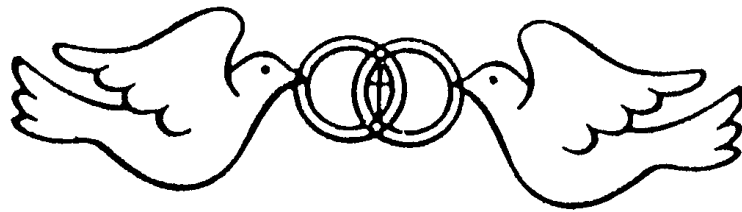


# The Rite of Christian Marriage



## Readings and Music Selections



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## Wedding Readings

### FIRST READINGS

**Genesis 1:26-28, 31a** *Male and female he created them.*

**Tobit 8:4b-8** *Allow us to live together to a happy old age.*

**Sirach 26:1-4, 13-16** *Like the sun rising in the Lord's heavens,  
the beauty of virtuous wife is the radiance of her home.*

**Jeremiah 31:31-32a, 33-34a** *I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel  
and the house of Judah.*

### SECOND READINGS

**Romans 12:1-2, 9-18** *Offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to  
God.*

**Romans 15:1b-3a, 5-7, 13** *Welcome one another as Christ welcomed you.*

**1 Corinthians 12:31-13:8a** *If I do not have love, I gain nothing.*

**Philippians 4:4-9** *The God of peace will be with you.*

**Colossians 3:12-17** *And over all these put on love, that is, the bond of perfection.*

**1 John 4:7-12** *God is love.*

### GOSPEL

**Matthew 5:13-16** *You are the light of the world.*

**Matthew 22:35-40** *This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second is  
like it.*

**Mark 10:6-9** *They are no longer two, but one flesh.*

**John 2:1-11** *Jesus did this as the beginning of his signs in Cana in Galilee.*

**John 15:9-12** *Remain in my love.*

**FIRST READING** Genesis 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** Tobit 8:4b-8

A Reading from the Book of Tobit

On their wedding night Tobiah arose from bed and said to his wife, "Sister, get up. Let us pray and beg our Lord to have mercy on us and to grant us deliverance."

Sarah got up, and they started to pray and beg that deliverance might be theirs.

They 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** 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 a 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 Lord's heavens,  
the beauty of a virtuous wife is the radiance of her home.

The Word of the Lord.

**FIRST READING** 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.

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

A Reading from the Letter of Saint 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** 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** Philippians 4:4-9

A Reading from the Letter of Saint 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 seen in me.

Then the God of peace will be with you.

The Word of the Lord.

**SECOND READING** Colossians 3:12-17

A Reading from the Letter of Saint 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 of Christ 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** 1 John 4:7-12

A Reading from the first Letter of Saint 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.

**GOSPEL** Matthew 5:13-16

A Reading from the Holy Gospel According to Matthew

Jesus said to his disciples: “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 lamp  
stand, 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** 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** Matthew 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** 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. Then he 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 servants 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** 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 might be in you and your joy might be complete.

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

The Gospel of the Lord.

## Music Selections for Weddings

### **Prelude, Processional and Recessional:**

Allegro Maestoso (Handel)  
Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee  
Trumpet Voluntary (Clark)  
Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring (Bach)  
Canon In D (Pachelbel)  
Rondeau (Handel)  
Trumpet Tune (Purcell)  
Arioso (Bach)  
Old Hundredth (Brock)  
Ave Maria  
Largo / Holy Art Thou (Handel)  
Aria in F Major (Handel)  
Psalm XIX (Marcello)  
Solemn Processional / Water Music Suite (Handel)

### **Vocal Solo / Instrumental Music:**

Ave Maria  
Prayer of St. Francis  
The King of Love My Shepherd Is  
Be Thou My Vision  
Panis Angelicus  
Gift of Finest Wheat (Communion)  
Here I Am Lord  
I Am The Bread of Life (Communion)  
Hail Mary, Gentle Woman

### **Responsorial Psalm:**

Psalm 103 The Lord Is Kind and Merciful  
Psalm 118 This is the Day the Lord Has Made  
Psalm 128 Blest Are Those Who Love You



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