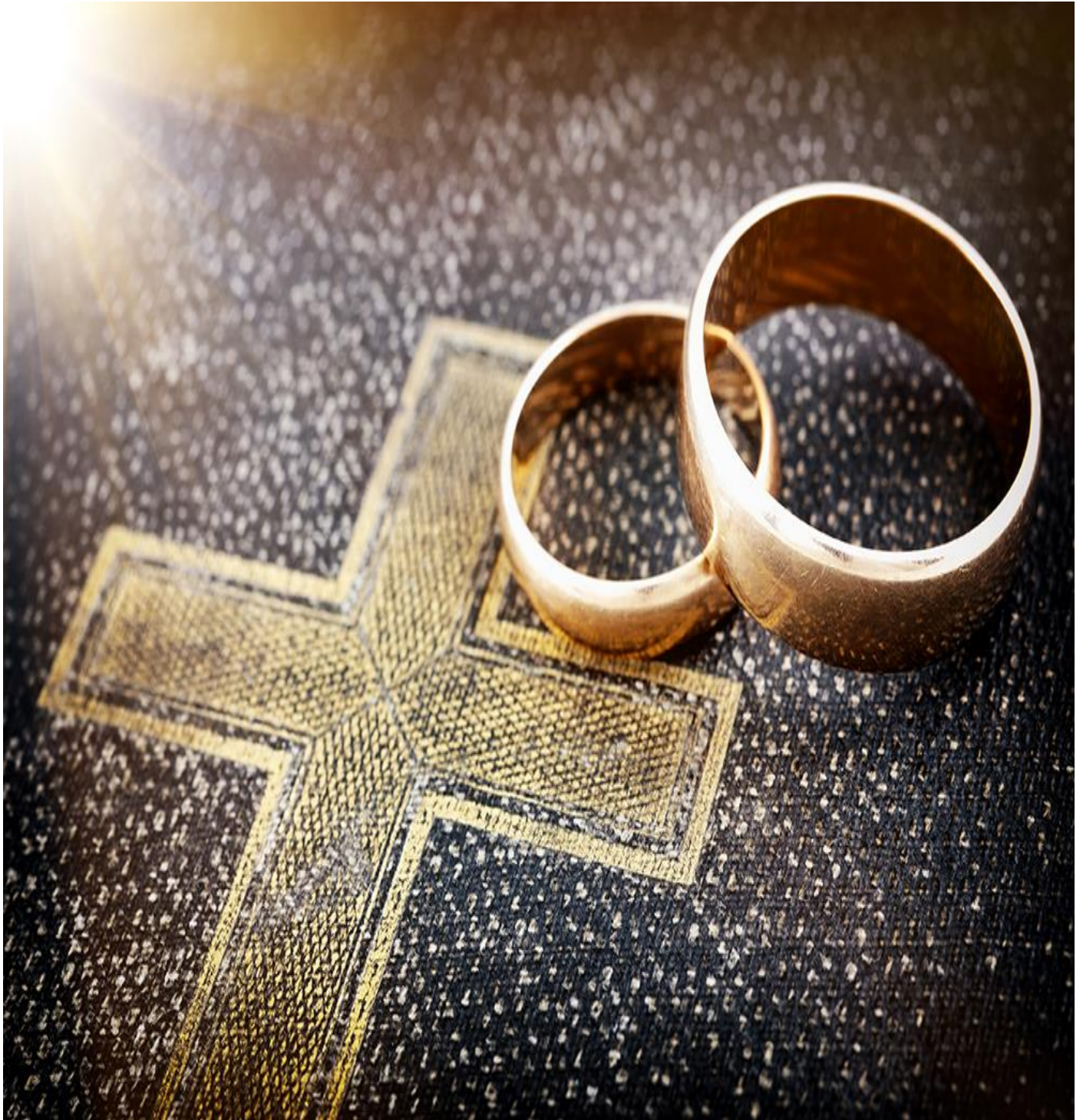


Weddings



THE WEDDING PRELIMINARIES

The marriage ceremony is one of the most sacred of all rituals a minister conducts. It is never merely a social event, but is always a rite in which two persons pledge themselves to each other under the blessings of God and are united by Him in holy wedlock.

At the outset of His ministry, Jesus attended a wedding at Cana of Galilee, and he chose that occasion to perform His first miracle. Since Jesus considered weddings significantly important enough to attend, it should be the desire of every minister to make every wedding a significant, beautiful, and meaningful occasion.

Everything possible should be done by the church and the minister to make the wedding as memorable as possible. Take care that you understand your legal responsibilities. Be sure you understand any domicile requirements about the wedding license and where the ceremony can be performed. The bride and groom will have many things on their minds the day of the wedding. You should not perform a wedding unless you have the license.

A LIST OF BIBLE READINGS FOR USE AT A WEDDING

Genesis 1:26–2.4a Made in God's image

Genesis 2:18–24 One flesh

Song of Songs 2:8–14 The lovers

Psalms 128 Happy are those who fear the Lord.

Psalms 37:3–7 The Lord is kind and merciful.

Psalms 67 The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord.

Ephesians 3:14–21 Grounded in love

Ephesians 5:22–33 Husband and wife in Christian marriage

Colossians 3:12–19 Everything in the name of Jesus

1 Peter 3:1–9 Harmony in marriage

1 John 4:7–16 The love of God

Matthew 5:1–12 True happiness

Matthew 7:21–29 Hearing and doing

John 2:1–11 Wedding at Cana

John 15:9–17 Abiding in Christ's love



Eligibility to Marry

You can marry in Victoria if you're:

- Aged 18 years or older, or
- Between 16 and 18 years old, marrying someone who's at least 18 years old.

If you're 16 or 17 years old, before you marry you need to get:

- A court order from a judge or magistrate allowing the marriage, and
- Written consent from your parents.

You can't:

- Be already married to someone else
- Marry a close relative (parent, grandparent, child, grandchild, brother or sister).

Lodge a Notice of Intended Marriage

You need to lodge a [Notice of Intended Marriage \(NOIM\)](#) at least one month before your wedding date.

Celebrants and ministers

Marriages in Victoria must be performed by an authorised celebrant, such as:

- One of our celebrants at the [Victorian Marriage Registry](#)
- Territory officers at some regional courts (contact your local court for details)
- Commonwealth-registered marriage celebrants (see [Australian Government Attorney-General's Department website \(External link\)](#) for a list)
- Ministers of religion of recognised denominations.



COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

Marriage Act 1961

NOTICE OF INTENDED MARRIAGE

Note: See section 70 Marriage Regulations 2017 (Cth).

Please read all NOTES (including PRIVACY NOTES) included in this form, and complete this form in TYPE or by using BLOCK LETTERS.



Ceremony

The *Marriage Act 1961* and the Marriage Regulations regulate marriage in Australia. They specify the requirements that a marriage ceremony must meet.

The style and length of the ceremony is up to you. You may opt for:

- A simple ceremony that includes only the legal requirements
- A longer ceremony.

Your celebrant or minister will tell you the wording that your ceremony must include.

Cost

There's no set fee for a wedding ceremony in Victoria. Confirm costs with your celebrant or minister before booking your wedding.

Witnesses at your wedding

You need two witnesses at your wedding ceremony, to:

- Witness the ceremony
- Sign the marriage certificates.

Witnesses can be any family member or friend who is at least 18 years old.

Proof of marriage

On your wedding day, you'll get a commemorative marriage certificate. It's not the same as a standard marriage certificate and generally can't be used for official purposes as proof of your marriage.

Once your marriage is registered (your celebrant or minister will do this), you can [apply for a standard marriage certificate](#).



Changing your name

To change your family name on documents and accounts such as your driver licence, passport and bank accounts, you need to apply directly to the relevant organisations (for example, VicRoads, Australian Passport Office or your bank).

In most cases, you need your Australian marriage certificate to change your family name. See [Changing your name after marriage, separation or divorce](#).

To change your family name on documents and accounts such as your driver licence, passport and bank accounts, you need to apply directly to the relevant organisations (for example, VicRoads, Australian Passport Office or your bank).

When you do this, you'll need to provide either a marriage certificate or a change of name certificate as evidence of your changed name, depending on whether you were born or married in Australia or overseas.

Married in Australia

If you were born and married in Australia:

- You can take your spouse's family name
- Both partners can hyphenate their family names.

To change your family name, you need:

- Your Australian marriage certificate.

The commemorative certificate you got on your wedding day isn't the same as the official marriage certificate issued by the Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages Victoria (BDM). Most organisations will only accept the BDM-issued certificate as evidence. If you don't have one, see [Get a marriage certificate](#).



Married overseas

Some organisations won't accept non-Australian marriage certificates as evidence of your right to assume your spouse's family name.

In those cases you may need to apply to [Change your name](#) with BDM.

Recognising overseas marriages

You can't register an overseas marriage in Australia, but in most cases, your overseas marriage will be recognised. See [Overseas marriages](#).

Born overseas and married in Australia

If you were born overseas and married in Australia, many organisations will accept a copy of your primary identity document (foreign passport or citizenship certificate) and Australian marriage certificate. Please note that some organisations may still require you to apply to [change your name](#) with BDM in order to use your spouse's family name.



PRIVACY NOTES

- Section 42 of the *Marriage Act 1961* (the Act) requires that a marriage shall not be solemnised unless a notice in writing of the intended marriage, in the prescribed form, is given to the authorised celebrant solemnising the marriage. This Notice is the prescribed form for this purpose.
- The authorised celebrant to whom the Notice is given sends the Notice to the Registrar of Births, Deaths and Marriages of the State or Territory in which the marriage takes place, after the marriage ceremony. The Registrar uses the information in the Notice to register the marriage.
- The Registrar of Births, Deaths and Marriages then sends the Notice to the Australian Bureau of Statistics (the ABS), which requests information about these matters under the *Census and Statistics Act 1905*. The ABS records non-identifying information from the Notice, including each party's sex, and uses that information to generate national statistics on marriage and the family in Australia. Personal identifying information is not retained.

NOTES

MARRIAGE OF ANY PERSON UNDER 18 YEARS WITHOUT AN ORDER OF A JUDGE OR MAGISTRATE IS INVALID.

UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES CAN 2 PERSONS UNDER 18 YEARS MARRY EACH OTHER.

- 1 A party to an intended marriage who is unable, after reasonable inquiry, to state any information required in the Notice, should write "unknown" in the relevant space on the form. To make the Notice effective, the party must also give the authorised celebrant a statutory declaration stating that they are unable to state the information required in the Notice, and the reason for that inability. However, a statutory declaration is not necessary in relation to the information required under item 11, 12, 13 or 14 of the Notice, or the date of a previous marriage ceremony under item 16 of the Notice.
- 2 The marriage cannot be solemnised until after one calendar month from the date the authorised celebrant receives the Notice unless, under subsection 42(5) of the Act, a prescribed authority has authorised the marriage to be solemnised before that time has elapsed. Also, the marriage cannot be solemnised:
 - (a) if the authorised celebrant receives the Notice more than 18 months before the proposed marriage (see paragraph 42(1)(a) of the Act); and
 - (b) unless the authorised celebrant is satisfied that the parties to the proposed marriage are the parties referred to in the notice given under section 42 of the Act in relation to the marriage (see paragraph 42(8)(a) of the Act).
- 3 Section 104 of the Act makes it an offence for a person to give the Notice to an authorised celebrant or to sign it if, to that person's knowledge, the Notice contains a false statement or an error or is defective.
- 4 If a party to an intended marriage cannot conveniently sign the Notice at the time it is intended to give notice of the intended marriage, the other party may sign the Notice and give it to the proposed authorised celebrant. However, in that case, the party who has not signed the Notice must sign it in the presence of that celebrant or another authorised celebrant before the marriage is solemnised.
- 5 Section 42 of the Act requires certain documents to be produced to the authorised celebrant before the marriage is solemnised, in particular:
 - (a) evidence of the date and place of birth of each party; and
 - (b) if a party has previously been legally married, evidence of a party's divorce, or of the death of a party's spouse.If a party has been divorced in Australia, the authorised celebrant should sight court evidence of the decree upon dissolution of marriage.
- 6 A party to an intended marriage who has not turned 18 (unless the party has previously been married), must obtain the necessary consents or dispensations required under the Act, and the authorised celebrant must sight those consents or dispensations before proceeding with the marriage. Also, a person under 18 years is not of marriageable age, and cannot be a party to a marriage, unless the person obtains an order from the court under section 12 of the Act.



**FOR
CELEBRANT'S USE**

Marriage arranged:
foram/pm
(time)

on
(day of week)

.....
(date)

at

Commonwealth of Australia
Marriage Act 1961

**NOTICE OF INTENDED
MARRIAGE**

To:

.....
[insert name and address of proposed celebrant]

**FOR OFFICIAL
USE ONLY**

Registered No.

The following parties give notice of their intended marriage:

	PARTY 1			PARTY 2		
1 Description of party	Groom <input type="checkbox"/>	Bride <input type="checkbox"/>	Partner <input type="checkbox"/>	Groom <input type="checkbox"/>	Bride <input type="checkbox"/>	Partner <input type="checkbox"/>
2 Surname						
3 Given names						
4 Sex (*X refers to indeterminate/intersex/unspecified)	Male <input type="checkbox"/>	Female <input type="checkbox"/>	X <input type="checkbox"/>	Male <input type="checkbox"/>	Female <input type="checkbox"/>	X <input type="checkbox"/>
5 Usual occupation						
6 Usual place of residence (full address)						
7 Conjugal status (for example, never validly married, widowed, divorced)						
8 Birthplace— (if born in Australia— insert city or town, and State or Territory; if born outside Australia—insert city or town and country)						
9 Date of birth	<input type="text"/> Day	<input type="text"/> Month	<input type="text"/> Year	<input type="text"/> Day	<input type="text"/> Month	<input type="text"/> Year
10 If party born outside Australia, total period of residence in Australia	<input type="text"/> Years		<input type="text"/> Months	<input type="text"/> Years		<input type="text"/> Months
11 Father's name in full (If not known, write "unknown". If deceased, add "deceased")						
12 Mother's maiden name in full (If not known, write "unknown". If deceased, add "deceased")						
13 Father's country of birth (If not known, write "unknown")						
14 Mother's country of birth (If not known, write "unknown")						

If a party has been previously married, that party must give the following particulars:

15 Number of previous marriages						
16 Year of each previous marriage ceremony (If known, give date)						
17 Number of children of the previous marriage or marriages born alive (whether now living or deceased)						
18 Year of birth of each of those children						
19 How LAST marriage terminated (Insert "death", "divorce" or "nullity")						
20 Date on which last spouse died, or date on which dissolution of last marriage became final, or nullity order made	<input type="text"/> Day	<input type="text"/> Month	<input type="text"/> Year	<input type="text"/> Day	<input type="text"/> Month	<input type="text"/> Year



Are the parties related to each other? Yes ☐ No ☐

If yes, state relationship

Signature of party 1

Signature of party 2

Signature of witness*

Signature of witness*

Qualification

Qualification

Date / /

Date / /

* This Notice must be signed in the presence of any of the following:

- (a) if a party signs the Notice in Australia—an authorised celebrant, a Commissioner for Declarations under the *Statutory Declarations Act 1959*, a justice of the peace, a barrister or solicitor, a legally qualified medical practitioner, or a member of the Australian Federal Police or the police force of a State or Territory;
- (b) if a party signs the Notice outside Australia—an Australian Consular Officer, an Australian Diplomatic Officer, a notary public, an employee of the Commonwealth authorised under paragraph 3(c) of the *Consular Fees Act 1955*, or an employee of the Australian Trade Commission authorised under paragraph 3(d) of the *Consular Fees Act 1955*.

Note: For the definitions of *Australian Consular Officer* and *Australian Diplomatic Officer*, see section 2 of the *Consular Fees Act 1955*.

PARTICULARS TO BE COMPLETED BY AUTHORISED CELEBRANT

Date notice received by celebrant

Rites used

Place marriage solemnised

Date marriage solemnised

*Strike out words not required

†Strike out if inapplicable

PARTY 1

PARTY 2

Birth certificate(s) produced

☐
☐

Registration number of birth certificate

*Statutory declaration(s)

☐
☐

Australian† or foreign† passport produced

☐
☐

† Evidence of * death, * nullity or * dissolution

PARTY 1

PARTY 2

☐
☐

Passport number

If dissolution or nullity, insert Court location

Current drivers licence produced

☐
☐

† For marriage of a party under 18 years:
- consents received
- court approval

☐
☐
☐
☐

Drivers licence number

Authority for marriage despite late notice - not applicable

☐

Current proof of age card or evidence of age card produced

☐
☐

Note: For use if photographic evidence of identity is sighted by the authorised celebrant to satisfy the requirements under paragraph 42(8)(a) of the Act.

Proof of age card number or evidence of age card number

Current identification card displaying the cardholder's photograph produced

☐
☐

Type of identification card

Number of identification card

PARTY 1

PARTY 2

Have you given the document referred to in subsection 42(5A) of the Act to the parties?

☐
☐

Celebrant's number

Celebrant's signature

Official use only

NOTICE OF INTENDED MARRIAGE

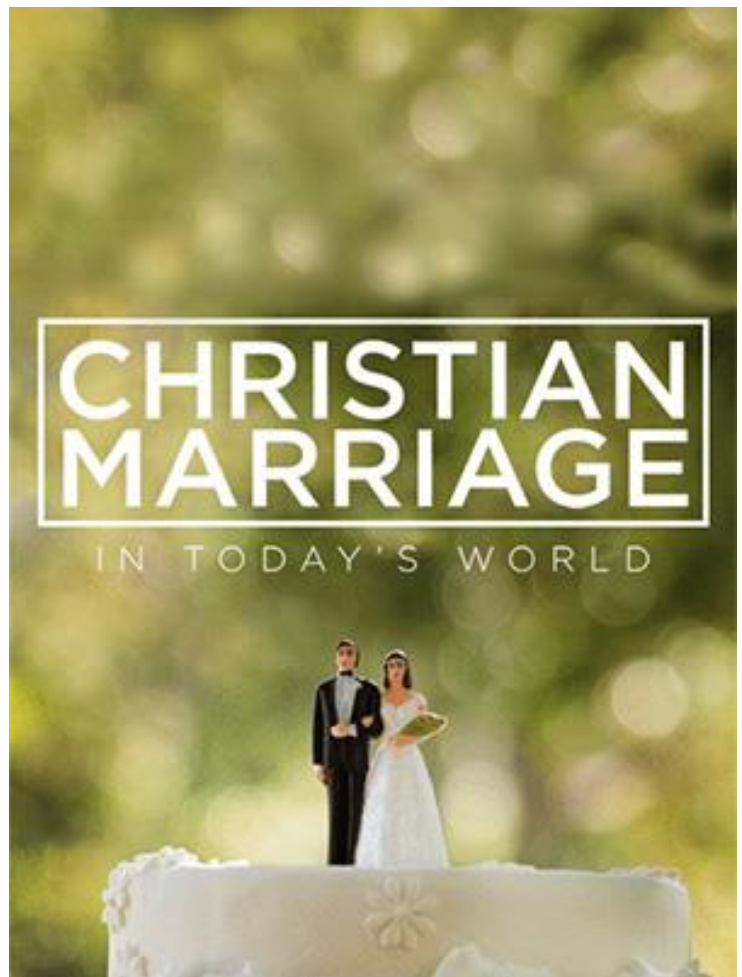
4 OF 4



A SERVICE FOR MARRIAGE FORM 1 THE PREFACE

1. When all are assembled in the church, with the bridegroom and the bride standing before the minister, the minister greets them all, and then says.

We have come together in the presence of God for the joining in marriage of this man N..... and this woman N.....



Our Lord Jesus Christ said of marriage that *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. What therefore God has joined together, let not man put asunder.*

Marriage is the symbol of God's unending love for His people, and of the union between Christ and His Church. So the Apostle Paul teaches that the husband must love his wife as Christ loved the Church, and that the wife must give due honour to her husband.

Marriage should be honoured by all, and is not to be entered into lightly or carelessly, but with reverent and serious respect for those purposes for which it was instituted by God.



Marriage is a gift from God for human wellbeing, and for the proper expression of natural instincts and affections with which He has endowed us.

It is a life-long union in which a man and a woman are called so to give themselves in body, mind, and spirit, and so to respond, that from their union will grow a deepening knowledge and love of each other. In the joys and sorrows of life, in prosperity and adversity, they share their companionship, faithfulness, and strength.

In marriage a new family is established in accordance with God's purpose, so that children may be born and nurtured in secure and loving care, for their wellbeing and instruction, and for the good order of society, to the glory of God.

N..... and

N..... have now come here to be joined in this holy union to which God has led them. They seek His blessing on their life together, that they may fulfil His purpose for them; and they ask us to support them in this prayer.

If any person here can show why they may not lawfully be joined in marriage he should speak now, or hereafter remain in silence.

Speaking to the persons to be married, the minister says,

I charge you both, as you will answer before God, that if either of you know any reason why you may not lawfully be joined together in marriage, you now confess it. For be assured that those who marry otherwise than God's Word allows are not joined together by God, neither is their marriage lawful in His sight.



THE CONSENT

2. *There being no objection, the minister then says to the **man**,
N....., will you take
N..... to be your wife, to live together according to God's
law?*

Will you give her the honour due
to her as your wife and,
forsaking all others, love and
protect her, as long as you both
shall live?

The man answers, **I will.**

3. *The minister says to the
woman,*

N....., will you take
N..... to be your husband, to
live together according to God's law?

Will you give him the honour due to him as your husband and,
forsaking all others, love and protect him, as long as you both
shall live?

The woman answers, **I will.**

4. *The minister may ask*

Who brings this woman to be married to this man?

Answer **I do.**

*The minister may receive the woman's right hand from her father
or her friend.*

5. *The minister causes the man to take the woman's right hand.*

The minister, together with all the people, says,

God our Father, in your great love for humankind you have given
us the gift of marriage; so bless these two persons as they
pledge their lives to each other, that their love may evermore
grow to be the true reflection of your love for us all; through Jesus
Christ our Lord. Amen.



THE WEDDING

6. The man, holding the woman's right hand in his, says,
**I, N.....,, in the presence of God, take you
N....., to be my wife;**

to have and to hold from this day forward, for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, as long as we both shall live.

This is my solemn vow and promise.

7. The woman, taking the man's right hand in hers, says,
**I, N....., in the presence of God, take you
N....., to be my husband;**

**to have and to hold from this day forward,
for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer,
in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, as long as
we both shall live.**

This is my solemn vow and promise.

8. The minister receives the wedding ring[s], and may then say,
Grant, Lord, that this ring/these rings may be a token and
constant sign of the pledge of love and faithfulness which these
two persons make to each other; through Christ our Lord.
All say 'Amen'.

*9. The man places the ring on the ring finger of the woman, and
holding it there, says*

**N.....,, with this ring I wed you; with all that I am, and all
that I have, I honour you; in the name of God. Amen.**

10. Before they loose hands, the woman may respond,
**N.....,, I receive this ring in token of our marriage. May
God enable us to grow in love together.**

*11. If the woman gives a ring to the man, this procedure is to be
repeated appropriately.*



12. The man and the woman may then kneel. The minister joins their right hands and says,
Those whom God has joined together, let no one put asunder.



13. The minister addresses the people
Before God and in the presence of us all, by solemn consent and promise, by the giving and receiving of a ring/s, and by the joining of hands,
N..... and
N..... have now accepted each other in marriage.
In the name of God,
I declare them to be husband and wife.

14. The minister then addresses the husband and wife, saying,
God the Father enrich you with His grace, God the Son make you holy in His love,
God the Holy Spirit strengthen you with His joy. The Lord bless you and keep you in eternal life.
Amen.
Blessed be the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; one God, to be praised for ever.



THE PRAYERS

15. *One or more passages from Scripture may be read; and an address may follow.*

16. *The minister says,*
The Lord be with you.

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name,
Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are Yours now and for ever.
Amen.

17. *The minister continues*

Almighty Father, giver of life and love, look in favour on all who are made one in marriage, and especially on these your servants as they enter into their new life together. In Your love deepen their love; strengthen their wills to keep the promises they have made; that they may live to Your glory and to the good of humankind; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

18. *The minister says*

Almighty Father, you have created us in Your own image, and by Your gracious gift humankind is increased.

To N..... and

N....., grant the blessing of children; and such wisdom and loving care in the nurture of their family, that they and their children may come to know You in their lives and give You praise and honour; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.



19. The minister and congregation say

Almighty God, Lord of the universe, all love, strength, and understanding come from You; so direct and govern us in body and soul that we may strive to live according to Your Word and to do everything that is agreeable to Your will: through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore.

Amen.



A SERVICE FOR MARRIAGE

FORM 2

THE PREFACE

1. The couple stands before the minister, who says this preface:

We have come together in the presence of God, to witness the joining in marriage of this man

N....., and this woman

N.....

Marriage is the gift of God, who made us male and female and declared that when a man is united to his wife they become one flesh.

Our Lord Jesus Christ said, 'what God has joined together, let no one separate'. God's purpose for marriage is that husband and wife should live together in an exclusive physical union and a lifelong commitment to each other.

Marriage is given for the benefit of human society as the foundation of family life, in which children may be born and nurtured.

In good times and bad, husband and wife may find strength, companionship and comfort, as they serve each other in love. Marriage symbolises God's faithful love for His people, and the union between Christ and His Church.

As N..... and

N..... enter this way of life, they seek God's blessing that His purposes for them may be fulfilled.

Anyone who can show why they may not lawfully be joined together in marriage should now speak, or hereafter remain silent.



Speaking to the persons to be married the minister says:

N..... and

N....., I charge you both, as you will answer before God on the day of judgment, when the secrets of all our hearts shall be disclosed, that if either of you know any reason why you may not lawfully be joined together in marriage, you now confess it.

For be assured, those who marry contrary to God's Word are not joined together by God, nor is their marriage lawful in His sight.

THE CONSENT

2. The minister says to the man,

N....., will you give yourself to

N....., to be her husband, to live with her according to God's Word?

Will you love and serve her, honour and protect her as Christ loved the church and gave Himself for her, and, forsaking all others, will you remain faithful to

N..... so long as you both shall live?

The man replies, **I will.**

3. The minister says to the woman,

N....., will you give yourself to

N....., to be his wife, to live with him according to God's word?

Will you love and serve him, honour and submit to him, as the church submits to Christ, and, forsaking all others, will you remain faithful to

N....., so long as you both shall live?

The woman replies, **I will.**

4. The minister may ask,

Who brings this woman to be married to this man? The father (parents) respond,

I (we) do.



5. The minister prays

God our Father, thank you for the gift of marriage, and for enabling

N..... and

N..... to make this commitment.

Unite them in mutual love and companionship, and keep them in holiness and devotion to one another. We ask these things in the name of your Son, the Lord Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Amen.

THE WEDDING

6. The man, holding the woman's right hand in his, says, 'With God and this congregation as my witnesses,

**I, N....., take you
N....., to be my
wife; to have and to
hold from this day
forward, for better,
for worse, for richer,
for poorer, in
sickness and in
health, to love, and
cherish you, as long
as we both shall live.
This is my solemn
vow and promise'.**



7. The woman, taking the man's right hand in hers, says, 'With God and this congregation as my witnesses,

**I, N....., take you
N....., to be my husband; to have and to hold from this
day forward, for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in
sickness and in health, to love and respect you, as long as
we both shall live. This is my solemn vow and promise'.**



8. The minister invites the congregation to respond to these questions

Families and friends, with God, you are witnesses to these promises.

Will you do everything in your power to uphold

N..... and

N..... in their marriage?

We will.

Will you pray for them that they may live faithfully together as husband and wife until their life's end?

We will.



9. The man places the ring on the ring finger of the woman and holding it there says,

N....., with this ring I wed you. With all that I am I will love you, with all that I have I will serve you, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

10. If the woman gives a ring she does so here.

N....., with this ring I wed you. With all that I am I will love you, with all that I have I will serve you, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.



11. The minister invites the couple to kneel as he says,
Let us pray.

Eternal God, Creator and preserver of all, giver of all spiritual grace, author of everlasting life, send your blessing upon

N..... and

N....., that, living faithfully together in love and peace, they may fulfil and keep the vow and covenant they have made, of which this ring is/these rings are a token and pledge through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

12. The minister joins their hands and says,

Before God and in the presence of us all, by mutual consent and solemn promises, by the giving and receiving of a ring/rings and by the joining of hands, this man

N..... and this woman

N..... have now committed themselves to each other in marriage.

Therefore in the name of God I declare them to be husband and wife.

What God has joined together let no one put asunder.

13. The minister then addresses the husband and wife, saying,
God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit bless, preserve, and keep you; the Lord mercifully with His favour look upon you and fill you with all spiritual blessing, that you may so live together in this life, that in the world to come you may have life everlasting.

Amen.



THE WORD AND THE PRAYERS

14 One or more passages from Scripture may be read and an address may follow.

15. Psalms 127 or 128 or a suitable hymn may be said or sung.

16. The minister says

As our Lord Jesus taught us, we pray together, Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name, Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever.
Amen.

17. The minister or another person leads the congregation in prayer using these or other forms.

God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, bless

N..... and

N..... by sowing the seed of eternal life in their hearts, that whatever they learn in your Holy Word they may indeed fulfil.

Look on them from heaven and bless them as You blessed Abraham and Sarah, that, obeying your will and secure in your protection, they may remain in your love to the end of their lives, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Merciful Lord and heavenly Father, by Your gracious gift humanity is increased.

Give to

N..... and

N..... the blessing of children. Grant that, guarding their hearts, they may remain faithfully united in marriage and see their children raised in the faith, to the praise of your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen



Almighty God, you made man and woman to be united in one flesh, and so signified to us the union between Christ and His Church.

Enable this man to love and cherish his wife, as Christ loved the church and gave Himself for it. Give to this woman the unfading beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit in submitting to her husband, as the church does to Christ. Clothe them with faith, love, holiness and self-control.

May they bring joy to one another and blessing to many, as each serves the other in love, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

18. The minister then prays,

Almighty God, who created our first parents and sanctified and joined them together in marriage, pour upon you the riches of His love, sanctify and bless you, that you may please Him both in body and soul, and live together in holy love to your lives' end.

Amen.

19. The congregation may join the minister in praying.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore.

Amen.



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