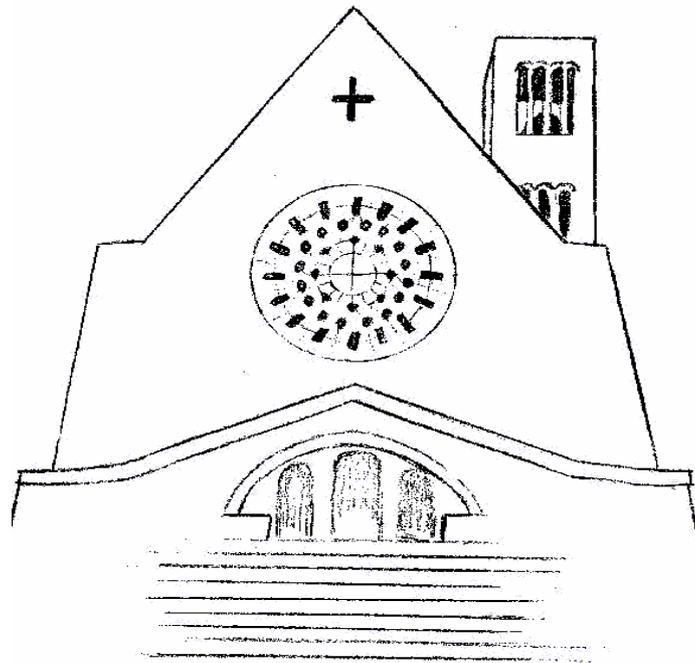


**Readings, Prayers
and Reflections
for
Weddings**



**Holy Redeemer Parish
Bray**

PRACTICAL DETAILS

NOTIFICATION OF MARRIAGE

All couples are required to give at least three months notice in advance of the proposed date of marriage. For people under eighteen years of age a minimum of **six months** is required.

PRE-MARRIAGE COURSES

See Separate Sheet

PAPAL BLESSING

A letter of recommendation is required from your priest if you wish to get a Papal Blessing. Blessings are available from the Veritas Book Shop, Abbey Street, Dublin or from the Franciscan Church, Adam and Eve on Merchant's Quay.
It is not a necessary part of the ceremony.

NO CONFETTI

This is at the request of the people who care for the church and its grounds.

PUNCTUALITY

We make a special plea to you to be punctual. Your wedding may be followed by some other function in the Church.

DONATIONS

These are for the sacristan and the use of the Church.
Don't forget the Altar Servers!!!
You can put your donations in separate envelopes on the day and leave them with the sacristan.

OLD TESTAMENT READINGS

1. A Reading from the book of Genesis (1:26-28, 31)

God said, 'Let us make people in our own image, in the likeness of ourselves, and let them be masters of the fish of the sea, the birds of heaven, the cattle, all the wild beasts and all the reptiles that crawl upon the earth.'

God created people in the image of himself,
In the image of God he created them,
Male and female he created them.

God blessed them, saying to them, 'be fruitful, multiply, fill the earth and conquer it. Be masters of the fish of the sea, the birds of heaven and all living animals on the earth.' God saw all he had made, and indeed it was very good.

This is the Word of the Lord.

2. A Reading from the book of Genesis (2: 18-24)

The Lord God said, 'It is not good that the man should be alone. I will make him a helpmate.' So from the soil the Lord God fashioned all the wild beasts and all the birds of heaven. These God brought to the man to see what he would call them; each one was to bear the name the man would give it. The man gave names to all the cattle, all the birds of heaven and all the wild beasts. But no helpmate suitable for man was found for him. So the Lord God made the man fall into a deep sleep. And while he slept, God took one of his ribs and enclosed it in flesh. The Lord God built the rib taken from man into a woman, and brought her to the man. The man exclaimed:

'This at last is bone from my bones,
And flesh from my flesh!

This is to be called woman,
For this was taken from man.'

This is why a man leaves his father and mother and joins himself to his wife, and they become one body.

This is the Word of the Lord.

4. A Reading from the Book of Ruth

Wherever you go I shall go
Wherever you live I shall live.
Your people shall be my people
And your God will be my God too.

Wherever you die I shall die,
And there shall I be buried beside you.
We will be together forever
And our love will be the gift of our lives.

This is the Word of the Lord.

5. A Reading from the Book of Ecclesiasticus (26:1-4, 13,16)

Happy the husband of a really good wife;
The number of his days will be doubled.
A perfect wife is the joy of her husband,
He will live out the years of his life in peace.
A good wife is the best of portions,
Reserved for those who fear the Lord;
Rich or poor, they will be glad of heart;
Cheerful of face, whatever the season.

This is the Word of the Lord.

6. A Reading from the book of Tobit

On the evening of their marriage, Tobias said to Sarah, you and I must pray and petition our Lord to win his grace and protection.

They began praying:

"You are blessed O God of our fathers, and blessed too is your name. Let the heavens bless you and all things you have made, for evermore. It was you who created Adam and Eve and from these the human race was born.

Be kind enough to bless us and bring us to old age together." And together they said 'Amen, Amen'.

This is the Word of the Lord.

7. A Reading from the Book of Sirach

A faithful friend is a sturdy shelter, whoever finds one has found a rare treasure. A faithful friend is something beyond price, there is no measuring their worth. A faithful friend is the elixir of life and those who fear the Lord will find one. Whoever fears the Lord makes true friends, for as a person is, so is their friend.

This is the Word of the Lord.

8. A Reading from the Song of Songs

I hear my beloved. See how he comes leaping on the mountains, bounding over the hills. My beloved is like a gazelle, like a young stag. See where he stands behind our wall. He looks in at the window, he peers through the lattice. My beloved lifts up his voice, he says to me 'Come then, my love, my lovely one, come. My dove, hiding in the clefts of the rock. In the coverts of the cliff, show me your face, let me hear your voice; for your voice is sweet and your face is beautiful.'
My beloved is mine and I am his. Set me like a seal on your heart, like a seal on your arm. For love is strong as Death, jealousy relentless as Sheol. The flash of it is a flash of fire, a flame of the Lord himself. Love no flood can quench, no torrents drown.

This is the Word of the Lord.

9. A Reading from the Prophet Jeremiah

See, the days are coming-it is the Lord who speaks-when I will make a new covenant with the House of Israel and the House of Judah, but not a covenant like the one I made with their ancestors on the day I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt. No, this is the covenant I will make with the House of Israel when those days arrive-it is the Lord who speaks. Deep within them I will plant my Law, writing it on their hearts. Then I will be their God and they shall be my people. There will be no further need for neighbour to try to teach neighbour, or brother to say to brother, 'Learn to know the Lord!' No, they will all know me, the least no less than the greatest-it is the Lord who speaks.

This is the Word of the Lord.

BOOK OF PSALMS

1. Psalm 102.

Response:

The Lord is compassion and love.

My soul, give thanks to the Lord,
All my being, bless his holy name.
My soul, give thanks to the Lord
And never forget all his blessings. [R]

The Lord is compassion and love,
Slow to anger and rich in mercy.
As a father has compassion on his
children,
The Lord has pity on those who fear him.
[R]

The love of the Lord is everlasting
Upon those who hold him in fear;
His justice reaches out to children's
children
When they keep his covenant in truth.
[R]

2. Psalm 32

Response:

The Lord fills the earth with his love

They are happy, whose God is the Lord,
The people he has chosen as his own.
The Lord looks on those who revere him,
On those who hope in his love. [R]

Our soul is waiting for the Lord.
The Lord is our help and our shield.
In him do our hearts find joy.
We trust in his holy name. [R]

May your love be upon us, O Lord,
As we place all our hope in you. [R]

3. Psalm 144

Response:

How good is the Lord to all

The Lord is kind and full of compassion,
Slow to anger, abounding in love.
How good is the Lord to all,
Compassionate to all his creatures. [R]

All your creatures shall thank you, O
Lord,
And your friends shall repeat your
blessing.
The eyes of all creatures look to you
And you give them their food in due
time. [R]

The Lord is just in all his ways
And loving in all his deeds.
He is close to all who call him,
Who call on him from their hearts. [R]

4. Psalm 127

Response:

**O blessed are those who fear the
Lord**

O blessed are those who fear the Lord
And walk in his ways.
By the labour of your hands you shall
eat.
You will be happy and prosper. [R]

Your wife will be like a fruitful vine
In the heart of your house;
Your children like shoots of the olive,
Around your table. [R]

Indeed thus shall be blessed
The one who fears the Lord.
May the Lord bless you from Zion
All the days of your life! [R]



NEW TESTAMENT READINGS

1. **A reading from the letter of Saint Paul to the Romans (8:31-35, 37-39)**

With God on our side who can be against us? Since God did not spare his own Son, but gave him up to benefit us all, we may be certain, after such a gift, that he will not refuse anything he can give. Could anyone accuse those whom God has chosen? When God acquits, could anyone condemn? Could Christ Jesus? No! He not only died for us-he rose from the dead, and there, at God's right hand he stands and pleads for us.

Nothing, therefore, can come between us and the love of Christ, even if we are troubled, or worried, or being persecuted, or lacking food or clothes, or being threatened or even attacked. These are the trials through which we triumph, by the power of him who loved us.

For I am certain of this: neither death nor life, no angel, no prince, nothing that exists, nothing still to come, not any power, or height or depth, nor any created thing, can ever come between us and the love of God, made visible in Christ Jesus our Lord.

This is the Word of the Lord.

2. **A Reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Romans**

Do not let your love be pretence, but sincerely prefer good to evil. Love each other as much as you should, and have a profound respect for each other.

Work for the Lord with untiring effort and with great earnestness of spirit. If you have hope, this will make you cheerful. Do not give up if trials come; and keep on praying. If any of the saints are in need you must share with them; and you should make hospitality your special care.

This is the Word of the Lord.

3. A reading from the first letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians

Be ambitious for the higher gifts. And I am going to show you a way that is better than any of them.

If I have all the eloquence of people or of angels, but speak without love, I am simply a gong booming or a cymbal clashing. If I have the gift of prophecy, understanding all the mysteries there are, and knowing everything, and if I have faith in all its fullness, to move mountains, but without love, then I am nothing at all. If I give away all that I possess, piece by piece, and even if I let them take my body to burn it, but am without love, it will do me no good whatever.

Love is always patient and kind; it is never jealous; love is never boastful or conceited; it is never rude or selfish; it does not take offence, and is not resentful. Love takes no pleasure in other people's sins but delights in the truth; it is always ready to excuse, to trust, to hope, and to endure whatever comes. Love does not come to an end.

This is the Word of the Lord.

4. A reading from the first letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians

Love is always patient and kind; it is never jealous; love is never boastful or conceited; it is never rude or selfish; it does not take offence, and is not resentful. Love takes no pleasure in other people's sins but delights in the truth; it is always ready to excuse, to trust, to hope, and to endure whatever comes. Love does not come to an end.

This is the Word of the Lord.

5. A reading from the letter of Saint Paul to the Colossians

You are God's chosen race, his saints; he loves you, and you should be clothed in sincere compassion, in kindness and humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with one another; forgive each other as soon as a quarrel begins. The Lord has forgiven you; now you must do the same. Over all these clothes, to keep them together and complete them, put on love. And may the peace of Christ reign in your hearts, because it is for this that you were called together as parts of one body. Always be thankful.

This is the Word of the Lord.

6. A reading from the first letter of Saint John

My dear people, let us love one another since love comes from God and everyone who loves is begotten by God and knows God. Anyone who fails to love can never have known God, because God is love.

God's love for us was revealed when God sent into the world his only Son so that we could have life through Him; this is the love I mean: not our love for God, but God's love for us when he sent his Son to be the sacrifice that takes our sins away.

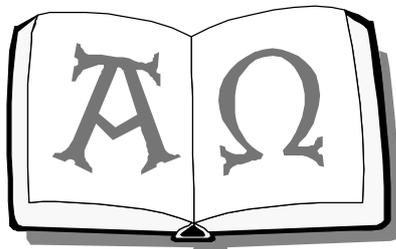
My dear people, since God has loved us so much, we too should love one another. No one has ever seen God; but as long as we love one another God will live in us and his love will be complete in us.

This is the Word of the Lord.

7. A Reading from the First Letter of St. John

My children, our love is not to be just words or talk, but something real and active. Only by this can we be certain that we are children of the truth and be secure in his presence. My dear people, we need not be afraid in God's presence, because we keep his commandments and live the kind of life that he wants. His commandments are these, that we believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and that we love one another as he told us to.

This is the Word of the Lord.



GOSPEL READINGS



1. Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

God is love; let us love one another as God has loved us.

Alleluia!

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said to his disciples " This is my commandment: love one another as I have loved you." A man can have no greater love than to lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends, if you do what I command you. I shall not call you servants any more, because a servant does not know his master's business; I call you friends, because I have made known to you everything I have learnt from my Father. You did not choose me, no I chose you; and I commissioned you to go out and bear fruit, fruit that will last; and then the Father will give you anything you ask Him in my name.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

2. Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

God is love; let us love one another as God has loved us.

Alleluia!

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John

Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said: 'Holy Father, I pray not only for these, but for those also who through their words will believe in me. May they all be one. Father, may they be one in us, as you are in me and I am in you, so that the world may believe that it was you who sent me.

I have given them the glory you gave to me, that they may be one as we are one. With me in them and you in me, may they be so completely one that the world will realise that it was you who sent me, and that I have loved them as much as you loved me.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

3 Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

As long as we love one another God will live in us and his love will be complete in us

Alleluia!

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John

Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said: 'Holy Father, I pray not only for these, but for those also who through their words will believe in me. May they all be one. Father, may they be one in us, as you are in me and I am in you, so that the world may believe that it was you who sent me.

I have given them the glory you gave to me, that they may be one as we are one. With me in them and you in me, may they be so completely one that the world will realise that it was you who sent me, and that I have loved them as much as you loved me.'

Father, I want those you have given me to be with me where I am, so that they may always see the glory you have given me, because you loved me before the foundation of the world. Father, Righteous One, the world has not known you, but I have known you, and these have known that you have sent me. I have made your name known to them and will continue to make it known, so that the love with which you loved me may be in them, and so that I may be in them.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

4 Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Everyone who loves is begotten by God and knows God

Alleluia!

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus said, 'From the beginning of creation god made them male and female. This is why a man must leave father and mother, and the two become one body. They are no longer two, therefore, but one body. So then, what God has united, man must not divide.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

5. Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Anyone who lives in love lives in God, and God lives in them

Alleluia!

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus said to his disciples: 'It is not those who say to me, "Lord, Lord", who will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the person who does the will of my Father in heaven.

"Therefore, everyone who listens to these words of mine and acts on them will be like a sensible person who built their house on rock. Rain came down, floods rose, gales blew and hurled themselves against that house, and it did not fall: it was founded on rock".

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

6 Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

As long as we love one another God will live in us,

Alleluia!

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus said to his disciples: 'You are the salt of the earth. But if salt becomes tasteless, what can make it salty again? It is good for nothing, and can only be thrown out to be trampled underfoot by people.

'You are light of the world. A city built on a hilltop cannot be hidden. No one lights a lamp to put it under a tub; they put it on a lamp-stand where it shines for everyone in the house. In the same way your light must shine in the sight of people, so that, seeing your good works, they may give the praise to your Father in heaven.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

7 Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

God is love: let us love one another as God has loved us.

Alleluia!

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew

A lawyer, to disconcert Jesus, put a question, 'Master, which is the greatest commandment of the Law?' Jesus said, 'You must 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 resembles it: You must love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments hang the whole Law, and the Prophets also.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

8. Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Anyone who lives in love lives in God, and God lives in them.

Alleluia!

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. 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 own joy may be in you and your joy be complete.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

9. Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

As long as we love one another, God will live in us,
And his love will be complete in us.

Alleluia!

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John

There was a wedding at Cana in Galilee. The mother of Jesus was there, and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited. When they ran out of wine, since the wine provided for the wedding was all finished, the mother of Jesus said to him, 'They have no wine.' Jesus said, 'Woman, why turn to me? My hour has not come yet.' His mother said to the servants, 'Do whatever he tells you.' There were six stone water jars standing there, meant for the ablutions that are customary among the Jews: each could hold twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to the servants, 'Fill the jars with water,' and they filled them to the brim. 'Draw some out now,' he told them, 'and take it to the steward.' They did this; the steward tasted the water, and it had turned into wine. Having no idea where it came from—only the servants who had drawn the water knew—the steward called the bridegroom and said, "People generally serve the best wine first, and keep the cheaper sort till the guests have had plenty to drink, but you have kept the best wine until now."

This was the first of the signs given by Jesus; it was given at Cana in Galilee. He let his glory be seen, and his disciples believed in him.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.



COMMUNION REFLECTION

1. A Reading from 'The Prophet' by Kahil Gibran

You were born together, and together you shall be for evermore. You shall be together when the white wings of death scatter your days. You shall be together, even in the silent memory of God.

But let there be spaces in your togetherness, and let the winds of the heavens dance between you. Love one another, but make not a bond of love, let it rather be a moving sea between the shores of your souls.

Fill each other's cup, but drink not from the one cup. Give one another of your bread, but eat not from the same loaf. Sing and dance together and be joyous, but let each one of you be alone, even as the strings of a lute are alone though they quiver with the same music.

Give your hearts, but not into each other's keeping. For only the hand of Life can contain your hearts. And stand together, yet not too near together: For the pillars of the temple stand apart, and the oak tree and the cypress grow not in each other's shadow.



Mass is not an essential part of the marriage celebration and indeed there may be occasions when people will find it more appropriate not to have a Mass.

If you decide to include a Mass as part of your celebration, this page may be of some assistance in helping you decide what kind of Mass you would like, and also in what way your family or friends might like to be involved.

First Reading _____

Psalm _____

Second Reading _____

Prayer of Faithful _____

Gifts _____

Music _____

USEFUL PHONE NUMBERS...

PRIESTS

Fr. Enda Lloyt 2862026

Fr. Colin Rothery 2862955

Fr. Joseph Apust 2863223

Sacristy 2868413

(Mon.— Fri. 9a.m.— 10.30a.m;

6p.m.— 7p.m.)

**PRE MARRIAGE COURSES AND
MUSIC**

SEE ADDITIONAL SHEET