





*On this wedding day of ours we join our hands and hearts
The journey that has brought us here, begins a fresh new start.*

*This is the day that we've waited for to celebrate our love
We begin our lives as husband and wife with blessings from above*

*We thank our family and friends for being here with us,
We're honoured to spend this special day with those that mean so much*

*Special thanks to our parents for their devotion, love and care
For the unconditional love they provide is something we now share.*

*For those who cannot be with us, we remember them on this day,
Their love and support surrounds us in each and every way.*

*On this day we say "I do" and kiss as husband and wife,
We celebrate our marriage and our new journey of life.*



The Wedding Party

Bride.....

Groom.....

Maid of Honor.....

Bridesmaid.....

Bridesmaid.....

Bridesmaid.....

Best Man.....

Groomsman.....

Groomsman.....

Mother of the Bride.....

Father of the Bride.....

Mother of the Groom.....

Father of the Groom.....

Grandmother of the Bride.....

Grandmother of the Bride.....

Grandmother of the Groom.....

Children of the Groom.....

Ceremony performed by.....



THE BETROTHAL

The priest begins:

PRIEST: Blessed be our God, always, now and for ever and ever.

ALL: Amen

PRIEST: Let us pray to the Lord.

ALL: Lord, have mercy.

The priest says this prayer:

PRIEST: Eternal God, You have brought together those who were divided, and have instituted an unbreakable bond of love: You blessed Isaac and Rebecca, making them heirs to your promise; now also bless also these Your servants, Eric and Kelly, guiding them in every good deed, for You are a merciful God, full of love for mankind, and we give glory to You, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and forever and ever.

ALL: Amen.

PRIEST: Peace be with all.

ALL: And with your spirit.

PRIEST: Bow you heads to the Lord.

ALL: To You, O Lord.

PRIEST: O Lord our God, You betrothed the Church as a pure virgin from among the nations: bless this betrothal, join together these servants of Yours and keep them in peace and oneness of mind, for all glory, honour and worship are rightfully Yours, Father, Son and Holy Spirit now, forever and ever.

ALL: Amen.

The Giving of Rings

The priest gives the rings. First, to the groom:

PRIEST: The servant of God, Eric is betrothed to the handmaid of God, Kelly, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Then, to the bride:

PRIEST: The handmaid of God, Kelly is betrothed to the servant of God, Eric, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Prayer

PRIEST: Let us pray to the Lord.

ALL: Lord, have mercy.

PRIEST: Lord or God, you accompanied the servant of Patriarch Abraham when he was sent to Mesopotamia to choose a wife for his lord Isaac. By means of a sign, the drawing of water from the well, You showed him that he should betroth Rebecca. Bless this betrothal of Your servants, Eric and Kelly, and make the word they have spoken a reality.

Sustain them with the holy union that comes from You, for You made male and female from the beginning and You are the One that matched a wife to her husband so that she may be his helpmate and the human race may continue. And so, Lord our God, who extended Your faithfulness to Your inheritance and Your promise to Your servants, our fathers, Your chosen ones in every generation: look kindly on Your servant Eris, and your handmaid, Kelly, and make good their pledge in trust, concord, fidelity and love. For You, Lord, have declared that pledges be given and faithfully fulfilled.

By a ring power was given to Joseph in Egypt.

By a ring Daniel was exalted in the land of Babylon.

By a ring Tamar's innocence was proven.

By a ring our heavenly Father showed compassion for his (prodigal) son, for He said: "Put a ring on his right hand, kill the fatted calf and let us eat and celebrate."

Your own right hand, Lord, armed Moses in the Red Sea. And just as Your faithful word established the heavens and made the earth's foundations firm, so too will Your mighty word and Your uplifted arm bless the right hands of Your servants.

Therefore, O Master, with heavenly blessings bless now this putting on of rings and may Your Angel go before Your servants all the days of their life. For You are the One that blesses and sanctifies all things, and we send up glory to You, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever.

ALL: Amen.

THE CROWNING

PSALM 127
(With optional refrain)

REFRAIN: Glo-ry to You, our God; glo-ry to You!

VERSES: Blessed are all who fear the Lord.
Who walk in his ways.

You will eat the fruit of your labours;
Blest are you and it will be well with you.

Your wife shall be like a fruitful vine
On the walls of your house.

Your sons around about your table
Like young shoots around an olive tree.

Behold, thus will the man be blessed
Who fears the Lord.

May the lord bless you from Sion
and you will see the prosperity of Jerusalem
All the days of your life.

You will see your children's children:
Peace be on Israel!

DECLARATION OF CONSENT

When the couple and their attendants are in their places, the deacon censens the bridal party and all who are present. Then the priest may address the couple with a word of instruction, after which he questions them thus:

The priest questions the bridegroom:

PRIEST: Have you, Eric, a good and honest desire and a firm intention to take to yourself as a wife this woman, Kelly, whom you see here before you?

BRIDEGROOM: I have.

PRIEST: Have you promised yourself to another woman?

BRIDEGROOM: I have not.

The priest questions the bride:

PRIEST: Have you, Kelly, a good and honest desire and a firm intention to take to yourself as a husband this man, Eric, whom you see here before you?

BRIDE: I have.

PRIEST: Have you promised yourself to another man?

BRIDE: I have not.

PRIEST: Blessed be the Kingdom of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and forever and ever.

ALL: Amen.

LITANY OF PEACE

PRIEST: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

ALL: Lord, have mercy.

PRIEST: For peace from on high and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

ALL: Lord, have mercy.

PRIEST: For peace throughout the world, for the well-being of God's holy churches and for the unity of all, let us pray to the lord.

ALL: Lord, have mercy.

PRIEST: For this holy church and for all who enter it with faith, reverence and fear of God, let us pray to the Lord.

ALL: Lord, have mercy.

PRIEST: For the holy Pontiff,, Pope of Rome, for his beatitude our Patriarch,, our most reverend Metropolitan,, our God-loving Bishop,, for the reverend priesthood, the diaconate in Christ, and all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.

ALL: Lord, have mercy.

PRIEST: For our nation under God, for our government, and for all the military, let us pray to the Lord.

ALL: Lord, have mercy.

PRIEST: For the servants of God, Eric and Kelly, now being joined to each other in the communion of marriage, and for their salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

ALL: Lord, have mercy.

PRIEST: That this marriage be blessed, as was that in Cana of Galilee, let us pray to the Lord.

ALL: Lord, have mercy.

PRIEST: That they and we be given perfect love, peace and mutual support, and shine as living examples of Christian life, let us pray to the Lord.

ALL: Lord, have mercy.

PRIEST: That they may be delighted with the sight of sons and daughters, let us pray to the Lord.

ALL: Lord, have mercy.

PRIEST: That they may be blessed in the raising of their children and be given a blameless life, let us pray to the Lord.

ALL: Lord, have mercy.

PRIEST: That every request helpful toward salvation may be granted to them and to us, let us pray to the Lord.

ALL: Lord, have mercy.

PRIEST: That they and we be delivered from all tribulation, wrath and misfortune, let us pray to the Lord.

ALL: Lord, have mercy.

PRIEST: Help and save, have mercy and protect us, O God, by your grace.

ALL: Lord, have mercy.

PRIEST: Remembering our most holy and immaculate, most blessed and glorious Lady, the Mother of God and ever-virgin Mary, with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and one another and our whole life to Christ, our God.

ALL: To You, O Lord.

PRIEST: For all glory, honour and worship befit You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and forever and ever.

ALL: Amen.

PRAYER I

PRIEST: Let us pray to the Lord

ALL: Lord, have mercy.

The priest says this prayer:

PRIEST: O God most pure, Author of all creation! Because of Your love for mankind, You transformed the rib of our forefather, Adam, into a woman. You blessed them saying “Be fruitful and multiply. Fill the earth and have dominion over it.” By uniting them in marriage, You made one flesh of the two. “This is why a man leaves his father and mother and clings to his wife and the two become one body;” and “what God has united, man must not separate.

In Your loving kindness, You blessed Your servant Abraham. Granting fruitfulness to Sarah, You made him the father of many nations. You gave Isaac to Rebecca, blessing them with children. You joined Jacob to Rachel, raising from their union the twelve patriarchs. You made Joseph one with Asenath and gave them Ephraim and Manasseh as the fruit of childbirth. You accepted the prayer of Zachary and Elizabeth and made their offspring the Forerunner, John the Baptist. You made the ever-virgin sprout into flesh from the root of Jesse and, taking flesh from her, You were born for the salvation of the human race.

With Your unexpected gift and abundant goodness, You went to Cana in Galilee and blessed the marriage which took place there. By this, you made it clear that this is Your will that there should be lawful marriage, and from it, the procreation of children.

Now, most holy Master, accept this prayer from us, Your servants: As You went to Cana, so also be here with Your invisible presence. Bless this marriage, granting to Your servants Eric and Kelly a peaceful life, length of days, matrimonial honour, chastity, love for one another in a bond of peace, long-lived descendents, happiness through their children and an unfading crown of glory.

Keep their married life above reproach and grant them to see their children's children. Give them the dew from Heaven and the prosperity of the earth. Provide them with an abundance of temporal things, so that they may, in turn, may share their abundance with those in need. Also, grant to those present here with them, all that is needed for their salvation. For you are a God of mercy and compassion, so full of love for mankind, and we give glory to You: Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and forever and ever.

ALL: Amen.

PRAYER II

PRIEST: Let us pray to the Lord.

ALL: Lord, have mercy.

The priest says this prayer:

PRIEST: Holy God, You formed man out of the dust of the earth. You fashioned a woman from his rib, and joined her to him as a helpmate, because it pleased Your great generosity that man should not be alone upon earth. Now, Master, stretch forth Your hand from Your holy dwelling place and unite this servant of Yours, Eric, and this handmaid of Yours, Kelly, for it is You alone Who joins wife and husband. Unite them in one mind and one flesh. Grant them fruitfulness and reward them with good children.

For Yours is the might and Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and forever and ever.

ALL: Amen.

THE MARRIAGE VOWS

The bride and groom place their hands on the Book of Gospels. Covering their hands with his epitrahkil, the priest leads them in their exchange of Marriage Vows:

GROOM: I, Eric, take you, Kelly, to be my wife, and I promise to love you, to respect you, to be always faithful to you and never forsake you until death do us part. So help me God, one in the Holy Trinity and all the Saints.

BRIDE: I, Kelly, take you, Eric, to be my husband, and I promise to love you, to respect you, to be always faithful to you and never forsake you until death do us part. So help me God, one in the Holy Trinity and all the Saints.

*The priest separates their hands and says,
while blessing them:*

PRIEST: What God has united, let no one separate.

THE CROWNING

Then the priest places the crowns individually, saying:

PRIEST: The servant of God, Eric, is crowned in marriage to the handmaid of God, Kelly, in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

Then:

PRIEST: The handmaid of God, Kelly, is crowned in marriage to the servant of God, Eric, in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

The priest, blessing them thrice, exclaims:

PRIEST: O Lord, our God, crown them with glory and honour. (3)

PROKIMEN

PRIEST: Let us be attentive!

PRIEST: Peace be with all.

PRIEST: Wisdom. Let us be attentive!

The reader announces the prokimen in Tone 8, then all sing:

ALL: You have placed upon their heads crowns of precious stones; they have asked You to give them life and you did so!

READER: Yes, You will give them everlasting blessings, and you will gladden them with the joy of Your presence.

ALL: You have placed upon their heads crowns of precious stones; they have asked You to give them life and you did so!

EPISTLE

(Corinthians 13: 1-13)

PRIEST: Wisdom.

READER: A reading from the letter of Holy Apostle Paul to the Corinthians.

PRIEST: Let us be attentive!

READER: BROTHERS AND SISTERS! If I have all the eloquence of men 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 if I even let them take my body and 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. But if there are gifts of prophecy, the time will come when they must fail; or the gift of languages, it will not continue forever; and knowledge – for this too, the time will come when it must fail. For our knowledge is imperfect and our prophesying is imperfect: but once perfection comes, all imperfect things will disappear. When I was a child, I used to talk like a child and think like a child, and argue like a child, but now I am a man, all childish ways are put behind me. Now we are seeing a dim reflection in a mirror; but then we shall be seeing face to face. The knowledge that I have now is imperfect; but then I shall know as fully as I am known. In short, there are three things that last: faith, hope and love; and the greatest of these is love.

ALLELUIA
(Tone 1)

ALL: Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

VERSE: You Lord, will hold us in Your keeping and protect us from this generation and forever.

ALL: Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

GOSPEL
(John 2: 1-11)

PRIEST: Wisdom! Stand aright! Let us listen to the Holy Gospel.

PRIEST: Peace be with you all.

ALL: And with your spirit.

PRIEST: A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John

ALL: Glory be to You, O Lord, glory be to You.

PRIEST: Let us be attentive!

The priest proclaims the Gospel:

PRIEST: AT THAT TIME: There was a wedding at Cana in Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and His disciples had likewise been invited to the celebration.

At a certain point the wine ran out, and the mother of Jesus told Him: "They have no more wine." Jesus replied: "Woman, how does this concern of yours involve me? My hour has not yet come." His mother instructed those waiting to the table: "Do whatever he tells you."

As prescribed for Jewish ceremonial washings, there were at hand six stone water jars, each one holding fifteen to twenty gallons. "Fill the jars with water" Jesus ordered, at which they filled them to the brim. "Now" he said, "Draw some out and take it to the waiter in charge." They did as he instructed them.

The waiter in charge tasted the water made wine without knowing where it had come from; only the waiters knew, since they had drawn the water. Then the waiter in charge called the groom over and remarked to him "People usually serve the choice wine first, then after they have been drinking a while, a lesser vintage. What you have done is keep the choice wine until now."

Jesus worked this first of his signs at Cana in Galilee. Thus did he reveal his glory and his disciples believed in him.

ALL: Glory be to You, O Lord, glory be to You.

LITANY OF SUPPLICATION

PRIEST: Let us all say with our whole soul and whole mind, let us say.

ALL: Lord, have mercy.

PRIEST: Almighty Lord, God of our Fathers, we pray You hear us and have mercy.

ALL: Lord, have mercy.

PRIEST: Have mercy on us, O God, in the greatness of Your compassion, we pray You hear us and have mercy.

ALL: Lord, have mercy. (3)

PRIEST: We also pray for the servants of God, Eric and Kelly, who today have been joined to one another; for their health and salvation.

ALL: Lord, have mercy. (3)

PRIEST: We also pray for the people here present who await Your great and bountiful mercies, for those who have been kind to us and for all orthodox Christians.

ALL: Lord, have mercy. (3)

PRIEST: For You are a merciful and loving God, and we give glory to You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and forever and ever.

ALL: Amen.

PRAYER

PRIEST: Let us pray to the Lord.

ALL: Lord, have mercy.

PRIEST: Lord, our God, in Your plan of salvation, You revealed that marriage is honourable by going to Cana in Galilee. You have consented to unite together your servants, Eric and Kelly, now keep them in peace and oneness of mind. Let their marriage be honourable, preserve their bed undefiled, keep them faithful to one another, grant them a life without sin; and enable them to reach an old age as they observe Your Commandments with a pure heart.

For You are the God of mercy and salvation, and we give glory to You, together with Your eternal Father and Your all-holy, good and life-giving Spirit, now and forever and ever.

ALL: Amen.

LITANY OF SUPPLICATION

PRIEST: Help and save, have mercy and protect us, O God, by Your grace.

ALL: Lord, have mercy.

PRIEST: That this whole day may be perfect, holy, peaceful, and sinless, let us ask the Lord.

ALL: Grant this, O Lord.

PRIEST: For an angel of peace, a faithful guide, a guardian of our souls and bodies, let us ask the Lord.

ALL: Grant this, O Lord.

PRIEST: For the forgiveness and remission of our sins and offenses, let us ask the Lord.

ALL: Grant this, O Lord.

PRIEST: For all that is good and beneficial for our souls and for peace for the world, let us ask the Lord.

ALL: Grant this, O Lord.

PRIEST: That we may spend the rest of our lives in peace and repentance, let us ask the Lord.

ALL: Grant this, O Lord.

PRIEST: For a Christian end to our lives, one that is painless, unashamed, and peaceful; and for a good defense at the awesome tribunal of Christ, let us ask the Lord.

ALL: Grant this, O Lord.

PRIEST: Having asked for unity of the faith and for the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, let us commend ourselves and one another and our whole life to Christ our God.

ALL: To You, O Lord.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

PRIEST: Make us worthy, O Master, with confidence and without condemnation to dare call You, the heavenly God, Father, and say:

ALL: Our father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

PRIEST: For the kingdom, the power and the glory are Yours, Father, Son and Holy Spirit now and forever and ever.

ALL: Amen

PRAYER

PRIEST: Peace be with all!

ALL: And with Your spirit.

PRIEST: Bow your heads to the Lord.

ALL: To You, O Lord.

PRIEST: O God, with Your strength You created everything. You placed the universe upon a firm foundation and beautiful the crowns of all who have been created by You. So also, bless Your servants who have been crowned in the community of marriage with a spiritual blessing.

For Your name is blessed, and Your kingdom has been glorified; the kingdom of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever.

ALL: Amen.

THE COMMON CUP

THE PROCESSION *(IRMOS, TONE 5)*

Dance, Isaiah! The Virgin has conceived and will bear a son, Emmanuel who is God and man. His name is Orient. When we extol Him we call that virgin blessed.

(TROPARIA, TONE 7)

O holy Martyrs, you fought well and have received your crowns: On our behalf, entreat the Lord to have mercy on our souls! Glory to You, O Christ – God, the apostles boast the martyrs' joy, they whose preaching was the Trinity, One in Being.

REMOVAL OF THE CROWNS

The priest addresses the bride and groom in turn:

Bridegroom!
Be exalted like Abraham,
Blessed like Isaac,
And multiplied like Jacob,
Walking in peace
And righteously doing God's commandments

Then:

And you, O bride!
Be exalted as Sarah,
Gladdened like Rebecca,
And multiplied like Rachel,
Being happy with your husband,

And keeping the precepts of the law.
Do this and you will please God.

PRAYER

PRIEST: Let us pray to the Lord.

ALL: Lord, have mercy.

PRIEST: O God, our God! You went to Cana in Galilee and blessed the marriage that took place there. Now, bless too these servants of Yours now joined together through Your providence in the communion of marriage. Bless the daily course of their life; fill their life with a great store of good things; and receive their crowns in Your kingdom, keeping them pure, blameless and above reproach, for ever and ever.

ALL: Amen

THE BLESSING

PRIEST: Peace be with all!

ALL: And to Your spirit.

PRIEST: Bow your heads to the Lord.

ALL: To You, O Lord.

The priest, cross in hand, blesses the newly-wedded couple:
May the Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
the all-holy, Trinity, One in Being,
the Source of life,
one Divinity and one Kingdom,
bless you and grant you a long life,
fine children,
success in life and in faith.
May you be filled
with an abundance of all good things of the earth,
and may you be found worthy
of receiving the promised blessings.
We ask this
through the prayers of the Holy Mother of God
and of all the Saints.

ALL: Amen.

DISMISSAL

PRIEST: Wisdom!

ALL: More honourable than the Cherubim and by far more glorious than the Seraphim, ever a virgin, you gave birth to God the Word; O true Mother of God, we magnify you.

PRIEST: Glory be to You, O Christ our God, our hope, glory be to You.

ALL: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever, Amen. Lord, have mercy. (3) Give the blessing.

PRIEST: Christ, our true God, who proved marriage honourable by His presence in Cana of Galilee, through the prayers of His immaculate Mother; of the holy, and ever-honoured Apostles; and of the holy, divinely-crowned sovereigns and equals to the Apostles, Constantine and Helen, of the holy great-martyr Procopius and by the prayers of all the Saints, will have mercy upon us and save us, for He is good and loves mankind.

ALL: Amen.

MANY YEARS

PRIEST: To the newly-wedded couple Eric and Kelly, Send, O Lord, true and faithful love, a peaceful, happy and godly life and long-lived descendents, and grant them many years.

All Sing:

Lord, grant them many years, grant them many years! (2)

May they be blessed with health and salvation!

God, grant them many, happy years!

O Lord, bless our family, our loved ones far and near;

The elders, the children, the couple standing here.

May peace, love and laughter be ours forever after.

O lord, for this we pray, on this wedding day.

SIGNING OF THE REGISTRY

*A special thank you to our loving family and friends
We love each and every one of you!*

Glory to God for All things

