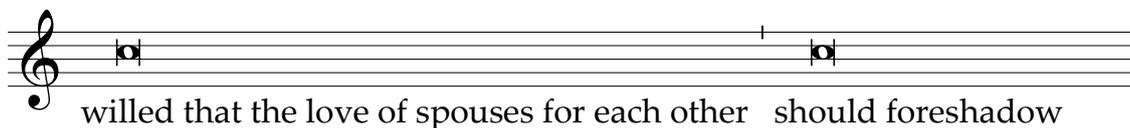
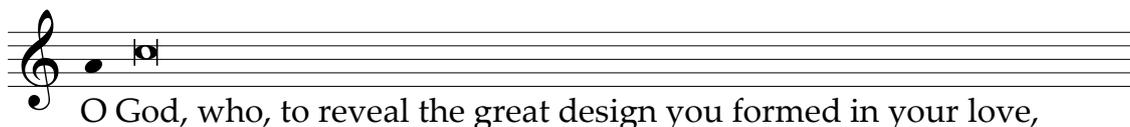
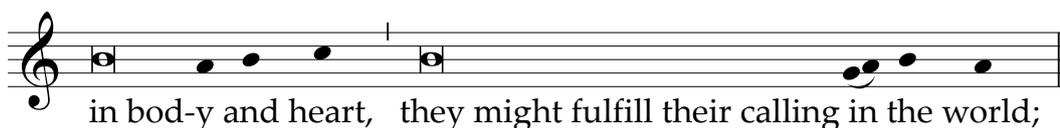
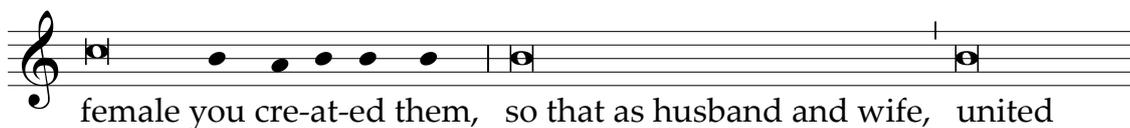
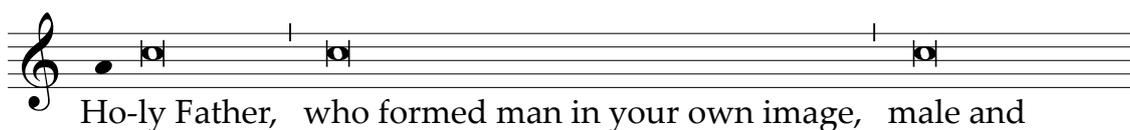
Bestow a heavenly blessing also, O Lord,  
on N., your servant,  
that he may be a worthy, good and  
faithful husband (and a provident father).

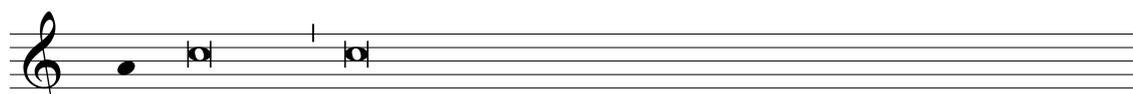
Grant, holy Father,  
that, desiring to approach your table  
as a couple joined in Marriage in your presence,  
they may one day have the joy  
of taking part in your great banquet in heaven.  
Through Christ our Lord.

℟. Amen.

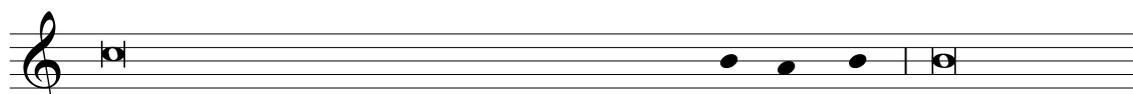
## Text with Music

Then the Priest (or Deacon), with hands extended over the bride and bridegroom, continues:





Grant, O Lord, that, as they enter upon this sacramental union,



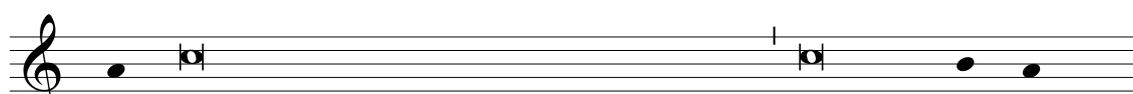
they may share with one another the gifts of your love and, by



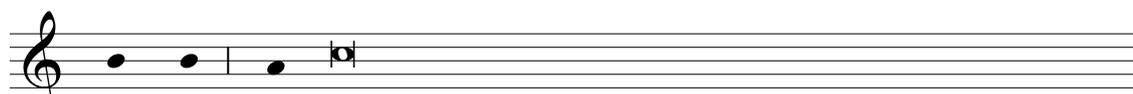
being for each other a sign of your presence, become one



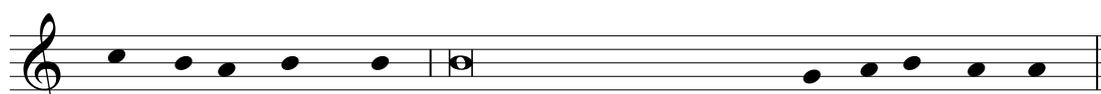
heart and one mind.



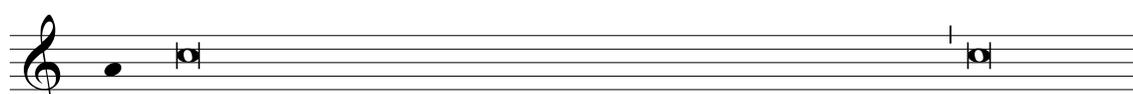
May they also sustain, O Lord, by their deeds the home they are



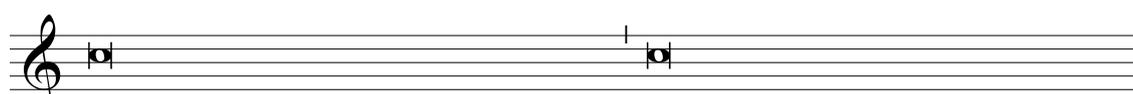
forming (and prepare their children to become members of your



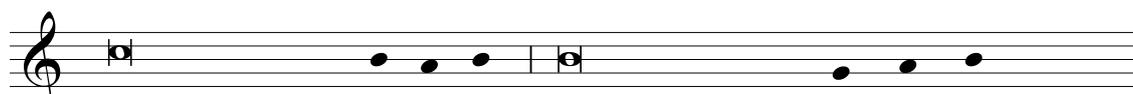
heavenly household by raising them in the way of the Gospel).



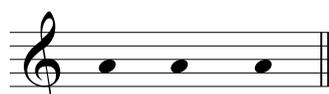
Graciously crown with your blessings your daughter N., so that,



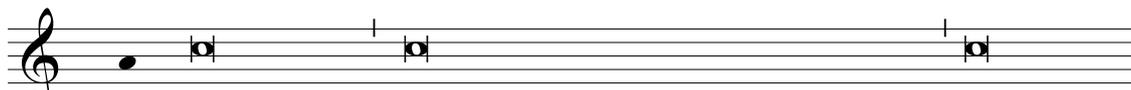
by being a good wife (and mother), she may bring warmth to her



home with a love that is pure and adorn it with welcoming



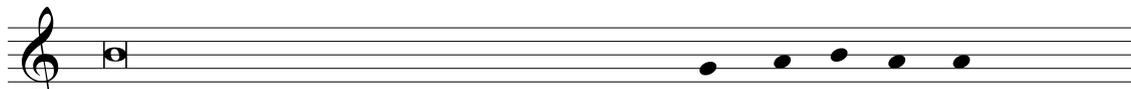
graciousness.



Grant, holy Father, that, desiring to approach your table as a



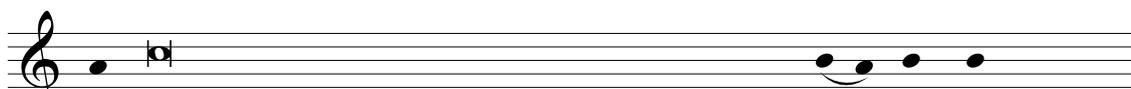
couple joined in Marriage in your presence, they may one day



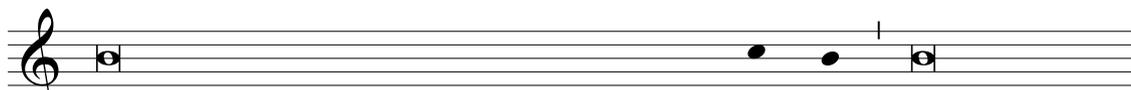
have the joy of taking part in your great banquet in heaven.



Through Christ our Lord. R. A-men.



Bestow a heavenly blessing also, O Lord, on N., your servant,



that he may be a worthy, good and faithful husband and a



provident father.

Then the Priest (or Deacon), with hands extended over the bride and bridegroom, continues:

244

Holy 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.

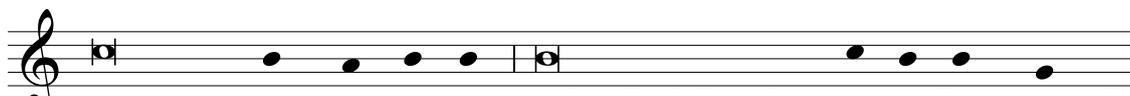
R̄ Amen.

## Text with Music

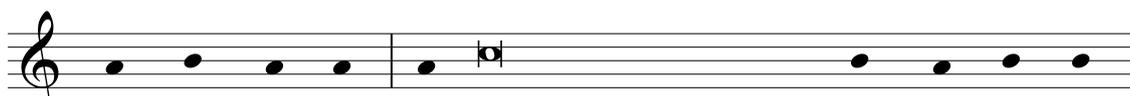
Then the Priest (or Deacon), with hands extended over the bride and bridegroom, continues:



Ho-ly Father, maker of the whole world, who created man and



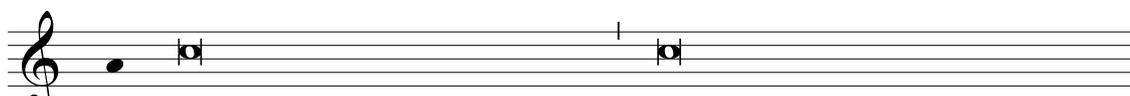
woman in your own im-age and willed that their un-ion be crowned



with your bless-ing, we humbly beseech you for these your ser-vants,



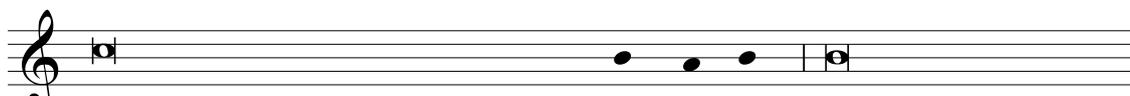
who are joined to-day in the Sac-ra-ment of Mat-ri-mo-ny.



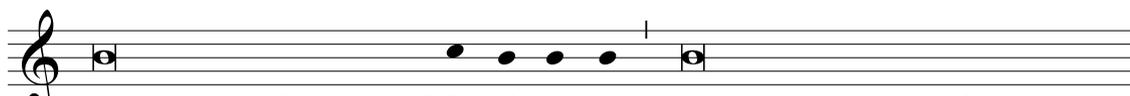
May your abundant blessing, Lord, come down upon this bride, N.,



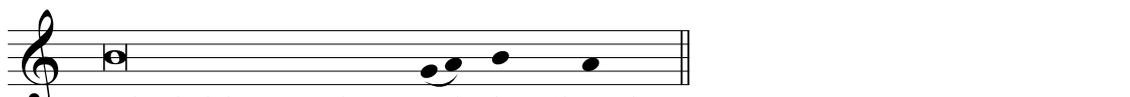
and upon N., her compan-ion for life, and may the power of your



Holy Spirit set their hearts aflame from on high, so that, living



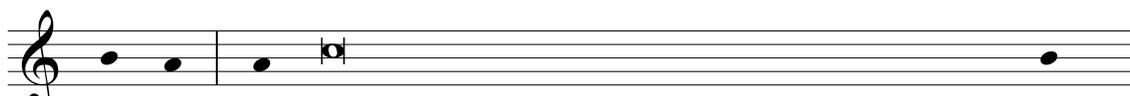
out together the gift of Mat-ri-mo-ny, they may (adorn their family



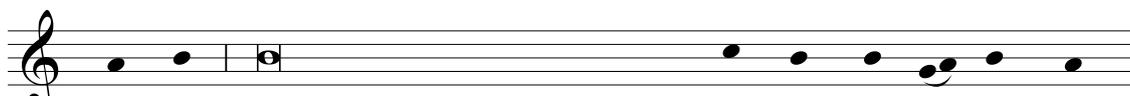
with children and) en-rich the Church.



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 com-fort them in their need;



let them pray to you in the ho-ly as-sem-bly and bear witness to  
you in the world, and after a hap-py old age, to-gether with the  
circle of friends that sur-rounds them, may they come to the  
King-dom of Heav-en. Through Christ our Lord. R. A-men.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in a single system. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The notes are: Staff 1: G4, A4, Bb4, C5, D5, E5, F5, G5, A5, Bb5, C6. Staff 2: G4, A4, Bb4, C5, D5, E5, F5, G5, A5, Bb5, C6. Staff 3: G4, A4, Bb4, C5, D5, E5, F5, G5, A5, Bb5, C6. Staff 4: G4, A4, Bb4, C5, D5, E5, F5, G5, A5, Bb5, C6. The lyrics are printed below each staff, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes. The final staff ends with a double bar line.

## from the Order of Celebrating Matrimony between a Catholic and a Catechumen or a Non-Christian

171. As a rule, the Nuptial Blessing is said over the bride and bridegroom. Nevertheless, if circumstances suggest this, it may be omitted and, in this case, the prayer provided in no. 174 is said in place of the Nuptial Blessing.

The bride and bridegroom kneel at their place, if circumstances suggest this.

Then, the Priest (or Deacon) continues, with hands joined:

Now let us humbly invoke God's blessing =104  
upon this bride and groom,  
that in his kindness he may favour with his help  
those on whom he has bestowed the bond of Marriage.

And all pray in silence for a while.

172. Then, the Priest (or Deacon), standing and turned toward the bride and bridegroom with hands extended over them, continues:

Holy Father, maker of the whole world, ≈ 244  
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 Marriage covenant.

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 be known for the integrity of their conduct  
(and be recognized as virtuous parents).

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;  
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.

℟. Amen.

174. If, because of circumstances, the Nuptial Blessing is omitted, this prayer is spoken over the bride and bridegroom:

Be attentive to our prayers, O Lord,  
and in your kindness uphold  
what you have established for the increase of the human race,  
so that the union you have created  
may be kept safe by your assistance.  
Through Christ our Lord.

℟. Amen.