



ANNIVERSARY
of
MARRIAGE

PARISH CELEBRATION

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Mr. and Mrs. _____

Church _____

Priest _____

Date _____



CELEBRATION OF A MARRIAGE ANNIVERSARY

After the reading of the Gospel, the priest may expound upon the mystery and the grace of Christian married life in his homily based on the sacred text. Then in these or similar words, the Priest invites the couple to pray in silence and to renew before God their commitment to live their Marriage in holiness.

N. and N.,
on the anniversary of that celebration
at which you joined your lives
in an unbreakable bond
through the Sacrament of Matrimony,
you now intend to renew
before the Lord
the promises you made
to one another.
Turn to the Lord in prayer,
that these vows may be strengthened
by divine grace.

**Then the couple renew
their commitment quietly.**

**If, however, the couple,
taking circumstances into account,
wish to renew their commitment
publicly, the form provided here
is used:**

The husband:
Blessed are you, Lord,
for by your goodness I took **N.**
to be my wife.

The wife:
Blessed are you, Lord,
for by your goodness I took **N.**
to be my husband.

Both:
Blessed are you, Lord,
for in the good and the bad times
of our life
you have stood lovingly by our side.
Help us, we pray,
to remain faithful in our love
for one another,
so that we may be true witnesses
to the covenant you have made
with humankind.

The Priest:
May the Lord keep you safe
all the days of your life.
May he be your comfort in adversity
and your support in prosperity.
May he fill your home
with his blessings.
Through Christ our Lord.
R. Amen.



Then the Priest, if appropriate, says this prayer:

Increase and sanctify, Lord, the love of yours servants **N.** and **N.**, who once gave each other these rings as a sign of faithfulness, that they may always grow in the grace of the Sacrament. Through Christ our Lord.
R. Amen.

And the rings may be honored with an incensation.

If, however, new rings are presented, the Priest says this prayer of blessing:

Bless and sanctify the love of your servants, O Lord; let these rings, a sign of their faithfulness, remind them of their love for one another and recall the grace of the Sacrament. Through Christ Our Lord.
R. Amen.

Then follows the Universal Prayer or Prayer of the Faithful in the form usual at Mass, or prayer in common in the form provided here:

Let us call upon the mercy of God the almighty Father, who in his most provident plan willed that the history of salvation be signified in marital love and fidelity. (marital love, fidelity, and fruitfulness)
R. Renew the fidelity of your servants, Lord.

Holy Father, who are called faithful, requiring and rewarding the observance of your covenant, be pleased to fill with your blessings these your servants who celebrate the (twenty-fifth, fiftieth, sixtieth) anniversary of their Marriage.
R. Renew the fidelity of your servants, Lord.

Holy Father, who with the Son and the Holy Spirit enjoy from eternity perfect oneness of life and communion of love, grant that these your servants may always remember and faithfully keep the covenant of love they made in the Sacrament.
R. Renew the fidelity of your servants, Lord.

Holy Father, who in your providence order all the experiences of human life so as to lead the faithful to share in the mystery of Christ, grant that these your servants, serenely accepting both good times and bad, may strive to cling to Christ and live for him alone.

R. Renew the fidelity of your servants, Lord.

Holy Father, who willed that the partnership of Marriage should be an example of Christian living, grant that all married couples may be witnesses in the world to the mystery of your Son's love.

R. Renew the fidelity of your servants, Lord.

The priest concludes the prayer:

O God, in whose plan family life has its firm foundation, hear with compassion the prayers of your servants and grant that, following the example of the Holy Family, they may praise you without end in the joy of your house.

Through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

In the Liturgy of the Eucharist everything takes place according to the Order of Mass, except what follows. If appropriate, at the Presentation of the Gifts the husband and the wife may bring the bread, wine, and water to the altar.

After the Our Father, the prayer Deliver us is omitted. The Priest, facing the couple, with hands extended, says:

We praise you, O God, we bless you, Creator of all things, who in the beginning made man and woman that they might form a communion of life and love.

We also give you thanks for graciously blessing the family life of your servants **N.** and **N.**, so that it might present an image of Christ's union with the Church.

Therefore look with kindness upon them today, and as you have sustained their communion amid joys and struggles, renew their Marriage covenant each day, increase their charity, and strengthen in them the bond of peace, so that (, together with the circle of their children that surrounds them,) they may for ever enjoy your blessing. Through Christ our Lord.

All reply:

Amen.

After the peace of the Lord has been said, if appropriate, in accordance with local customs, the couple and all others offer one another a sign that suitably expresses peace and charity. The couple may receive Communion under both kinds.

At the end of Mass, the Priest blesses the couple and those present either in the usual manner or with a more solemn formula, for example, in the following way:

The Deacon invites those present to receive the blessing:
Bow down for the blessing.

Then the Priest, with hands extended over the couple, says:
May God the all-powerful Father grant you his joy.
R. Amen.

May the Only Begotten Son of God stand by you with compassion in good times and in bad.

R. Amen.

May the Holy Spirit always pour forth his love into your hearts.
R. Amen.

Finally, he blesses all present, adding:
And may almighty God bless all of you, who are gathered here, the Father, and the Son, + and the Holy Spirit.
R. Amen.





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