

For your assistance, all instructions are in red, please do not include them in your booklet.

Priest: *(insert Name of Priest)*

THE ORDER OF CELEBRATING MATRIMONY WITHOUT MASS BETWEEN A CATHOLIC AND A NON-BAPTISED

- **Bridal Procession**
 - **Opening Hymn**
- **The Rite of Reception**
- **The Liturgy of the Word**
 - **First Reading**
 - **Responsorial Psalm**
 - **Second Reading** (if desired)
 - **Gospel Acclamation**
 - **Gospel**
 - **Homily**
- **The Celebration of Matrimony**
 - **The Questions before the Consent**
 - **The Consent**
 - **The Reception of the Consent**
 - **The Blessing and giving of rings**
- **The Universal Prayer**
- **The Nuptial Blessing**
- **The Solemn Blessing**
- **The Conclusion of the Celebration**
 - **Hymn**
 - **Signing of the register**
- **Recessional Hymn**

Bridal Procession

(Please stand)

Opening Hymn:

The Introductory Rites

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

All: Amen

Father: The Lord be with you

All: And with your spirit.

Father: *(Insert Name of the Groom)* and *(Insert Name of the Bride)*, the Church shares your joy

and warmly welcomes you,

together with your families and friends,

as today you establish between yourselves

a lifelong partnership.

For believers God is the source of love and fidelity,

because God is love.

So let us listen attentively to his word,

and let us humbly pray to him,

that he may grant you your hearts' desire

and fulfil every one of your prayers.

Candle Ceremony

This candle ceremony is not compulsory; however, if you wish to have it, you need to supply 3 candles. It is customary to have the family name/surname of the bride on one candle and of the groom on another, the third, being the unity candle, has the Christian/First name of the Bride and Groom (sometimes with the date of the wedding).

(Insert the name/s of the representative/s of the Bride's Family) and (Insert the name/s of the representative/s of the Groom's Family) will light the family candles

Father: We use symbols to communicate many of our thoughts and feelings towards other people. On a deeper religious level, Jesus used symbols and signs as visible ways of expressing invisible reality, namely His saving presence in our midst.

In the wedding liturgy, candlelight symbolises the commitment of love (Insert Name of the Groom) and (Insert Name of the Bride), are declaring today.

Before you on the altar you see three special wedding candles; the two smaller candles symbolise the lives of (Insert Name of the Groom) and (Insert Name of the Bride), until today. Now, they have come to publicly proclaim their love in the union of marriage.

(Please be seated)

The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading

(Please select a First Reading from the approved choices and insert the text here)

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm:

(Please select a Responsorial Psalm from the approved choices and insert the text here)

Second Reading (if desired) - always from the New Testament

(Please select a Second Reading from the approved choices and insert the text here)

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

(Please stand)

Gospel Acclamation

If your wedding is being celebrated during Lent (the time from Ash Wednesday to Easter, please browse Catholic Calendar on the internet to confirm dates), the “Alleluia” introduction is replaced with:

“Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory”

(Please select a Gospel Acclamation from the approved choices and insert the text here)

Gospel

Father: The Lord be with you

All: And with your spirit.

Father: A reading from the Holy Gospel according to

All: Glory to you, O Lord

(Please select a Gospel Reading from the approved choices and insert the text here)

Father: The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

(Please be seated)

Homily

The Celebration of Matrimony

Father: Dearly beloved,
you have come together here
before a minister of the Church
and in the presence of the community
so that your intention to enter into Marriage
may be strengthened by the Lord with a sacred seal,
and your love be enriched with his blessing,

so that you may have strength
to be faithful to each other for ever
and to assume all the responsibilities of married life.
And so, in the presence of the Church,
I ask you to state your intentions.

The Questions before the Consent

Father: (Insert Name of the Groom) and (Insert Name of the Bride), have you come here to enter into Marriage without coercion, freely and wholeheartedly?

Insert Name of the Groom: I have

Insert Name of the Bride: I have

Father: Are you prepared, as you follow the path of Marriage, to love and honour each other for as long as you both shall live?

Insert Name of the Groom: I am

Insert Name of the Bride: I am

Father: Are you prepared to accept children lovingly from God and to bring them up according to the law of Christ and his Church?

Insert Name of the Groom: I am

Insert Name of the Bride: I am

The Consent

Father: Since it is your intention to enter the covenant of Holy Matrimony, join your right hands and declare your consent before God and his Church.

They join their right hands.

I, **Insert Name of the Groom.**, take you, **Insert Name of the Bride.**, to be my wife.

I promise to be faithful to you,
in good times and in bad,
in sickness and in health,
to love you and to honour you
all the days of my life.

I, **Insert Name of the Bride.**, take you, **Insert Name of the Groom.**, to be my husband.

I promise to be faithful to you,
in good times and in bad,
in sickness and in health,
to love you and to honour you
all the days of my life.

The Reception of the Consent

Father: May the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, the God of Jacob,
the God who joined together our first parents in paradise,
strengthen and bless in Christ
the consent you have declared before the Church,
so that what God joins together, no one may put asunder.

Father: Let us bless the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

The Blessing and Giving of Rings

Father: May the Lord bless † these rings,
which you will give to each other
as a sign of love and fidelity.

All: Amen.

Husband: **Insert Name of the Bride**, receive this ring as a sign of my love and fidelity.

Wife: **Insert Name of the Groom**, receive this ring as a sign of my love and fidelity.

Candle Ceremony

Only if you have chosen to include the candle ceremony

Father: Now, following the profession of their marital consent, (**Insert Name of the Groom**) and (**Insert Name of the Bride**), will light the large centre candle from the other candles to symbolise a new reality. They do not lose their individuality. Yet in marriage, they are united in so close a bond, that they become one. As two lights are now blended into one, so two lives are blended into one. May you be one in name, one in aim and one in happy destiny together.

The Universal Prayer

(please stand)

Father: Dear brothers and sisters,
let us accompany this new family with our prayers,
that the mutual love of this couple may grow daily
and that God in his kindness
will sustain all families throughout the world.

(Insert Name of Reader): For this bride and groom,
and for their well-being as a family,
let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, we ask you, hear our prayer.

(Insert Name of Reader): For their relatives and friends,
and for all who have assisted this couple,
let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, we ask you, hear our prayer.

(Insert Name of Reader): For young people preparing to enter Marriage,
and for all whom the Lord is calling to another state in life,
let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, we ask you, hear our prayer.

(Insert Name of Reader): For all families throughout the world
and for lasting peace among all people,
let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, we ask you, hear our prayer.

(Insert Name of Reader): For all members of our families
who have passed from this world,
and for all the departed,
let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, we ask you, hear our prayer.

(Insert Name of Reader): For the Church, the holy People of God,
and for unity among all Christians,
let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, we ask you, hear our prayer.

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Father: Lord Jesus, who are present in our midst,
as **(Insert Name of the Groom)** and **(Insert Name of the Bride)**, seal their union
accept our prayer
and fill us with your Spirit.
Who live and reign for ever and ever.
R. Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Father: God the Father wills that his children be of one heart in charity;
let those who are Christian call upon him
in the prayer of God's family,

which our Lord Jesus Christ has taught us:

All: 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.
Amen

Nuptial Blessing

Father: Now let us humbly invoke God's blessing
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.

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 Marriage covenant.
May your abundant blessing, Lord,
come down upon this bride, **(Insert Name of the Bride)**,
and upon **(Insert Name of the Groom)**, 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 recognised as virtuous parents).
In happiness may they praise you, O Lord,

Page 9 of 11

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.

All: Amen.

Solemn blessing

Father: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

Father: Bow down for the blessing.

May God the all-powerful Father grant you his joy
and bless you in your children.

All: Amen.

Father: May the Only Begotten Son of God
stand by you with compassion in good times and in bad.

All: Amen.

Father: May the Holy Spirit of God
always pour forth his love into your hearts.

All: Amen.

Father: And may almighty God bless all of you, who are gathered here,
the Father, and the Son, † and the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

The Conclusion of the Celebration

Hymn

Signing of the register

Recessional Hymn