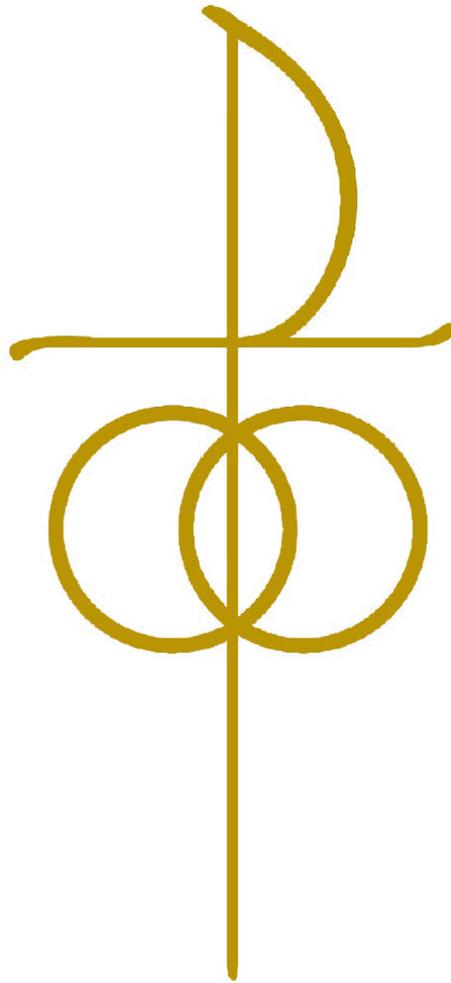


CELEBRATING  
THE SACRAMENT  
OF MATRIMONY



OUR LADY OF  
GOOD COUNSEL  
CATHOLIC COMMUNITY



# WEDDING GUIDELINES

*Your marriage is one of the most important steps in your lives. The OLGC Community stands ready to assist you to make this important day a most memorable one. We are here to help you in the months and days prior to and the day of the celebration of your wedding. These guidelines were developed to assist you. It is our hope that following these guidelines will help make your wedding a prayerful and joyful celebration.*

## PREPARING FOR YOUR MARRIAGE

The Diocese of Arlington requires couples to begin Pre-Cana preparations **no** less than six months prior to the wedding. This period of time begins with your initial contact with a parish priest. It is important to contact the parish priest as soon as possible after your decision to enter into the Sacrament of Matrimony to ensure that you will have your choice of date and time for the celebration of this sacrament. Be sure to schedule your wedding date and time with the priest assigned to your wedding (herein referred to as priest) BEFORE making any commitment to a reception hall.

Please note, that in order to schedule your wedding at OLGC, at least one of you must fulfill at least **one** of the following criteria:

- (1) are registered at the parish (or)
- (2) live within the boundaries of OLGC (or)
- (3) received one or more of your sacraments at OLGC (or)
- (4) have a close blood relative who lives within the boundaries of OLGC

### SETTING A DATE AND TIME AT OLGC

Saturday weddings are scheduled at 11:00 a.m. or 1:00 p.m. Weddings may also be scheduled Friday evenings for 6:00 p.m. Weddings on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation are not permitted. The space you are using (chapel OR church) will be reserved for one (1) hour **before** your wedding and a half-hour (30 min.) after your wedding.

If you are inviting 175 or more guests, your wedding will be in the church. If you are inviting 149 or fewer guests, your wedding may take place in either the chapel or church.

### CHOICE OF RITE

#### **The Celebration of Matrimony within Mass**

If both of you are Catholic, you are strongly encouraged to celebrate have a Wedding Mass: out of the conviction that you believe in the Eucharist as being the most important sign of the unity you are declaring in receiving the Sacrament of Matrimony. If receiving Holy Communion at Sunday Mass has not been your practice in recent months or years, your personal faith preparation for receiving the Sacrament of Matrimony should include your return to full participation in the life of the Catholic Church and parish community, as well as regularly receiving the sacraments (Holy Communion and Penance).

#### **The Celebration of Matrimony outside of Mass**

If one of you is not Catholic, you are strongly encouraged to have a Wedding Ceremony, so as not to cause division between families in reference to the reception of the Eucharist. Holy Communion is **not** distributed during a Wedding Ceremony. The Wedding Ceremony includes the Liturgy of the Word, the Rite of Matrimony, and the Nuptial Blessing.

#### **Interfaith Marriage**

Regarding Matrimony between persons of different faiths, you will have to share those beliefs which your faiths hold in common, as well as those beliefs which differ. Concerned understanding and loving cooperation will be needed to respect and honor important convictions. The choice of Rite would be a ceremony outside of Mass.

## **PRE- CANA PROCESS**

Your preparation for marriage will call on both of you to deepen your relationship by sharing with one another your thoughts, feelings, beliefs, doubts, strengths, and weaknesses about some of the key aspects of married life. The following Pre-Cana requirements will assist you in this endeavor:

### **The Prenuptial Investigation**

In the initial meeting with your priest, you will each complete a short questionnaire, which will include your background information and will help your priest assess whether there are any impediments to receiving the Sacrament of Matrimony.

### **FOCCUS (Facilitating Open Couple Communication, Understanding, & Study)**

As a couple, you will be given a *Setting Up Your FOCCUS Online Inventory* form. After each of you receives your parish log-in code from the Diocesan Office for Family Life, you will be able to complete the online inventory. The FOCCUS contains a number of questions pertinent to the married life (i.e., religion, finance, communication, sexuality, parenting, etc.). Your priest will discuss your answers with you at your next visit.

### **Diocesan Preparation Program**

The Diocese of Arlington requires that engaged couples attend one (1) of the two marriage preparation programs provided:

#### **OPTION 1: Catholic Engaged Encounter**

This is a weekend retreat with other engaged couples that gives you the opportunity to focus exclusively on each other and the commitment you will make in marriage. These weekends are held at various locations in the area and begin on Friday evening and end on Sunday afternoon.

#### **OPTION 2: Conference for the Engaged**

This one (1) day conference offers presentations by priests, married couples, and counselors on topics important to marriage. These conferences run from 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m., on scheduled Saturdays throughout the year.

While you must participate in one of these programs, you are free to choose between them. Your priest will give you further information

on each of these programs. We recommend that you make reservations as soon as possible, as both programs fill up quickly. Go to <http://www.arlingtondiocese.org/Marriage-and-Family/Conferences-for-the-Engaged/>. You may call the Diocesan Office for Family Life at 703-841-2550 for more information.

## **REQUIRED DOCUMENTS NEEDED FROM COUPLE**

The following documents must be given to your priest **as soon as possible** but no later than one (1) month before your wedding:

**1. Four (4) Affidavits of Free Status to Marry** – Your priest will give you these forms. These affidavits, two (2) for each of you, must be completed by someone who has known you for at least six (6) years (i.e., parents, siblings, relatives, friends, etc.). The affidavits must be signed in the presence of a priest, deacon, minister, or notary public and written in black ink.

**2. Baptismal Certificates**

#### For Catholics:

You will need to contact your church of baptism to request a Baptism certificate, that is **dated** within six (6) months of your wedding and includes the parish's seal. Please ask your church of baptism to include all notations (i.e., Confirmation information, etc.) on your updated certificate. If you were confirmed and your Confirmation information is missing from your Baptism certificate, you will need to contact your church of Confirmation to request a separate Confirmation certificate. (It is acceptable if your First Communion and First Penance information are not recorded on your updated Baptism certificate). Please request that your certificate(s) be mailed directly to you, so you can find any errors before giving it to your priest. If an error is found, please contact the church who issued it and request a corrected certificate. Only an official Baptismal certificate dated within 6 months of the wedding date will be accepted by your priest. A photocopy is **not** acceptable.

#### For Baptized Christians:

A photocopy of your original Baptism certificate is acceptable. It should include your Baptism

date, place of Baptism, and the city and state (or country) of your place of Baptism. If this information is missing from your certificate, please inform your priest.

3. **Certificate of Attendance** – You will need to provide a photocopy of your certificate of attendance from the Diocesan Preparation Program (e.g., Catholic Engaged Encounter or Conference for the Engaged) to your priest.
4. **Civil Marriage License** - Without a valid Virginia Marriage License, no marriage can take

place at OLGc. Your marriage license may be obtained from any county in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Virginia Marriage Licenses are **valid** for 60 days, from the date of issue. It **MUST** be given to your priest no later than two (2) weeks before your wedding.

**Sacrament of Penance** As an engaged couple, you should also receive the Sacrament of Penance as a part of your preparation for the Sacrament of Matrimony.

## PLANNING YOUR WEDDING

### CELEBRANT

The priests of OLGc are happy to officiate your Celebration of Matrimony. However, if you wish to have a visiting priest officiate, please ask him to contact your priest to coordinate your wedding preparation at least six (6) months before your wedding. The visiting priest must present a “celebrate” from his diocese and also be licensed to perform weddings in the Commonwealth of Virginia. The Director of Liturgy will provide the visiting priest with information concerning our parish guidelines.

### LITURGY PLANNING

Guided by your priest and the Director of Liturgy, you are encouraged to select the scripture readings, and blessings to be used in the liturgy (see pages 12-37). The Director of Liturgy will contact you to set up a meeting to assist in the planning of your wedding. Both the bride and groom need to be present at this meeting, so both of you can fully participate in the planning of your wedding. Other members of the family are not encouraged to accompany you.

It is our hope that you will invite family members and friends to participate in the liturgy as readers and gift bearers. If you have any questions concerning the liturgy, please contact the Director of Liturgy, at 703-896-7411 or [liturgy@olgcv.org](mailto:liturgy@olgcv.org).

Some couples choose to provide a worship aid or program for their guests. Although these are not supplied by OLGc, it is important that the Director of Liturgy review the personalized programs to

assure their completeness and accuracy before they are printed. Equally important is obeying copyright laws, which apply. If you choose to print music in your program, you are required by law to pay for the right to do so. Sample programs are available from the Director of Liturgy at the time of your meeting.

### MUSIC AND MUSICIANS

Music at the celebration of the Sacrament of Matrimony serves the words and actions of the Rite of Matrimony to help one express more effectively the faith celebrated in the liturgy. Music does more than simply provide a “nice touch” to the liturgy. Sacred music invites all who are present at your wedding to actively join in the celebration, by raising their voices in prayer through song. (see pages 38-43)

*All of the music used in the celebration of the Sacrament of Matrimony must express the Catholic faith and be liturgically appropriate. Therefore, music selections are to be truly religious or appropriate classical compositions and not contemporary, romantic songs from stage, screen, or pop sources.*

### WEDDING COORDINATOR

OLGc provides a Wedding Coordinator for every wedding. Our coordinators are knowledgeable in what is appropriate for a Catholic wedding as well as what is permitted specifically at OLGc and will assist you in planning the logistics and details of your wedding, run your rehearsal, and ensure that your wedding goes smoothly. For these reasons,

outside wedding coordinators will not assist with this aspect of your wedding preparations.

### **REHEARSAL**

A rehearsal is required for every wedding and can be scheduled by contacting the Liturgy Assistant, at 703.896.7418, who will also inform your officiant. Your rehearsal should be scheduled at a time when all of the participants in the ceremony can be present. This includes the bride and groom, your wedding party, parents, readers, gift bearers, and anyone else who will take part in the wedding. Your wedding rehearsal will start at the scheduled time. The Organist and Cantor will not be present for the rehearsal. If a visiting priest officiates at your wedding, we strongly recommend that he attend the rehearsal as well, so he can become familiar with our facilities.

Your Wedding Coordinator will guide you through your wedding step by step. The Sacrament of Matrimony is a reverent and solemn occasion. Therefore your wedding rehearsal needs to be conducted in a like manner. A respectful attitude needs to be maintained in the chapel or church, surrounding areas, towards the church staff, and towards each other.

### **CHILDREN PARTICIPATION**

OLGC does not provide babysitting services. Therefore, please make sure that there are enough non-participating adults present at both your rehearsal and wedding to supervise children.

All children participating in your wedding must be able to walk down the aisle. If a child cannot perform his or her assigned role at the rehearsal, an adult may need to accompany or assist them. Ring bearers do not carry the actual rings, and flower girls are not allowed to throw petals.

### **DECORATIONS**

We welcome floral arrangements for the altar in the chapel or church except during the seasons of Advent and Lent. The Wedding Coordinator will show you where flowers can be appropriately placed in the chapel or church. Please note the church and chapel are specifically decorated for the Christmas and Easter Seasons. Respect is to be paid to the environment that is in place for these

seasons.

Pew bows are allowed in the church and chapel. Plastic clips are used to attach the bows to the pews. OLGC will provide 9 pew bow stands to be used in the chapel as clips cannot be used on the fabric chairs. Flowers in water cannot be hung from these stands.

The chapel and church environments are not movable. This includes the drape, or altar cloth, as well as banners, piano, organ, altar, or podium.

### **PRAYER AT THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY STATUE**

The practice of the bride (and groom) visiting the Blessed Virgin Mary should reflect a sincere devotion to Mary, Mother of the Lord. No reference is made to this devotional practice in the Rite of Matrimony, and it is not a necessary part of the Nuptial Mass or Wedding Ceremony. If flowers are presented to the Blessed Virgin Mary, they are to be placed at the statue either at the prayer after Communion in the Nuptial Mass or after the Our Father in a Wedding Ceremony.

### **PHOTOGRAPHER/VIDEOGRAPHER**

The photographer and/or videographer you choose must adhere to the rules of OLGC and know how to be unobtrusive and have a sense of decorum and dignity. Their task is to memorialize, not to direct, delay, or interrupt the ceremony. They should not be a source of distraction. Prior to your wedding, your Wedding Coordinator will give specific instructions to your photographer and/or videographer, along with a map of the chapel or church, showing where they are permitted to take pictures.

The photographer will remain behind where your guests are seated. They may not walk up and down the center aisle, in front of the pews, or up in the sanctuary area. They may take pictures from either of the side aisles of the church or from the right aisle of the chapel. They may use flash during the procession and recessional but not during the ceremony itself.

You will have a half-hour (30 min.) after your wedding to take pictures in the chapel or church. Your

Wedding Coordinator will bring the bride, groom, and wedding party back into the chapel or church, once your guests have exited. Only pictures of those participating in the actual wedding ceremony will be taken. If you wish to have your picture taken with the celebrant, please coordinate with your photographer that this will be the first picture. Pictures with friends and relatives who were not part of the actual wedding will be taken at the reception.

The videographer may set up to one side of the sanctuary or behind where your guests are seated and remains stationary throughout your wedding. It is important that videographers follow our rules, so that future couples can use their services.

### **CHURCH DONATIONS AND FEES**

Wedding fees are payable to OLGC and are to be given directly to the Director of Liturgy at least three (3) months in advance of your wedding date. The amount of the fees are left up to what the couple can afford. Please note that the fees ordinarily cover the organist and cantor and the altar servers, and the Priest. In addition, flowers for the altar may be purchased through the church for a fee of \$300.

### **ALCOHOL POLICY**

To marry, one must be able to exercise FULL CONSENT OF THE WILL. Drinking would impair the person's ability to consent and could invalidate the marriage itself. Therefore, if either the bride or the groom is intoxicated for either the rehearsal or the wedding, the wedding will not take place.

Therefore **ABSOLUTELY NO ALCOHOL** is permitted on the OLGC campus, for either the evening of the rehearsal or the day of the wedding. The bride and groom are responsible for reminding their drivers, ushers, guests, etc. that we will not tolerate any alcoholic beverages on the OLGC campus.

### **FOR YOUR SAFETY**

We have adopted certain policies at OLGC to ensure your safety and the safety of your guests and out of respect for those who work here, and those who worship here and for our property.

- Please advise your guests that **NO RICE, BIRDSEED, FLOWERS, OR CONFETTI** may be thrown. This is out of concern for the safety of church visitors and out of respect for the sacredness of church property.
- **AISLE RUNNERS ARE PROHIBITED.** They are dangerous underfoot, particularly for guests with disabilities and during the procession to receive Holy Communion.
- **NOTHING MAY BE THROWN OR DROPPED ON THE AISLE.**

### **PLEASE REMEMBER:**

Everything concerning your wedding must be received by the appropriate person at OLGC at least one (1) month BEFORE your wedding.

The bridal room will be locked during the wedding to secure personal possessions. However, items of value (purses, jewelry etc.) should be locked securely in the trunks of locked cars. OLGC cannot take responsibility for any personal property lost or stolen.

Receiving Lines are not allowed.

**THE FOLLOWING PAGES INCLUDE CHOICES FOR SACRED SCRIPTURE AND MUSIC FOR THE CELEBRATION OF MATRIMONY.**

## OLD TESTAMENT READINGS

### First Reading – 1

Gn 1:26-28, 31a

A reading from the Book of Genesis

Then God said: “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness.  
Let them have dominion over the fish of the sea,  
the birds of the air, and the cattle, and over all the wild animals  
and all the creatures that crawl on the ground.”

God created man in his image;  
in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

God blessed them, saying: “Be fertile and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it.  
Have dominion over the fish of the sea, the birds of the air,  
and all the living things that move on the earth.”

God looked at everything he had made, and he found it very good.

The Word of the Lord.

### First Reading – 2

Gn 2:18-24

A reading from the Book of Genesis

The Lord God said: “It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a suitable partner for him.”  
So the Lord God formed out of the ground various wild animals and various birds of the air,  
and he brought them to the man to see what he would call them;  
whatever the man called each of them would be its name.

The man gave names to all the cattle, all the birds of the air, and all wild animals;  
but none proved to be the suitable partner for the man.

So the Lord God cast a deep sleep on the man, and while he was asleep,  
he took out one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh.

The Lord God then built up into a woman the rib that he had taken from the man.

When he brought her to the man, the man said: “This one, at last, is bone of my bones and flesh of my  
flesh; This one shall be called ‘woman,’ for out of ‘her man’ this one has been taken.”

That is why a man leaves his father and mother and clings to his wife,  
and the two of them become one body.

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the Book of Genesis

The servant of Abraham said to Laban:

“I bowed down in worship to the Lord,  
blessing the Lord, the God of my master Abraham, who had led me on the right road  
to obtain the daughter of my master’s kinsman for his son.  
If, therefore, you have in mind to show true loyalty to my master,  
let me know; but if not, let me know that, too. I can then proceed accordingly.”

Laban and his household said in reply: “This thing comes from the Lord;  
we can say nothing to you either for or against it.  
Here is Rebekah, ready for you; take her with you,  
that she may become the wife of your master’s son, as the Lord has said.”

So they called Rebekah and asked her,  
“Do you wish to go with this man?” She answered, “I do.”  
At this they allowed their sister Rebekah and her nurse to take leave,  
along with Abraham’s servant and his men.  
Invoking a blessing on Rebekah, they said:

“Sister, may you grow into thousands of myriads;  
And may your descendants gain possession of the gates of their enemies!”

Then Rebekah and her maids started out; they mounted their camels and followed the man.  
So the servant took Rebekah and went on his way.

Meanwhile Isaac had gone from Beer-lahai-roi  
and was living in the region of the Negeb.  
One day toward evening he went out . . . in the field,  
and as he looked around, he noticed that camels were approaching.  
Rebekah, too, was looking about, and when she saw him,  
she alighted from her camel and asked the servant,  
“Who is the man out there, walking through the fields toward us?”  
“That is my master,” replied the servant. Then she covered herself with her veil.

The servant recounted to Isaac all the things he had done.  
Then Isaac took Rebekah into his tent;  
he married her, and thus she became his wife.  
In his love for her Isaac found solace  
after the death of his mother Sarah.

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the Book of Tobit

Raphael and Tobiah entered the house of Raguel and greeted him.

Raguel sprang up and kissed Tobiah, shedding tears of joy.

But when he heard that Tobit had lost his eyesight, he was grieved and wept aloud.

He said to Tobiah: “My child, God bless you!

You are the son of a noble and good father.

But what a terrible misfortune that such a righteous and charitable man should be afflicted with blindness!”

He continued to weep in the arms of his kinsman Tobiah.

His wife Edna also wept for Tobit; and even their daughter Sarah began to weep.

Afterward, Raguel slaughtered a ram from the flock and gave them a cordial reception.

When they had bathed and reclined to eat, Tobiah said to Raphael, “Brother Azariah, ask Raguel to let me marry my kinswoman Sarah.”

Raguel overheard the words; so he said to the boy:

“Eat and drink and be merry tonight, for no man is more entitled to marry my daughter Sarah than you, brother.

Besides, not even I have the right to give her to anyone but you, because you are my closest relative.

But I will explain the situation to you very frankly.

I have given her in marriage to seven men, all of whom were kinsmen of ours, and all died on the very night they approached her.

But now, son, eat and drink. I am sure the Lord will look after you both.”

Tobiah answered, “I will eat or drink nothing until you set aside what belongs to me.”

Raguel said to him: “I will do it. She is yours according to the decree of the Book of Moses.

Your marriage to her has been decided in heaven!

Take your kinswoman from now on you are her love, and she is your beloved.

She is yours today and ever after.

And tonight, son, may the Lord of heaven prosper you both. May he grant you mercy and peace.”

Then Raguel called his daughter Sarah, and she came to him.

He took her by the hand and gave her to Tobiah with the words: “Take her according to the law.

According to the decree written in the Book of Moses she is your wife.

Take her and bring her back safely to your father.

And may the God of heaven grant both of you peace and prosperity.”

He then called her mother and told her to bring a scroll, so that he might draw up a marriage contract stating that he gave Sarah to Tobiah as his wife according to the decree of the Mosaic law.

Her mother brought the scroll, and he drew up the contract,

to which they affixed their seals. Afterward they began to eat and drink.

The word of the Lord.

## First Reading – 5

Tobit 8:4b-8

A reading from the Book of Tobit

On their wedding night Tobiah arose from bed and said to his wife,  
My love, get up. Let us pray and beg our Lord  
to have mercy on us and to grant us deliverance.  
She got up, and they started to pray and beg that deliverance might be theirs.  
He began with these words:

Blessed are you, O God of our fathers; praised be your name forever and ever.  
Let the heavens and all your creation praise you forever.  
You made Adam and you gave him his wife Eve to be his help and support;  
and from these two the human race descended.  
You said, It is not good for the man to be alone; let us make him a partner like himself.  
Now, Lord, you know that I take this wife of mine  
not because of lust, but for a noble purpose.  
Call down your mercy on me and on her,  
and allow us to live together to a happy old age.  
They said together, Amen, amen.

The Word of the Lord.

## First Reading – 6

Proverbs 31:10-13,19-20,30-31

A reading from the Book of Proverbs

When one finds a worthy wife, her value is far beyond pearls.  
Her husband, entrusting his heart to her, has an unfailing prize.  
She brings him good, and not evil, all the days of her life.  
She obtains wool and flax and makes cloth with skillful hands.  
She puts her hands to the distaff, and her fingers ply the spindle.  
She reaches out her hands to the poor, and extends her arms to the needy.  
Charm is deceptive and beauty fleeting;  
the woman who fears the LORD is to be praised.  
Give her a reward of her labors,  
and let her works praise her at the city gates.

The Word of the Lord.

## First Reading – 7

Song of Songs 2:8-10,14,16a; 8:6-7a

A reading from the Song of Songs

Hark! my lover—here he comes springing across the mountains, leaping across the hills.

My lover is like a gazelle or a young stag.

Here he stands behind our wall, gazing through the windows, peering through the lattices.

My lover speaks; he says to me, “Arise, my beloved, my dove, my beautiful one, and come!

“O my dove in the clefts of the rock, in the secret recesses of the cliff,

Let me see you, let me hear your voice, for your voice is sweet, and you are lovely.”

My lover belongs to me and I to him. He says to me:

“Set me as a seal on your heart, as a seal on your arm;

For stern as death is love, relentless as the nether world is devotion; its flames are a blazing fire.

Deep waters cannot quench love, nor floods sweep it away.”

The Word of the Lord.

## First Reading – 8

Sirach 26:1-4,13-16

A reading from the Book of Sirach

Blessed the husband of a good wife, twice-lengthened are his days;

A worthy wife brings joy to her husband, peaceful and full is his life.

A good wife is a generous gift bestowed upon him who fears the Lord;

Be he rich or poor, his heart is content, and a smile is ever on his face.

A gracious wife delights her husband, her thoughtfulness puts flesh on his bones;

A gift from the Lord is her governed speech, and her firm virtue is of surpassing worth.

Choicest of blessings is a modest wife, priceless her chaste soul.

A holy and decent woman adds grace upon grace; indeed, no price is worthy of her temperate soul.

Like the sun rising in the Lords heavens, the beauty of a virtuous wife is the radiance of her home.

The Word of the Lord.

## First Reading – 9

Jeremiah 31:31-32a,33-34a

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Jeremiah

The days are coming, says the Lord,  
when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah.  
It will not be like the covenant I made with their fathers:  
the day I took them by the hand to lead them forth from the land of Egypt.  
But this is the covenant which I will make  
with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord.  
I will place my law within them, and write it upon their hearts;  
I will be their God, and they shall be my people.  
No longer will they have need to teach their friends and relatives how to know the Lord.  
All, from least to greatest, shall know me, says the Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

## NEW TESTAMENT READINGS

### Second Reading – 1

Romans 8:31b-35,37-39

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters: If God is for us, who can be against us?  
He did not spare his own Son but handed him over for us all,  
will he not also give us everything else along with him?  
Who will bring a charge against God's chosen ones? It is God who acquits us.  
Who will condemn? It is Christ Jesus who died, rather, was raised,  
who also is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us.  
What will separate us from the love of Christ?  
Will anguish, or distress or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or the sword?  
No, in all these things, we conquer overwhelmingly through him who loved us.  
For I am convinced that neither death, nor life,  
nor angels, nor principalities, nor present things, nor future things,  
nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature will be able to separate us  
from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

## Second Reading – 2 Short

Romans 12:1-2,9-13

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

I urge you, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God,  
to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice,  
holy and pleasing to God, your spiritual worship.  
Do not conform yourselves to this age  
but be transformed by the renewal of your mind,  
that you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and pleasing and perfect.

Let love be sincere; hate what is evil, hold on to what is good;  
love one another with mutual affection; anticipate one another in showing honor.  
Do not grow slack in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord.  
Rejoice in hope, endure in affliction, persevere in prayer.  
Contribute to the needs of the holy ones, exercise hospitality.

The Word of the Lord.

## Second Reading – 2 Long

Romans 12:1-2,9-18

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

I urge you, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God,  
to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice,  
holy and pleasing to God, your spiritual worship.  
Do not conform yourselves to this age  
but be transformed by the renewal of your mind,  
that you may discern what is the will of God,  
what is good and pleasing and perfect.

Let love be sincere;  
hate what is evil, hold on to what is good;  
love one another with mutual affection;  
anticipate one another in showing honor.  
Do not grow slack in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord.  
Rejoice in hope, endure in affliction, persevere in prayer.  
Contribute to the needs of the holy ones, exercise hospitality.

Bless those who persecute you,  
Bless and do not curse them.  
Rejoice with those who rejoice,  
Weep with those who weep.  
Have the same regard for one another;  
Do not be haughty but associate with the lowly;  
Do not be wise in your own estimation.  
Do not repay anyone evil for evil;  
Be concerned for what is noble in the sight of all.  
If possible, on your part, live at peace with all.

The Word of the Lord.

### **Second Reading – 3**

Romans 15:1b-3a, 5-7, 13

A reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters:

We ought to put up with the failings of the weak and not to please ourselves;  
let each of us please our neighbor for the good, for building up.

For Christ did not please himself.

May the God of endurance and encouragement  
grant you to think in harmony with one another,  
in keeping with Christ Jesus, that with one accord you may with one voice  
glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Welcome one another, then, as Christ welcomed you, for the glory of God.

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing,  
so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

The Word of the Lord.

### **Second Reading – 4**

1 Corinthians 6:13c-15a, 17-20

A reading from the first Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians

Brothers and sisters:

The body is not for immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord is for the body;  
God raised the Lord and will also raise us by his power.

Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ?

Whoever is joined to the Lord becomes one spirit with him.

Avoid immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body,  
but the immoral person sins against his own body.

Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you,  
whom you have from God, and that you are not your own?

For you have been purchased at a price.

Therefore glorify God in your body.

The Word of the Lord.

## Second Reading – 5

1 Corinthians 12:31–13:8a

A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians

Brothers and sisters: Strive eagerly for the greatest spiritual gifts.  
But I shall show you a still more excellent way.

If I speak in human and angelic tongues but do not have love,  
I am a resounding gong or a clashing cymbal.

And if I have the gift of prophecy and comprehend all mysteries and all knowledge;  
if I have all faith so as to move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing.

If I give away everything I own, and if I hand my body over so that I may boast  
but do not have love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient, love is kind. It is not jealous, is not pompous, it is not inflated, it is not rude,  
it does not seek its own interests, it is not quick-tempered, it does not brood over injury,  
it does not rejoice over wrongdoing but rejoices with the truth.

It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails.

The Word of the Lord.

## Second Reading – 6 Short

Ephesians 5:2a, 25-32

A reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Ephesians

Brothers and sisters: Live in love, as Christ loved us and handed himself over for us.

Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ loved the Church  
and handed himself over for her to sanctify her, cleansing her by the bath of water with the word,  
that he might present to himself the Church in splendor,  
without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish.

So also husbands should love their wives as their own bodies.

He who loves his wife loves himself. For no one hates his own flesh but rather nourishes and cherishes it,  
even as Christ does the Church, because we are members of his Body.

For this reason a man shall leave his father and his mother and be joined to his wife,  
and the two shall become one flesh.

This is a great mystery, but I speak in reference to Christ and the Church.

The Word of the Lord.

## Second Reading - 6 Long

Ephesians 5:2a, 21-33

A reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Ephesians

Brothers and sisters: Live in love, as Christ loved us and handed himself over for us.

Be subordinate to one another out of reverence for Christ.

Wives should be subordinate to their husbands as to the Lord.

For the husband is the head of his wife

just as Christ is head of the Church, he himself the savior of the body.

As the Church is subordinate to Christ, so wives should be subordinate to their husbands in everything.

Husbands, love your wives,

even as Christ loved the Church and handed himself over for her to sanctify her,

cleansing her by the bath of water with the word,

that he might present to himself the Church in splendor,

without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish.

So also husbands should love their wives as their own bodies.

He who loves his wife loves himself. For no one hates his own flesh but rather nourishes and cherishes it, even as Christ does the Church, because we are members of his Body.

For this reason a man shall leave his father and his mother

and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.

This is a great mystery, but I speak in reference to Christ and the Church.

In any case, each one of you should love his wife as himself, and the wife should respect her husband.

The Word of the Lord.

## Second Reading – 7

Philippians 4:4-9

A reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Philippians

Brothers and sisters: Rejoice in the Lord always.

I shall say it again: rejoice! Your kindness should be known to all.

The Lord is near. Have no anxiety at all, but in everything,

by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God.

Then the peace of God that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable,

whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious,

if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

Keep on doing what you have learned and received and heard and see in me.

Then the God of peace will be with you.

The Word of the Lord.

## Second Reading – 8

Colossians 3:12-17

A reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Colossians

Brothers and sisters:

Put on, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved,  
heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience,  
bearing with one another and forgiving one another,  
if one has a grievance against another;  
as the Lord has forgiven you, so must you also do.  
And over all these put on love, that is, the bond of perfection.  
And let the peace control your hearts,  
the peace into which you were also called in one Body. And be thankful.  
Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly,  
as in all wisdom you teach and admonish one another,  
singing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God.  
And whatever you do, in word or in deed,  
do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

The Word of the Lord.

## Second Reading – 9

Hebrews 13:1-4a, 5-6b

A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews

Brothers and sisters: Let mutual love continue.

Do not neglect hospitality, for through it some have unknowingly entertained angels.

Be mindful of prisoners as if sharing their imprisonment,  
and of the ill-treated as of yourselves, for you also are in the body.

Let marriage be honored among all and the marriage bed be kept undefiled.

Let your life be free from love of money but be content with what you have,  
for he has said, I will never forsake you or abandon you.

Thus we may say with confidence:

*The Lord is my helper, And I will not be afraid.*

The Word of the Lord.

## Second Reading – 10

1 Peter 3:1-9

A reading from the first Letter of St. Peter

Beloved: You wives should be subordinate to your husbands so that, even if some disobey the word, they may be won over without a word by their wives' conduct when they observe your reverent and chaste behavior.

Your adornment should not be an external one:

braiding the hair, wearing gold jewelry, or dressing in fine clothes, but rather the hidden character of the heart, expressed in the imperishable beauty of a gentle and calm disposition, which is precious in the sight of God.

For this is also how the holy women who hoped in God once used to adorn themselves and were subordinate to their husbands; thus Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him "lord".

You are her children when you do what is good and fear no intimidation.

Likewise, you husbands should live with your wives in understanding, showing honor to the weaker female sex, since we are joint heirs of the gift of life, so that your prayers may not be hindered.

Finally, all of you, be of one mind, sympathetic, loving toward one another, compassionate, humble. Do not return evil for evil, or insult for insult; but, on the contrary, a blessing, because to this you were called, that you might inherit a blessing.

The Word of the Lord.

## Second Reading – 11

1 John 3:18-24

A reading from the first Letter of Saint John

Children, let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth.

Now this is how we shall know that we belong to the truth and reassure our hearts before him in whatever our hearts condemn, for God is greater than our hearts and knows everything.

Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence in God and receive from him whatever we ask, because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him.

And his commandment is this:

we should believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and love one another just as he commanded us.

Those who keep his commandments remain in him, and he in them, and the way we know that he remains in us is from the Spirit that he gave us.

The Word of the Lord.

## Second Reading – 12

1 John 4:7-12

A reading from the first Letter of St. John

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is of God;  
everyone who loves is begotten by God and knows God.  
Whoever is without love does not know God, for God is love.  
In this way the love of God was revealed to us:  
God sent his only-begotten Son into the world  
so that we might have life through him.  
In this is love:  
not that we have loved God, but that he loved us  
and sent his Son as expiation for our sins.  
Beloved, if God so loved us,  
we also must love one another.  
No one has ever seen God.  
Yet, if we love one another, God remains in us,  
and his love is brought to perfection in us.  
The Word of the Lord.

## Second Reading – 13

Revelation 19:1, 5-9a

A reading from the Book of Revelation

I John, heard what sounded like the loud voice  
Of a great multitude in heaven,  
Saying: “Alleluia! Salvation, glory and might belong to our God.”  
A voice coming from the throne said:  
“Praise our God, all you his servants,  
And you who revere him,  
Small and great.”  
Then I heard something like the sound of a great multitude  
or the sound of rushing water or mighty peals of thunder,  
as they said: “Alleluia!  
The Lord has established his reign, our God, the almighty.  
Let us rejoice and be glad and give him glory.  
For the wedding day of the Lamb has come,  
his bride has made herself ready.  
She was allowed to wear a bright garment.”  
(The linen represents the righteous deeds of the holy ones.)  
The the angel said to me. “Write this: Blessed are those who have been called  
to the wedding feast of the Lamb.”  
The Word of the Lord.

## GOSPEL READINGS

Gospel - 1

Matthew 5:1-12a

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

When he saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he had sat down, his disciples came to him. He began to teach them, saying:

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are they who mourn, for they will be comforted.

Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the land.

Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be satisfied.

Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.

Blessed are the clean of heart, for they will see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness,  
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you and utter every kind of evil against you  
falsely because of me.

Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven."

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Gospel - 2**

Matthew 5:13-16

A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

"You are the salt of the earth. But if salt loses its taste, with what can it be seasoned? It is no longer good for anything but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot.

You are the light of the world. A city set on a mountain cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and then put it under a bushel basket; it is set on a lampstand, where it gives light to all in the house.

Just so, your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father.

The Gospel of the Lord.

### **Gospel - 3 short version**

Matthew 7:21,24-25

Jesus said to his disciples:

“Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father in heaven.

“Everyone who listens to these words of mine and acts on them will be like a wise man who built his house on rock. The rain fell, the floods came, and the winds blew and buffeted the house.<sup>s</sup> But it did not collapse; it had been set solidly on rock.

The Gospel of the Lord.

### **Gospel - 3 long version**

Matthew 7:21,24-29

Jesus said to his disciples:

“Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father in heaven.

“Everyone who listens to these words of mine and acts on them will be like a wise man who built his house on rock. The rain fell, the floods came, and the winds blew and buffeted the house.<sup>s</sup> But it did not collapse; it had been set solidly on rock.

And everyone who listens to these words of mine but does not act on them will be like a fool who built his house on sand. The rain fell, the floods came, and the winds blew and buffeted the house. And it collapsed and was completely ruined.”

When Jesus finished these words, the crowds were astonished at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as their scribes.

The Gospel of the Lord.

### **Gospel - 4**

Matthew 19:3-6

A reading from the holy Gospel according to the Matthew

Some Pharisees approached Jesus, and tested him, saying,

“Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for any cause whatever?”

He said in reply, “Have you not read that from the beginning the Creator *made them male and female* and said, *For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh?*

So they are no longer two, but one flesh.

Therefore, what God has joined together, man must not separate.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

## Gospel - 5

Matthew 22:35-40

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

One of the Pharisees, a scholar of the law tested Jesus by asking,  
“Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?”

He said to him,\* “You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart,  
with all your soul, and with all your mind.

This is the greatest and the first commandment.

The second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.

The whole law and the prophets depend on these two commandments.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

## Gospel - 6

Mark 10:6-9

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

Jesus said:

From the beginning of creation,  
‘God made them male and female.

*For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife,  
and the two shall become one flesh.’ So they are no longer two but one flesh.*

Therefore what God has joined together, no human being must separate.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

## **Gospel - 7**

John 2:1-11

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

There was a wedding in Cana in Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there.

Jesus and his disciples were also invited to the wedding. When the wine ran short, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." And Jesus said to her, "Woman, how does your concern affect me? My hour has not yet come."

His mother said to the servers, "Do whatever he tells you."

Now there were six stone water jars there for Jewish ceremonial washings, each holding twenty to thirty gallons. Jesus told them, "Fill the jars with water." So they filled them to the brim.

Jesus told them, "Draw some out now and take it to the headwaiter." So they took it.

And when the headwaiter tasted the water that had become wine, without knowing where it came from (although the servers who had drawn the water knew),

the headwaiter called the bridegroom and said to him,

"Everyone serves good wine first, and then when people have drunk freely, an inferior one; but you have kept the good wine until now." Jesus did this as the beginning of his signs in Cana in Galilee and so revealed his glory, and his disciples began to believe in him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

## **Gospel - 8**

John 15:9-12

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said to his disciples:

"As the Father loves me, so I also love 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 joy may be in you and your joy may be complete.

This is my commandment: love one another as I love you.

The Gospel of the Lord.

## **Gospel - 9**

John 15:12-16

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said to his disciples:

"This is my commandment: love one another as I love you.

No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends.

You are my friends if you do what I command you.

I no longer call you slaves, because a slave does not know what his master is doing.

I have called you friends, because I have told you everything I have heard from my Father.

It was not you who chose me, but I who chose you and appointed you to go

and bear fruit that will remain, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name he may give you."

The Gospel of the Lord.

## **Gospel - 10 Short version**

John 17:20-23

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said:

“I pray not only for them, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, so that they may all be one, as you, Father, are in me and I in you, that they also may be in us, that the world may believe that you sent me. And I have given them the glory you gave me, so that they may be one, as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may be brought to perfection as one, that the world may know that you sent me, and that you loved them even as you loved me.

The Gospel of the Lord.

## **Gospel - 10 Long version**

John 17:20-23

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said:

“I pray not only for them, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, so that they may all be one, as you, Father, are in me and I in you, that they also may be in us, that the world may believe that you sent me. And I have given them the glory you gave me, so that they may be one, as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may be brought to perfection as one, that the world may know that you sent me, and that you loved them even as you loved me.

Father, they are your gift to me. I wish that where I am\* they also may be with me, that they may see my glory that you gave me, because you loved me before the foundation of the world. Righteous Father, the world also does not know you, but I know you, and they know that you sent me. I made known to them your name and I will make it known,\* that the love with which you loved me may be in them and I in them.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

## INTERCESSIONS/PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

### Intercessions 1

Our response will be: Lord hear our prayer

For the Church throughout the world. May our faith in the love God has for us be expressed in our love for one another. We pray to the Lord.

For peace in our world. May all lands that suffer violence and injustice find peace and reconciliation. We pray to the Lord.

For the poor, the homeless, and for those who are unemployed. May our care and concern for those in need be a sign of God's love. We pray to the Lord.

For the protection and sanctity of human life from conception until natural death. May all people be treated with the dignity they deserve as God's children. We pray to the Lord.

For all those preparing for the Sacrament of Marriage. May they grow in wisdom and grace and see their vocation to married life as a sign of God's love. We pray to the Lord.

For N. and N. who begin their married life together this day. May they experience the love of God, the support of family and friends, and the blessings of children. We pray to the Lord.

For all those who have died, especially the relatives and friends of N. and N. And all present for this wedding. May they enjoy perfect happiness and total fulfillment in eternal life. We pray to the Lord.

### Intercessions 2

Presider: Now that we have heard God's word in the bible and experienced the Lord's presence in this exchange of vows, let us present these prayerful petitions for people in the world today.

Reader: The response is "Lord, hear our prayer."

For the Church and its leaders. May our commitment to the Gospel lead us to deepen our faith and trust in God. We pray to the Lord.

For our world and its leaders. May all people be treated with the dignity they deserve as God's children. We pray to the Lord.

For our country and those who defend it. May our men and women who serve in the be kept safe from all harm. We pray to the Lord.

For those who are sick, lonely, or depressed. May they be strengthened by God's love and aided by friends and family. We pray to the Lord.

For all our guests gathered here with us today. May they enjoy the warm company of family and friends and have safe travel on their journey home. We pray to the Lord.

For N. and N., may they live long, blessed lives together and may their love grow stronger each and every day and may their families remain rooted in faith and unconditional love. We pray to the Lord.

For our loved ones who have died, (*especially - here you may add the names of deceased loved ones*) may they know the peace and fullness of eternal life with God. We pray to the Lord.

## NUPTIAL BLESSING (Option A)

74./105.

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;

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;

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 favor 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 honor  
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.

## NUPTIAL BLESSING (Option B)

207.

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.

## NUPTIAL BLESSING (Option C)

209.

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.

## MUSIC FOR YOUR WEDDING

Once you have chosen the Scripture Readings for your wedding, it is time to move on to choosing the music.

Some things to consider:

Liturgical Seasons – Music selections should be in keeping with the liturgical seasons.

Recorded Music – The liturgy is a complex use of signs expressed by living human beings. Music, being preeminent among those signs, ought to be "live". Recorded music is never to be used within the liturgy to replace the congregation, the choir, the organist or other instrumentalists. Therefore, in keeping with what the Church teaches about music for liturgy, recorded music is not allowed for weddings at OLG. C.

Marian Devotion – It is hopeful and encouraged that a couple has a spiritual devotion to the Blessed Mother as part of their married life together. The practice of bringing flowers to the statue of the Blessed Mother takes place simply after the Prayer after Communion and can be accompanied by a Marian Hymn, such as *Hail Mary/Gentle Woman* or *On This Day O Beautiful Mother*.

### **OPPORTUNITIES FOR MUSIC FOR YOUR WEDDING.**

*These musical selections are suggestions. However, if there is some other piece of music which has special meaning to you, do not hesitate to request it. We will try to accommodate your wishes if we can. \*indicates selections for Wedding within the Mass.*

#### **Prelude**

Prelude music should foster an atmosphere of prayer while members of the assembly are gathering and being seated. Several selections may be used; combining instrumental as well as appropriate vocal pieces.

#### **Procession/Entrance Song**

Music for the entrance song should focus the assembly's attention on their role as active participants of the liturgy. The procession and entrance song should be appropriate. Whether instrumental or sung, the entrance song should be an appropriate hymn of praise or a hymn of petition, asking God's blessing on the couple to be married.

#### **Psalm Response** (after 1st reading)

The Responsorial Psalm is ordinarily sung. The musical setting of any psalm is appropriate here, provided it is responsorial in style, i.e. the cantor sings the verses and the assembly responds with the sung refrain. Psalms 33, 34, 103, 128, and 145 are very appropriate for weddings. Songs based on psalms which paraphrase the text of the psalm are not to be used in place of the Responsorial Psalm.

#### **Gospel Acclamation** (also known as the **Alleluia**)

The gospel acclamation should always be sung. An appropriate setting of the "Alleluia" or acclamation of praise during the season of Lent can be chosen.

#### **\*Preparation of Gifts**

Because in the context of a wedding this ritual action does not take a long time, it is important that music not be so long as to interrupt the flow of the liturgy. Often solos will do just that and place undue importance on this part of the liturgy. Instrumental music is highly recommended for the preparation of the gifts.

**\*Mass Acclamations** (including Holy, Memorial Acclamation, Amen)

The Preface Acclamations, Memorial Acclamation and Concluding Doxology should be chosen from settings that are familiar to most practicing Catholics. As a matter of course, guests who make up the assembly often come from different parishes. Keeping in mind the active, full, and conscious participation of the assembly, we will use a very familiar setting of these acclamations.

**\*Communion**

The music for the communion procession should be Eucharistic in nature, i.e., expressing praise and thanksgiving and stressing our oneness in Christ. Ideally, a short, simple refrain to be sung by the assembly with the verses sung by a cantor could be selected.

**Closing/Recessional**

The music at the Nuptial Procession is traditionally instrumental and joyful in nature. The style may vary from traditional to the avant-garde or from stately to dance-like. The operative words here are appropriate and dignified.

**Final Seating of Grandparents and Parents**

Ave Maria *Schubert*

**Bridal Party Music**

Arioso *Bach*

Canon in D *Pachelbel*

Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring *Bach*

Rondeau *Mouret*

**Bride's Processional**

Canon in D *Pachelbel*

Trumpet Voluntary *Clarke*

Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring *Bach*

Rigaudon *Campra*

**Gathering Song—Mass**

Love has brought us here together - HYFRYDOL

All Creatures of Our God and King

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

O God, Beyond All Praising

**Psalm**

Psalm 34 Taste and See *Haugen*

Psalm 103 The Lord is kind and merciful

Psalm 128 Blest are those who love you

Psalm 145 Our God is compassion

**Presentation of Gifts—Bread and Wine**

I Have Loved You *Joncas*

On Eagles Wings *Joncas*

Prayer of St. Francis *Temple*

Servant Song *Gilliard*

God in the Planning

When Love is Found *Wrenn*

**Communion**

I Am the Bread of Life *Toolan*

One Bread, One Body *Foley*

Gift of Finest Wheat *Kreutz*

Supper of the Lord *Rosania*

Taste and See *Various Composers*

Spirit and Grace *Manalo*

Take and Eat *Joncas*

**Recessional Bride—and Groom**

Joyful, Joyful We Adore You *Beethoven*

HYMN TO JOY *Beethoven*

Hornpipe *Handel*

Trumpet Tune *Purcell*

The Rejoicing *Handel*

Rigaudon *Campra*

## **DEADLINES**

To ensure that your wedding day goes smoothly and as planned, the staff of Our Lady of Good Counsel asks that you adhere to the deadlines mentioned in this booklet. This includes completing all of your paperwork, Pre-Cana requirements, and paying of the appropriate fees associated with your wedding. **Everything concerning your wedding must be received by the appropriate person at OLGC at least six (6) months BEFORE your wedding.**

### **Six Months Deadlines Checklist:**

#### **Initial Requirements**

- Confirm your wedding date and time with the Records Manager-jleague@olgcva.org
- Confirm your rehearsal date and time with the Records Manager-jleague@olgcva.org
- Sign up for one (1) Diocesan Preparation Program.

#### **Parish Meetings**

- Pay your OLGC wedding fee to the Director of Music.
- Meet with the Director of Music to select the liturgical music.

#### **Turn in the following documents to your priest:**

- Baptismal certificates
- Certificate of Attendance from your Diocesan Preparation Program
- Affidavits of Free Status to Marry
- Give your marriage license to your priest.
- All information regarding your Mass/Ceremony to the Director of Music