



Readings

for a

Roman Catholic Wedding

St. Teresa's Parish
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*Served by the Redemptorists -
St. Alphonsus Founder*

ST. TERESA'S PARISH

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BOOK OF READINGS FOR CATHOLIC MARRIAGES

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GUIDELINES FOR THE SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE
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The staff of St. Teresa's Parish extends congratulations to those engaged to be married. The decision to enter into marriage is a serious one, and can serve as a great sign of commitment, faith, and hope. If considering a wedding at St. Teresa's Parish, the following guidelines will help to answer many questions and assist in planning your marriage in the sight of God and before family and friends.

Please read these guidelines carefully.

Introduction

In the eyes of the Church, marriage is a covenant in which a man and a woman establish a lifelong partnership. The nature of the Sacrament of Matrimony orders the good of the spouses and the procreation and education of offspring. A marriage between individuals who have been baptized is one that Christ the Lord has raised to the dignity of a sacrament. In this sacrament spouses receive the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is the seal of the marriage covenant.

The marriage of any Catholic is governed not only by divine law but also by church, or canon law, and is without prejudice to the competence of the civil authority concerning the civil effects of marriage.

PART I: Preliminaries

Date and Time

Before any other arrangements have been made, contact the parish office to check for available wedding dates and times. Weddings at St. Teresa's are usually scheduled on Fridays at 3:00 p.m. and on Saturdays at 1:00 p.m. or 3:00 p.m. Since we have a limited number of spaces available for weddings and some paperwork must be completed beforehand, we suggest contacting us a year in advance; at the very least six months notice is required. Wedding ceremonies do not usually occur during Lent. Before a date and time for the wedding is confirmed, couples must meet privately with one of the parish priests. **Contact the parish office at 709-579-0065.**

For Those Previously Married

An individual who has been previously married and is now seeking marriage in the Catholic Church must obtain a Declaration of Nullity or Freedom to Marry before a wedding date is booked. These documents are issued by an ecclesiastical Marriage Tribunal (a diocesan office). This step is necessary even if the previously married party is non-Catholic or if the previous marriage was entered into outside of the Catholic Church. This step is not necessary if the former spouse is deceased. Any questions can be answered by one of the parish priests.

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Documentary Requirements

An exchange of the vows of love and fidelity in the Catholic Church is a careful procedure. The Church is responsible for discerning a couple's intentions and capacities for making this promise, as a result several documents will be required. The following is a list of such documents:

Prenuptial Interview

The purpose of the prenuptial interview is to determine the couple's freedom to marry in the Catholic Church. Contact one of the parish priests to arrange an interview. Proof of identification must be brought to this interview. If both individuals, or the Catholic party, lives outside the Archdiocese of St. John's, one of the parish priests can give directions as to where and by whom the prenuptial interview and wedding file must be completed.

Certificate of Completion of a Marriage Preparation Course

Marriage Preparation Courses are designed to assist the couple in building a successful marriage by deepening their understanding of each other and by addressing issues of communication, finance, psychology, faith, sexuality, and family living. Marriage Preparation courses are offered occasionally by St. Teresa's Parish and by the Archdiocese of St. John's. They may also be completed at another Catholic parish or in another diocese. Information on such courses are available at: www.stteresa.ca (see Marriage Ministry link) or <http://rcsj.org/family-life/marriageprep>.

Baptismal Certificate

In the case of Catholics, the Baptismal Certificate should be newly issued and dated any time after the initial interview with the priest. Catholics should contact the parish where they were baptized, inform them of the upcoming marriage, and either pick up the certificate or have it sent to St. Teresa's Parish. The mailing address of the parish of baptism must be provided along with the documents. In the case of a fiancé(e) who is a non-Catholic Christian, a copy of his or her original baptismal certificate plus a signed letter from a parent stating that he or she has never been previously married are necessary. The letter should be dated and include contact information. In the case of a fiancé(e) who is non-Christian, a signed letter from his or her parents will suffice. This letter should state that he or she has never been baptized, and was not previously married; it must be dated and include contact information. If the individual's parents are deceased, another person who has known that individual since childhood must vouch for their previous marital history in writing. These are essential documents and should be collected as early as possible and brought to the office where they will be kept in the wedding file.

Record of Confirmation

When a Catholic receives the Sacrament of Confirmation, a notification is ordinarily sent back to the parish of baptism and it is recorded in their register. This should appear on the

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newly issued baptismal certificate. If it does not appear here, a copy of the original Confirmation certificate will suffice. Please note that a Catholic can still be married in the Church without being confirmed, but it is highly recommended that one receive the Sacrament of Confirmation before marriage occurs. Anyone seeking Confirmation is asked to contact the parish office. If approached early enough the necessary preparation can be given and the sacrament can be received.

Civil Marriage License

The Civil Marriage license is a necessary civil document for your marriage. All persons marrying in the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador must obtain a Marriage License. It is obtained from the Department of Service Newfoundland and Labrador, 5 Mews Place, St. John's, 709-729-3308, website: www.gs.gov.nl.ca/birth/getting_married/index.html.

Marriage licenses in Newfoundland are valid for 30 days from the date of issue. The fee for a marriage license is \$50.00. Applications must be made at least eight days before the anticipated date of marriage. There is a four day waiting period from the time when the application is made and when the license is issued. There is a further four day waiting period between the time the priest receives the license and when the ceremony can be performed. The priest performing the marriage is responsible for completing and returning it to the Department of Service Newfoundland and Labrador and so it must be brought to the parish office to be included in the wedding file.

Church Fees

St. Teresa's parish seeks to provide for the spiritual needs of its parishioners. The wedding offering assists in covering the expenses incurred by the parish in helping to celebrate the wedding day. These expenses include maintenance and upkeep of the church (including heating, lighting, cleaning and repairs), and the time needed for the priest and staff to prepare for and celebrate your wedding. The parish offering for weddings is \$200.00 (\$100.00 each for the parish and the priest). This fee does not include musicians, who have separate fees (see below). These fees are to be paid before the wedding and should be given to the priest or delivered to the parish office. These fees may change without notice.

Your Contact Information

If your contact information changes at any time, it is your responsibility to inform St. Teresa's Parish. If we cannot contact you, we cannot guarantee your scheduled time and date; we will presume that your wedding is cancelled.

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PART II: The Wedding Celebration

The Ceremony

A Nuptial Mass with Holy Communion is recommended for a Catholic marrying another Catholic. We recommend a Wedding Ceremony without Holy Communion for a Catholic marrying a non-Catholic Christian, or a Catholic marrying a person of another religion. The priest will help to determine which option is best. He will also assist in planning many other details for the ceremony.

A wedding is a joyful and exciting occasion but it is important to keep in mind that St. Teresa's Church is a sacred place for witnessing the wedding vows before God. An atmosphere of reverence and respect is to be maintained at all times.

Readings

Scripture readings appropriate for use at weddings follows this. Non-scriptural readings, song verses, or poems are never permitted. Couples are welcome to choose relatives and friends who are good proclaimers to proclaim the reading(s) and the General Intercessions. The priest reads the Gospel.

Music

The couple, in consultation with the Music Director and Organist, Megan Buffett, plans music for the wedding. He can make particular recommendations and give advice. The organist can meet with the couple to choose the music, or he can choose a program of suitable music. There is normally an organist and cantor (singer) for every wedding. St. Teresa's Parish has several professional singers who regularly sing for weddings. It is preferable to use our singers, since they are accustomed to our liturgical practices. We also have a number of professional instrumentalists (e.g. trumpet, flute, violin, etc.) who regularly play at St. Teresa's Parish and could play for the wedding. The cantor and any other musicians are to be booked through our organist.

At a Catholic wedding the emphasis must be on liturgical music that gives honour and glory to God, whose blessings we invoke on the union of the bride and groom. As the Wedding Ritual puts it: "Music in Catholic worship must express the worship of God for the mystery of love God created and transforms in this sacrament." For this reason St. Teresa's Parish does not allow any secular music, such as popular love songs or themes from movies. Recorded music is not permitted. These points should be kept in mind when planning your wedding at St. Teresa's Parish. Our organist is entrusted with the task of judging the suitability of musical selections within the context of a Catholic wedding; he must approve all music chosen for the ceremony.

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Our organist is responsible for music at all weddings. If for some reason other musicians are permitted to provide music our organist is paid a bench fee of \$75. Payments are due at St. Teresa's Parish office before the wedding. The organist is paid \$125 and the cantor is paid \$125. Other instrumentalists (trumpet, flute, etc.) may have different fees. A meeting with Ms. Buffett to plan music is an extra \$25 fee. These fees may change without notice.

The Music Director, **Noreen Green Fraise**, may be contacted at 709-749-8206, or by email ngreenefraize@hotmail.com

Rehearsal

Rehearsals should be booked through the priest well in advance of the ceremony. They usually occur a few days before the wedding after all participants have arrived. Rehearsals last about 45 minutes. Please meet inside the main entrance of the church, and as with the ceremony itself, punctuality is presumed.

If there is to be a flower girl or ring bearer, they too should be present at the rehearsal. It is suggested that children performing these roles be at least 4 years of age.

Flowers

Arrangements are left to the couple's choice. They are to be placed with the approval of the priest. Please arrange for removal of decorations immediately after the ceremony. We respectfully ask that no confetti, rice and anything similar be thrown inside or outside the church. We also ask that bubbles and flower petals not be used inside the church.

The Unity Candle

The Unity Candle has emerged in contemporary times as an additional "symbol of unity" at weddings. It is not a part of the Roman Catholic wedding ritual. The real symbol and sacrament of unity are the vows. The rings that are exchanged as a sign of love and fidelity also symbolize the permanence of the marriage vows.

Photographs & Video Recording

Photographers and videographers and their assistants are welcome. Because of the sacred nature of the ceremony they must remain respectful and unobtrusive at all times. They are not to stand on the pews, nor may they enter the sanctuary (beyond the first step from the main aisle) during the ceremony. If there is a Mass they are not to take photographs during that part of the ceremony. Only at the signing of the register may a designated photographer enter the sanctuary. No extra lighting equipment is to be used. Photographers and videographers should introduce themselves to the priest and consult with him before the ceremony.

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Wheelchair and Disability Access

There is a ramp leading into the church from the parking lot on the West side. There is also an elevator that leads to the basement level where there are wheelchair accessible washrooms.

Contact Information:

St. Teresa's Parish
120 Mundy Pond Road
St. John's NL A1E 1V1
Telephone: 709-579-0065
Fax: 709-579-3804
www.stteresa.ca

Pastor:

Fr. Tom O'Rourke, C.Ss.R.

Associate Pastors:

Fr. Tony Bidgood, C.Ss.R.
Fr. Tomy Joseph, C.Ss.R.

ST. TERESA'S PARISH
SCRIPTURE SELECTIONS

THE FIRST READING
(from the Old Testament)

READINGS FOR A CATHOLIC WEDDING:

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1	Genesis 1:26-28, 31	Male and female God created them
2	Genesis 2:18-24	And they will be two in one flesh
3 & 4	Genesis 24:48-51, 58-67	The marriage of Isaac and Rebekah
5 & 6	Tobit 7:9-10a, 11b-14	The marriage of Tobias and Sarah
7	Tobit 8:5-7a	The prayer of a young couple
8	Song of Solomon 2:8-10, 14, 16a; 8:6-7a	Love is a divine fire
9	Sirach 26:1-4, 13-16	Woman: the light of the home
10	Jeremiah 31:31-34	God makes a covenant

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READINGS FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT (First Reading)
FOR A CATHOLIC WEDDING

Page 1

Genesis 1:26-28, 31a

A Reading from the book of Genesis

**Then God said, "Let us make humankind in our image,
according to our likeness;
and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea,
and over the birds of the air,
and over the cattle,
and over all the wild animals of the earth,
and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth."**

**So God created humankind in his image,
in the image of God he created them;
male and female he created them.**

**God blessed them, and God said to them,
"Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it;
and have dominion over the fish of the sea
and over the birds of the air
and over every living thing that moves upon the earth."**

**God saw everything that he had made,
and indeed, it was very good.**

And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

The word of the Lord.

Response: *Thanks be to God.*

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READINGS FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT (First Reading)
FOR A CATHOLIC WEDDING

Page 2

Genesis 2:18-24

A Reading from the book of Genesis

Then the Lord God said,

**"It is not good that the man should be alone;
I will make him a helper as his partner."**

So out of the ground the Lord God formed

**every animal of the field and every bird of the air,
and brought them to the man
to see what he would call them;
and whatever the man called every living creature,
that was its name.**

**The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air,
and to every animal of the field;**

**but for the man there was not found a helper
as his partner.**

**So the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man,
and he slept;**

**then he took one of his ribs
and closed up its place with flesh.**

**And the rib that the Lord God had taken from the man
he made into a woman and brought her to the man.**

Then the man said,

**"This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh;
this one shall be called Woman,
for out of Man this one was taken."**

**Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother
and clings to his wife,**

and they become one flesh.

The word of the Lord.

Response: *Thanks be to God.*

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READINGS FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT (First Reading)
FOR A CATHOLIC WEDDING

Page 3

Genesis 24:48-51, 58-67

A reading from the book of Genesis

**Abraham's servant said to Laban;
"Then I bowed my head and worshiped the Lord,
and blessed the Lord, the God of my master Abraham,
who had led me by the right way
to obtain the daughter of my master's kinsman for his son.**

**Now then, if you will deal loyally
and truly with my master, tell me;
and if not, tell me,
so that I may turn either to the right hand or to the left."**

**Then Laban and Bethuel answered,
"The thing comes from the Lord;
we cannot speak to you anything bad or good.
Look, Rebekah is before you, take her and go,
and let her be the wife of your master's son,
as the Lord has spoken."**

**And they called Rebekah, and said to her,
"Will you go with this man?"**

She said, "I will."

**So they sent away their sister Rebekah and her nurse
along with Abraham's servant and his men.**

**And they blessed Rebekah and said to her,
"May you, our sister, become thousands of myriads;
may your offspring gain possession
of the gates of their foes."**

**Then Rebekah and her maids rose up, mounted the camels,
and followed the man;
thus the servant took Rebekah, and went his way.**

**Now Isaac had come from Beer-lahai-roi,
and was settled in the Negeb.**

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READINGS FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT (First Reading)
FOR A CATHOLIC WEDDING

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(Genesis 24:48-51, 58-67 continued)

**Isaac went out in the evening to walk in the field;
and looking up, he saw camels coming.
And Rebekah looked up, and when she saw Isaac,
she slipped quickly from the camel, and said to the servant,
"Who is the man over there,
walking in the field to meet us?"
The servant said, "It is my master."
So she took her veil and covered herself.
And the servant told Isaac all things that he had done.
Then Isaac brought her into his mother Sarah's tent.
He took Rebekah, and she became his wife;
and he loved her.
So Isaac was comforted after his mother's death.**

The word of the Lord.

Response: *Thanks be to God.*

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READINGS FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT (First Reading)
FOR A CATHOLIC WEDDING

Page 5

Tobit 7:9-10a, 11b-14

A Reading from the book of Tobit

**Then Raguel slaughtered a ram from the flock
and received them very warmly.
When they had bathed and washed themselves
and had reclined to dine, Tobias said to Raphael,
"Brother Azariah, ask Raguel to give me
my kinswoman Sarah."
But Raguel overheard it and said to the lad,
"Eat and drink, and be merry tonight.
For no one except you, brother,
has the right to marry my daughter Sarah.
Likewise I am not at liberty to give her to any other man
than yourself, because you are my nearest relative.
But now, my child, eat and drink, and the Lord will act
on behalf of you both."
But Tobias said, "I will neither eat nor drink anything
until you settle the things that pertain to me."
So Raguel said, "I will do so. She is given to you in accordance
with the decree in the book of Moses
and it has been decreed from heaven
that she be given to you.
Take your kinswoman;
from now on you are her brother
and she is your sister.
She is given to you from today and forever.
May the Lord of heaven, my child,
guide and prosper you both this night.
and grant you mercy and peace."
Then Raguel summoned his daughter Sarah.
When she came to him he took her by the hand
and gave her to Tobias, saying,**

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READINGS FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT (First Reading)
FOR A CATHOLIC WEDDING

Page 6

(Tobit 7:9-10a, 11b-14 continued)

**"Take her to be your wife
in accordance with the law and decree
written in the book of Moses.
Take her and bring her safely to your father.
And may the God of heaven prosper your journey
with his peace."**

**Then he called her mother
and told her to bring writing material;
and he wrote out a copy of a marriage contract,
to the effect that he gave her to him as his wife
according to the decree of the law of Moses.**

Then they began to eat and drink.

The word of the Lord.

Response: *Thanks be to God.*

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READINGS FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT (First Reading)
FOR A CATHOLIC WEDDING

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Tobit 8:5-7a

A Reading from the book of Tobit

**Tobias and Sarah began to pray and implore
that they might be kept safe.**

Tobias began by saying,

**"Blessed are you, O God of our ancestors,
and blessed is your name in all generations forever.
Let the heavens and the whole creation bless you forever.
You made Adam, and for him you made his wife Eve
as a helper and support.
From the two of them the human race has sprung.
You said, 'It is not good that the man should be alone;
let us make a helper for him like himself.'
I now am taking this kinswoman of mine,
not because of lust,
but with sincerity.
Grant that she and I may find mercy
and that we may grow old together."**

The word of the Lord.

Response: *Thanks be to God.*

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READINGS FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT (First Reading)
FOR A CATHOLIC WEDDING

Page 8

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

A Reading from the Song of Songs

**The voice of my beloved;
look, he comes, leaping upon the mountains,
bounding over the hills,
my beloved is like a gazelle or a young stag,
look, there he stands behind our wall,
gazing in at the windows,
looking through the lattice.**

My beloved speaks and says to me:

**"Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away;
O my dove, in the clefts of the rock, in the covert of the cliff,
let me see your face, let me hear your voice;
for your voice is sweet, and your face is lovely."**

My beloved is mine and I am his.

**Set me as a seal upon your heart,
as a seal upon your arm;
for love is strong as death, passion fierce as the grave.**

Its flashes are flashes of fire, a raging flame.

Many waters cannot quench love, neither can floods drown it.

The word of the Lord.

Response: *Thanks be to God.*

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READINGS FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT (First Reading)
FOR A CATHOLIC WEDDING

Page 9

Sirach 26:1-4, 13-16

A Reading from the book of Sirach

**Happy is the husband of a good wife;
the number of his days will be doubled.**

**A loyal wife brings joy to her husband,
and he will complete his years in peace.**

**A good wife is a great blessing;
she will be granted among the blessings
of the man who fears the Lord.**

**Whether rich or poor, his heart is content,
and at all times his face is cheerful.**

**A wife's charm delights her husband,
and her skill puts flesh on his bones.**

**A silent wife is a gift from the Lord,
and nothing is so precious as her self-discipline.**

**A modest wife adds charm to charm,
and no scales can weigh the value of her chastity.**

**Like the sun rising in the heights of the Lord,
so is the beauty of a good wife in her well-ordered home.**

The word of the Lord.

Response: *Thanks be to God.*

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READINGS FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT (First Reading)
FOR A CATHOLIC WEDDING

Page 10

Jeremiah 31:31-34

A Reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah

**The days are surely 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 that I made with their ancestors
when I took them by the hand
to bring them out of the land of Egypt -
a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband,
says the Lord.**

**But this is the covenant that I will make
with the house of Israel after those days,
says the Lord: I will put my law within them,
and I will write it on their hearts;
and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.**

**No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other,
"Know the Lord,"
for they shall all know me,
from the least of them to the greatest,
says the Lord; for I will forgive their inquiry,
and remember their sin no more.**

The word of the Lord.

Response: *Thanks be to God.*

ST. TERESA'S PARISH
SCRIPTURE SELECTIONS

THE SECOND READING
(from the New Testament)

READINGS FOR A CATHOLIC WEDDING:

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1	Romans 8:31-35, 37-39	Who will separate us from the love of Christ?
2	Romans 12:1-2, 9-18a	The new life of Christians
3	1 Corinthians 6:13c - 15a, 17-20	Your body is a temple of the Spirit
4	1 Corinthians 12:31-13:8	Love will never pass away
5	Ephesians 5:2a, 21-33	Live in love, like Christ
6	Colossians 3:12-17	Love is the bond of perfection
7	1 Peter 3:1-9	The unity and peace of the Christian Home
8	1 John 3:18-24	A true love
9	1 John 4:7-12	God is love
10	Revelation 19:1, 5-9a	The wedding feast

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READINGS FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT (Second Reading)
FOR A CATHOLIC WEDDING

Page 1

Romans 8:31-35, 37-39

A Reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans

**What then are we to say about these things?
If God is for us, who is against us?
He who did not withhold his own Son,
 but gave him up for all of us,
 will he not with him also give us everything else?
Who will bring any charge against God's elect?
It is God who justifies.
Who is to condemn?
It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised,
 who is at the right hand of God,
 who indeed intercedes for us.
Who will separate us from the love of Christ?
Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine,
 or nakedness, or peril, or sword?
No, in all these things we are more than conquerors
 through him who loved us.
For I am convinced that neither death, nor life,
 nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present,
 nor things to come,
 nor powers, nor height, nor depth,
 nor anything else in all creation,
 will be able to separate us from the love of God
 in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

The word of the Lord.

Response: *Thanks be to God.*

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READINGS FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT (Second Reading)
FOR A CATHOLIC WEDDING

Page 2

Romans 12:1-2, 9-18a

A Reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans

**I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters,
by the mercies of God,
to present your bodies as a living sacrifice,
holy and acceptable to God,
which is your spiritual worship.**

**Do not be conformed to this world,
but be transformed by the renewing of your minds,
so that you may discern what is the will of God -
what is good and acceptable and perfect.**

**Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good;
love one another with mutual affection;
outdo one another in showing honour.**

**Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord.
Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering,
persevere in prayer.**

**Contribute to the needs of the saints;
extend hospitality to strangers.**

**Bless those who persecute you;
bless and do not curse them.**

**Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep.
Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty,
but associate with the lowly;
do not claim to be wiser than you are.**

**Do not repay anyone evil for evil,
but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all.**

If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.

The word of the Lord.

Response: *Thanks be to God.*

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READINGS FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT (Second Reading)
FOR A CATHOLIC WEDDING

Page 3

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

A Reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians

**The body is for the Lord, and the Lord for the body.
And God raised the Lord and will also raise us by his power.
Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ?
Anyone united to the Lord becomes one spirit with him.
Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit
within you, which you have from God,
and that you are not your own?
For you were bought with a price;
therefore glorify God in your body.**

The word of the Lord.

Response: *Thanks be to God.*

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READINGS FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT (Second Reading)
FOR A CATHOLIC WEDDING

Page 4

1 Corinthians 12:31 - 13:8

A Reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians

Strive for the greater gifts.

And I will show you a still more excellent way.

**If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels,
but do not have love,**

I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal.

And if I have prophetic powers,

**and understand all mysteries and all knowledge,
and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains,
but do not have love, I am nothing.**

If I give away all my possessions,

**and I hand over my body so that I may boast,
but not have love, I gain nothing.**

Love is patient; Love is kind;

love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude.

It does not insist on its own way;

it is not irritable or resentful;

**it does not rejoice in wrongdoing,
but rejoices in the truth.**

It bears all things, believes all things,

hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never ends.

The word of the Lord.

Response: *Thanks be to God.*

ST. TERESA'S PARISH
READINGS FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT (Second Reading)
FOR A CATHOLIC WEDDING

Page 5

Ephesians 5:2a, 21-33

A Reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians

**Live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us,
a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.
Be subject to one another out of reverence for Christ.
Wives, be subject to your husbands as you are to the Lord.
For the husband is the head of the wife just as Christ is the
head of the Church, the body of which he is the Saviour.
Just as the Church is subject to Christ, so also wives ought to
be in everything, to their husbands.**

**Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the Church
and gave himself up for her, in order to make her holy
by cleansing her with the washing of water by the word,
so as to present the Church to himself in splendour,
without a spot or wrinkle or anything of the kind -
yes, so that she may be holy without blemish.
In the same way, husbands should love their wives
as they do their own bodies.
He who loves his wife loves himself.
For no one ever hates his own body, but he nourishes and
tenderly cares for it, just as Christ does for the Church,
because we are members of his body.
"For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be
joined to his wife, and the two will become one flesh."
This is a great mystery,
and I am applying it to Christ and the Church.
Each of you, however, should love his wife as himself,
and a wife should respect her husband.**

The word of the Lord.

Response: *Thanks be to God.*

ST. TERESA'S PARISH
READINGS FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT (Second Reading)
FOR A CATHOLIC WEDDING

Page 6

Colossians 3:12-17

A Reading from the letter of Paul to the Colossians

**As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved,
 clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility
 meekness, and patience.**

**Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint
 against another, forgive each other;
 just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.**

**Above all, clothe yourselves with love,
 which binds everything together in perfect harmony.**

**And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts,
 to which indeed you were called in the one body.**

And be thankful.

**Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly;
 teach and admonish one another in all wisdom;
 and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns,
 and spiritual songs to God.**

**And whatever you do, in word or deed,
 do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus,
 giving thanks to God the Father through him.**

The word of the Lord.

Response: *Thanks be to God.*

ST. TERESA'S PARISH
READINGS FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT (Second Reading)
FOR A CATHOLIC WEDDING

Page 7

1 Peter 3:1-9

A Reading from the first letter of Peter

**Wives, accept the authority of your husbands, so that,
even if some of them do not obey the word,
they may be won over without a word
by their wives' conduct,
when they see the purity and reverence of your lives.**

**Do not adorn yourselves outwardly by braiding your hair,
and by wearing gold ornaments or fine clothing;
rather, let your adornment be the inner self
with the lasting beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit,
which is very precious in God's sight.**

**It was in this way long ago that the holy women
who hoped in God used to adorn themselves
by accepting the authority of their husbands.
Thus Sarah obeyed Abraham and called him lord.
You have become her daughters as long as you do
what is good and never let fears alarm you.**

**Husbands, in the same way,
show consideration for your wives in your life together,
paying honour to the woman as the weaker sex,
since they too are also heirs of the gracious gift of life -
so that nothing may hinder your prayers.**

**Finally, all of you, have unity of spirit, sympathy,
love for one another, a tender heart, and humble mind.**

**Do not repay evil for evil or abuse for abuse;
but on the contrary, repay with a blessing.**

**It is for this that you were called -
that you might inherit a blessing.**

The word of the Lord.

Response: *Thanks be to God.*

ST. TERESA'S PARISH
READINGS FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT (Second Reading)
FOR A CATHOLIC WEDDING

Page 8

1 John 3:18-24

A Reading from the first letter of John

Little children,

**let us love, not in word or speech,
but in truth and action.**

**And by this we will know that we are from the truth
and will reassure our hearts before him
whenever our hearts condemn us;
for God is greater than our hearts,
and he knows everything.**

**Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us,
we have boldness before God;
and we receive from him whatever we ask,
because we obey his commandments
and do what pleases him.**

**And this is his commandment,
that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ
and love one another,
just as he has commanded us.**

**All who obey his commandments abide in him,
and he abides in them.**

**And by this we know that he abides in us,
by the Spirit that he has given us.**

The word of the Lord.

Response: *Thanks be to God.*

ST. TERESA'S PARISH
READINGS FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT (Second Reading)
FOR A CATHOLIC WEDDING

Page 9

1 John 4:7-12

A Reading from the first letter of John

**Beloved, let us love one another,
because love is from God;
everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.
Whoever does not love does not know God,
for God is love.
God's love was revealed among us in this way:
God sent his only Son into the world
so that we might live through him.
In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us
and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins.
Beloved, since God loved us so much,
we also ought to love one another.
No one has ever seen God;
if we love one another,
God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.**

The word of the Lord.

Response: *Thanks be to God.*

ST. TERESA'S PARISH
READINGS FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT (Second Reading)
FOR A CATHOLIC WEDDING

Page 10

Revelation 19:1, 5-9a

A Reading from the book of Revelation

**After this, I John, heard what seemed to be the loud voice
of a great multitude in heaven, saying,
"Hallelujah! Salvation and glory and power to our God".**

**And from the throne came a voice saying,
"Praise our God, all you his servants,
and all who fear him, small and great."**

**Then I heard what seemed to be the voice of a great multitude,
like the sound of many waters and like the sound of mighty
thunderpeals, crying out,
"Hallelujah! For the Lord our God the Almighty reigns.
Let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory,
for the marriage of the Lamb has come,
and his bride has made herself ready;
to her it has been granted to be clothed with fine linen,
bright and pure"-
for the fine linen is the righteous deeds of the saints.**

**And the angel said to me,
"Write this: Blessed are those who are invited
to the marriage supper of the Lamb."
And he said to me, "These are true words of God."**

The word of the Lord.

Response: *Thanks be to God.*

ST TERESA'S PARISH
SCRIPTURE SELECTIONS

THE GOSPEL READING
(to be chosen and read by the Celebrant)

READINGS FOR A CATHOLIC WEDDING

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1	Matthew 5:1-12	The way to happiness
2	Matthew 5:13-16	A love that radiates
3	Matthew 7:21, 24-29	The house built on rock
4	Matthew 19:3-6	The two shall become one
5	Matthew 22:34-40	To love one another is to love God
6	Mark 10:6-9	What God has united, we must not divide
7	John 2:1-11	Jesus is present at the wedding
8	John 15:9-12	To love is to give one's life
9	John 15:12-16	Love, as I have loved you
10	John 17:20-26	May they all be one

ST TERESA'S PARISH
GOSPEL READINGS
FOR A CATHOLIC WEDDING

Page 1

Matthew 5:1-12a

A Reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew

**When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain;
and after he sat down, his disciples came to him.
Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:**

**"Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.
Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.
Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
for they will be filled.
Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.
Blessed are the pure in heart for they will see God.
Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they will be called children of God.
Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you
and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely
on my account.
Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven,
for in the same way they persecuted the prophets
who were before you."**

The gospel of the Lord.

Response: *Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.*

ST TERESA'S PARISH
GOSPEL READINGS
FOR A CATHOLIC WEDDING

Page 2

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 has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored?
It is no longer good for anything,
but is thrown out and trampled under foot.**

You are the light of the world.

A city built on a hill cannot be hid.

**No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket,
but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house.**

**In the same way, let your light shine before others,
so that they may see your good works
and give glory to your Father in heaven."**

The gospel of the Lord.

Response: *Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.*

ST TERESA'S PARISH
GOSPEL READINGS
FOR A CATHOLIC WEDDING

Page 3

Matthew 7:21, 24-29

A Reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew

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 then who hears 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 beat on that house,
but it did not fall,
because it had been founded on rock.**

**And everyone who hears these words of mine
and does not act on them
will be like a foolish man who built his house on sand.**

**The rain fell, and the floods came,
and the winds blew and beat against that house,
and it fell - and great was its fall!"**

**Now when Jesus had finished saying these things,
the crowds were astounded at his teaching,
for he taught them as one having authority,
and not as their scribes.**

The gospel of the Lord.

Response: *Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.*

ST TERESA'S PARISH
GOSPEL READINGS
FOR A CATHOLIC WEDDING

Page 4

Matthew 19:3-6

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew

**Some Pharisees came to him, and to test him they asked,
"Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for any cause?"**

**He answered, "Have you not read that the one
who made them at the beginning
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, let no one separate."**

The gospel of the Lord.

Response: *Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.*

ST TERESA'S PARISH
GOSPEL READINGS
FOR A CATHOLIC WEDDING

Page 5

Matthew 22:34-40

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew

**One of the Sadducees, a lawyer,
asked Jesus a question to test him.
"Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?"
He said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God
with all your heart,
and with all your soul,
and with all your mind.
This is the greatest and first commandment.
And a second is like it:
You shall love your neighbour as yourself.
On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."**

The gospel of the Lord.

Response: *Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.*

ST TERESA'S PARISH
GOSPEL READINGS
FOR A CATHOLIC WEDDING

Page 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,
let no one separate."**

The gospel of the Lord.

Response: *Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.*

ST TERESA'S PARISH
GOSPEL READINGS
FOR A CATHOLIC WEDDING

Page 7

John 2:1-11

A reading from the holy gospel according to John

**On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee,
and the mother of Jesus was there.
Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding.
When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him,
"They have no wine."
And Jesus said to her,
"Woman, what concern is that to you and to me?
My hour has not yet come."
His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you."
Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish
rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons.
Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water."
And they filled them up to the brim.
He said to them, "Now draw some out,
and take it to the chief steward."
So they took it.
When the steward tasted the water that had become wine,
and did not know where it came from
(though the servants who had drawn the water knew),
the steward called the bridegroom and said to him,
"Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior
wine after the guests have become drunk.
But you have kept the good wine until now."
Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee,
and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.**

The gospel of the Lord.

Response: *Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.*

ST TERESA'S PARISH
GOSPEL READINGS
FOR A CATHOLIC WEDDING

Page 8

John 15:9-12

A Reading from the holy gospel according to John

Jesus said to his disciples:

**"As the Father has loved me,
so I have loved you;
abide in my love.**

**If you keep my commandments,
you will abide in my love,
just as I have kept my Father's commandments
and abide in his love.**

**I have said these things to you
so that my joy may be in you,
and that your joy may be complete.**

**This is my commandment,
that you love one another
as I have loved you."**

The gospel of the Lord.

Response: *Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.*

ST TERESA'S PARISH
GOSPEL READINGS
FOR A CATHOLIC WEDDING

Page 9

John 15:12-16

A Reading from the holy gospel according to John

**Jesus said to his disciples,
"This is my commandment,
that you love one another as I have loved 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 do not call you servants any longer,
because the servant does not know
what the master is doing:
but I have called you friends,
because I have made known to you everything
that I have heard from my Father.
You did not choose me but I chose you.
And I appointed you to go and bear fruit,
fruit that will last,
so that the Father will give you
whatever you ask him in my name."**

The gospel of the Lord.

Response: *Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.*

ST TERESA'S PARISH
GOSPEL READINGS
FOR A CATHOLIC WEDDING

Page 10

John 17:20-26

A Reading from the holy gospel according to John

**Jesus looked up to heaven and said:
"I ask not only on behalf of these,
but also on behalf of those who will believe in me
through their word, that they may all be one.**

**As you, Father, are in me and I am in you,
may they also be in us,
so that the world may believe that you have sent me.
The glory that you have given me I have given them,
so that they may be one, as we are one,
I in them and you in me,
that they may become completely one,
so that the world may know that you have sent me
and have loved them even as you have loved me.**

**Father, I desire, that those also,
whom you have given me, may be with me where I am,
to see my glory, which you have given me because you
loved me before the foundation of the world.
Righteous Father, the world does not know you,
but I know you; and these know that you have sent me.
I made your name known to them,
and I will make it known,
so that the love with which you have loved me
may be in them, and I in them.**

The gospel of the Lord.

Response: *Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.*

ST. TERESA'S PARISH
PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL
FOR A CATHOLIC WEDDING

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ST. TERESA'S PARISH
PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL
FOR A CATHOLIC WEDDING

Page 1

Prayers of the Faithful "A"

Priest: Nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.
Therefore we boldly lift our prayers to God who is love.

Reader: For the Church, for fidelity in proclaiming the gospel, for faith in good times
and in bad, for unwavering commitment to unity: May God's people never
cease to profess boundless love for all God's own.

We pray to the Lord. *Lord, hear our prayer.*

For the world and all peoples, for those without food, shelter, or clothing; for
those without meaningful work or meaningful relationships; for those without
hope, joy, or peace: May we be a word of comfort for them and a sign of
Christ's abundant love.

We pray to the Lord. *Lord, hear our prayer.*

For our families and friends, for those gathered here and those far away, for
those united in love many years and those just beginning, for those we love
and those we struggle to love: May Christ deepen our bond to each other in
God's strong embrace.

We pray to the Lord. *Lord, hear our prayer.*

For all who begin married life today, for peace in times of chaos and
confusion; for generosity when there is little to give; for faith in each other
and love beyond reason: May their lives be a sacrament of Christ's irrational,
irresistible, and invincible love for us all.

We pray to the Lord. *Lord, hear our prayer.*

For the members of N. and N.'s families who have died and for those who feel
their absence most keenly at this time of joy.

We pray to the Lord. *Lord, hear our prayer.*

For N. and N. that God will make them rejoice in mutual love that is faithful
to the end.

We pray to the Lord. *Lord, hear our prayer.*

Priest: Faithful God, you are ever for us, giving us only good things and filling our
every need. We place our hope in you alone. As we have heard your voice in
the Word, and seen your love made visible in this couple, so make us now
your life-giving presence for the world, and fill us with your unfailing Spirit of
love, that the prayers we have offered may come to fulfillment in you. We ask
this through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

ST. TERESA'S PARISH
PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL
FOR A CATHOLIC WEDDING

Page 2

Prayers of the Faithful "B"

Priest: 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.

Reader: For the Church of God that we may be more aware of our vocation as the bride of Christ.

We pray to the Lord. *Lord, hear our prayer.*

That the world we live in and are called to serve may be enlivened by the presence of God shown forth in the love of men and women.

We pray to the Lord. *Lord, hear our prayer.*

For the safety of travellers and hospitality for all who seek refuge.

We pray to the Lord. *Lord, hear our prayer.*

For all who are married in the Lord, that God will help them grow in love and sustain them in their efforts to give of themselves to others.

We pray to the Lord. *Lord, hear our prayer.*

For those in need of healing, for those nearing death, for loved ones who have died, and for all who need our prayers, especially those we now name in the silence of our hearts [pause]: May nothing ever separate us from the love of God through Christ.

We pray to the Lord. *Lord, hear our prayer.*

That the gifts of the Holy Spirit will be given to N. and N. in abundance and make of their union an ever more powerful sign of Christ's love for the Church.

We pray to the Lord. *Lord, hear our prayer.*

Priest: Hear our words as we pray today. Tomorrow we will have others. Beloved of the whole of the human family sweetly and gently grant happiness for all. We ask this through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

ST. TERESA'S PARISH
PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL
FOR A CATHOLIC WEDDING

Page 3

Prayers of the Faithful "C"

Priest: God has given us promises in the word of Scripture. N. & N. have given their promises to each other in their marriage. This hour of promise is also a time of prayer. We turn to God our Father and make our prayers of petition.

Reader: For God's holy people, that through this celebration we all may grow in our desire to serve and love the world.

We pray to the Lord. *Lord, hear our prayer.*

For the world, that in its hunger for love it may turn to Christ and acknowledge him as Lord.

We pray to the Lord. *Lord, hear our prayer.*

For N. and N.'s families, as they rejoice in this newly married couples happiness, and welcome new family members.

We pray to the Lord. *Lord, hear our prayer.*

For all married couples present here, that they may renew their commitment to love and to share with the world the mystery of God's friendship.

We pray to the Lord. *Lord, hear our prayer.*

For children - those who are well-loved, and those who hunger for love.

We pray to the Lord. *Lord, hear our prayer.*

That our brother and sister, N. and N., may turn to Christ in all their joys and sorrows, and help each other throughout life to discover their personal gifts and use them to serve God.

We pray to the Lord. *Lord, hear our prayer.*

Priest: Gracious God, you have chosen us and given us your love, the power of the Holy Spirit in our midst. Hear our prayers today and keep us open. May our faith show in our actions, our love show in our deeds, and may our hope give us courage. We ask this through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

ST. TERESA'S PARISH
PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL
FOR A CATHOLIC WEDDING

Page 4

Prayers of the Faithful "D"

Priest: My dear friends, let us join one another in praying to God, not only for our N. and N. but also the Church, for peace in the world, and for ourselves.

Reader: For our Holy Father, the Pope, all the bishops and the clergy everywhere that they may lead us to deeper faith in God and a stronger love for others.

We pray to the Lord. *Lord, hear our prayer.*

For a world of peace and justice for all, the best gift we can give to our children.

We pray to the Lord. *Lord, hear our prayer.*

For ourselves united here in God's name, that the Word of God may sustain us all in our vocation to love.

We pray to the Lord. *Lord, hear our prayer.*

For all married couples, called to show to the world God's faithfulness in their love and tenderness for each other, and for couples who are struggling to love each other.

We pray to the Lord. *Lord, hear our prayer.*

For all of us gathered here called to grow in love for the human community and use our gifts to build a better world.

We pray to the Lord. *Lord, hear our prayer.*

For N. and N. on this day of great joy: for the grace to persevere in love, cherish each other in all things, and share their love generously with all those whom they encounter.

We pray to the Lord. *Lord, hear our prayer.*

Priest: O God, Creator and Redeemer of all the faithful, hear our prayers. We ask this through Christ our Lord. *Amen*