

## THE NUPTIAL BLESSING

*The Priest prays for and blesses the couple so that they may grow in love and fidelity. At the end of the long prayer the people acclaim:*

**Amen.**

## THE SIGN OF PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**And with your spirit.**

Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

*All offer one another the customary sign of peace.*

## BREAKING OF THE BREAD

**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.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION *all kneel*

*After his private prayers of preparation the Priest genuflects, takes the host and, holding it slightly raised above the paten or above the chalice says aloud:*

Behold the Lamb of God,  
behold him who takes away  
the sins of the world.  
Blessed are those called  
to the supper of the Lamb.

## THE CONCLUDING RITES

*The Concluding Rites send the people forth to put into effect in their lives what they have received.*

## BLESSING

The Lord be with you.

**And with your spirit.**

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

**Amen.**

## DISMISSAL

*Then the Deacon, or the Priest says:*

Go forth, the Mass is ended.

*Or:*

**Lord, I am not worthy  
that you should enter under my roof,  
but only say the word  
and my soul shall be healed.**

## COMMUNION

*After the priest has reverently consumed the Body and Blood of Christ the communicants come forward in reverent procession, and make a preparatory act of reverence by bowing their head in honour of Christ's presence in the Sacrament.*

*If you are not a Catholic and wish to come forward for a blessing please join the Communion Procession and when approaching the minister place your arms across your chest to indicate your desire for a blessing.*

The Body (Blood) of Christ.

**Amen.**

*After the distribution of Communion, if appropriate, a sacred silence may be observed for a while, or a psalm or other canticle of praise or a hymn may be sung.*

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION *all stand*

**Let us pray.**

*All pray in silence. Then the Priest says the Prayer after Communion, at the end of which the people acclaim:*

**Amen.**

Go and announce the Gospel of the Lord. *Or:*

Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life. *Or:*

Go in peace.

**Thanks be to God.**

*The dismissal may be followed by a final hymn.*

## SIGNING OF THE REGISTER

*The couple, witnesses and Priest sign the Register.*

## PROCESSION

# The Order of Celebrating Matrimony within Mass

## THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

*The Introductory Rites help the faithful come together as one, establish communion and prepare themselves to listen to the Word of God and to celebrate the Eucharist worthily.*

## ENTRANCE PROCESSION

*all stand*

*The bridal party enter in procession.*

## SIGN OF THE CROSS

*All make the Sign of the Cross as the Priest says:*

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

**Amen.**

## GREETING

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

*Or:*

Grace to you and peace  
from God our Father  
and the Lord Jesus Christ.

*Or:*

The Lord be with you.  
**And with your spirit.**

## INTRODUCTION

*The Priest welcomes everyone to the celebration and invites all present to pray for and support the couple.*

## THE GLORIA

*As a sign of festivity this hymn is either sung or said:*

**Gloria 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.**

## THE COLLECT

*When this hymn is concluded, the Priest, says:*

**Let us pray.**

*And all pray in silence with the Priest for a while.*

*Then the Priest says the Collect prayer, at the end of which the people acclaim:*

**Amen.**

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

*By hearing the word proclaimed in worship, the faithful again enter into the unending dialogue between God and the covenant people, a dialogue sealed in the sharing of the Eucharistic food and drink.*

### FIRST READING

*all sit*

*To indicate the end of the reading, the reader acclaim:*

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

### PSALM

*After the First Reading the psalmist or cantor sings or says the Psalm, with the people making the response.*

### SECOND READING

*There may also be a second reading. It concludes with the same response as above.*

### GOSPEL

*The assembly stands to sing the Gospel Acclamation to welcome the Gospel. They remain standing in honour of the Gospel reading, the high point of the Liturgy of the Word.*

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

A reading from the holy Gospel  
according to N.

Glory to you, O Lord.

*At the end of the Gospel, the Deacon, or the Priest, acclaim:*

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

### THE HOMILY

*all sit*

*At the end of the Homily it is appropriate for there to be a brief silence for recollection.*

## THE CELEBRATION OF MARRIAGE

*God disposed man and woman for each other so that they might be 'no longer two but one'. In this way they are to live in love, be fruitful, and this way become a sign of God himself, who is nothing but overflowing love.*

### INTRODUCTION

*all stand*

### THE QUESTIONS BEFORE THE CONSENT

*The Priest asks the couple about their freedom of choice, fidelity to each other, and the acceptance and upbringing of children.*

### THE CIVIL DECLARATION OF FREEDOM

*The couple declare their freedom to marry.*

### THE CONSENT

*The couple give their consent to one another, pledging to love and cherish their spouse for ever.*

### THE RECEPTION OF THE CONSENT

*The Priest prays for the couple. He then invites those present to praise God.*

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

### THE BLESSING AND GIVING OF RINGS

*The couple exchange rings as a sign of their marriage.*

### HYMN

*A hymn may be sung.*

### THE PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

*After each intention there is a pause while the faithful pray.*

Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

*The Priest concludes the Prayer with a collect.*

*When the Celebration of Marriage has been completed, the people sit.*

## THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

*For Catholics, the Eucharist is the source and summit of the whole Christian life. It is the vital centre of all that the Church is and does, because at its heart is the real presence of the crucified, risen and glorified Lord, continuing and making available his saving work among us.*

### PREPARATION OF GIFTS

*During the Offertory Song the gifts of bread and wine are brought in procession. The Priest offers the prayers of blessing quietly at the altar. If the priest says the prayers aloud the assembly's acclamation each time is:*

Blessed be God for ever.

*The Priest completes additional personal preparatory rites, and the people rise as he says:*

Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters),  
that my sacrifice and yours  
may be acceptable to God,  
the almighty Father.

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 holy Church.

*Then the Priest says the Prayer over the Offerings, at the end of which the people acclaim:*

Amen.

### THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right and just.

*The Priest concludes the Preface with the people, singing*

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.

*The Priest continues with the Eucharistic Prayer during which the people kneel.*

*After the words of Consecration the priest says:*

The mystery of faith.

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.

*At the conclusion of the prayer the Priest takes the chalice and the paten with the host and, raising both, he says:*

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.

Amen.

### THE COMMUNION RITE

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

*all stand*

At the Saviour's command  
and formed by divine teaching,  
we dare to say:

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.