

THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA

*The Marriage of*

*Name*

*&*

*Name*

*Day, Date, Year*  
*Time*

ST JOHN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH  
EPPING





## GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

*please stand for the Bridal Procession*

*Processional Music:*

### THE WELCOME

*The Greeting*

+The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God,  
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

**And also with you.**

*The Sentence*

God is love, and those who live in love live in God,  
and God lives in them.

*1 John 4.16.*

Dearly beloved,  
we have come together in the presence of God  
to witness the marriage of *Name and Name*,  
and to ask God's blessing on them as we share their joy.

Marriage is a gift of God our creator.  
It is a symbol of God's unending love for God's people,  
and of the union between Christ and his Church.  
Christ loved his bride the Church, and gave himself for her.

As Christ has called *Name and Name* to marriage,  
so, God draws their differing gifts and hopes  
into a unity of love and service.

Scripture teaches that marriage is a lifelong partnership  
uniting two people in heart, mind and body.  
In the joy of their union, both enrich and respond to each other,  
growing in tenderness and understanding.

Through marriage a new family is formed.  
Marriage is therefore to be honoured by all.  
No one should enter it lightly or selfishly,  
but responsibly and joyfully,  
with mutual respect and the promise to be faithful.

So, let us pray with *Name and Name*  
as they prepare to exchange their solemn vows:

**Blessed are you, loving God,  
your Spirit binds us together.  
Crown our lives with your goodness;  
sustain us all our days with your love.**

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

*please sit*

### THE FIRST READING:

*A reading from ....*

*Read by ....*

Hear the word of the Lord: **thanks be to God**

### THE SECOND READING:

*A reading from ....*

*Read by ....*

Hear the word of the Lord: **thanks be to God.**

## THE HOMILY

*The Reverend Raffaella Pilz*

## THE CONSENT

*Name*, will you give yourself to *Name* to be her husband,  
to live with her according to God's word?  
Will you love her, comfort her;  
honour and protect her,  
and, forsaking all others, be faithful to her  
so long as you both shall live?

**I will.**

*Name*, will you give yourself to *Name*, to be his wife,  
to live with him according to God's word?  
Will you love him, comfort him;  
honour and protect him,  
and, forsaking all others, be faithful to him  
so long as you both shall live?

**I will.**

**Families and friends,**  
you are witnesses to these vows.  
Will you do everything in your power  
to uphold *Name and Name* in their marriage?

**We will.**

## THE VOWS

**I, *Name*,** in the presence of God,  
take you, *Name*, 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,  
so long as we both shall live.  
All this I vow and promise.

I, *Name*, in the presence of God,  
take you, *Name*, 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,  
so long as we both shall live.  
All this I vow and promise.

#### THE BLESSING & EXCHANGE OF RINGS

*The Rings are presented by ...*

God of steadfast love, by your blessing,  
+let these rings be for *Name and Name*  
a symbol of their love and faithfulness  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*Name says:*

*Name*, I give you this ring  
as a symbol of our marriage.  
With all that I am, and all that I have,  
I honour you; in the name of God. **Amen.**

*Name says:*

*Name*, I give you this ring  
as a symbol of our marriage.  
With all that I am, and all that I have,  
I honour you; in the name of God. **Amen.**

*After rings have been exchanged, Name and Name say together*

**I receive this ring  
as a symbol of your love and faithfulness  
to the end of our days.  
May God enable us to grow in love together.**

## THE NUPTIAL BLESSING

*Name and Name kneel*

Let us pray:

*Name and Name,*

God the Father lovingly enfold you,

God the Son grace your home and table,

God the Holy Spirit crown you with joy and peace.

The Lord +bless you and keep you in eternal life.

**Amen.**

## THE DECLARATION

Before God, and in the presence of us all,

*Name and Name* have joined hands

and made their solemn vows,

promising life-long faithfulness to each other.

In the name of God,

+I declare them to be husband and wife.

What God has joined together, let no one put asunder.

## THE SIGNING OF THE MARRIAGE REGISTER & CERTIFICATE

*Music Selection ...*



## THE PRAYERS

*The Prayers are led by ...*

Almighty God,  
look graciously on the world which you have made  
and for which your Son gave his life.  
Bless all whom you make one flesh in marriage.

May *Name and Name's* life together  
be a sign of your love to this broken world,  
so that unity may overcome estrangement,  
forgiveness, heal guilt, and joy overcome despair.

Lord, in your mercy:  
**hear our prayer.**

May *Name and Name* so live together that the strength of  
their love may reflect your love and enrich our common life.

Lord, in your mercy:  
**hear our prayer.**

May they be gentle and patient, ready to trust each other,  
and, when they fail, willing to recognise and acknowledge  
their fault and to ask each other's forgiveness.

Lord, in your mercy:  
**hear our prayer.**

May *Name and Name* be filled with wisdom, love and patience,  
as they care for their families.

Lord, in your mercy  
**hear our prayer.**

May the lonely, the bereaved, and all who suffer want or anxiety,  
be defended by you, O Lord.

Lord, in your mercy:  
**hear our prayer.**

May all whose lives today be brought together, be given wisdom, patience and courage to serve one another in Christ's name.

Lord, in your mercy:

**hear our prayer.**

May friends and family gathered here, and those separated by distance, be strengthened and blessed this day.

Lord, in your mercy

**hear our prayer.**

We praise you, merciful God, for those who have died in the faith of Christ. May all the faithful be strengthened by their example.

Lord, in your mercy:

**hear our prayer.**

*The Lord's Prayer*

Accept our prayers, loving God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us to pray:

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be thy 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.  
Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory, are yours,  
now and forever.  
Amen.**

THE BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

*please stand*

Let us pray:

Most gracious God,  
we give you thanks for your tender love  
in sending Jesus Christ to come among us,  
born of a human mother,  
to make the way of the cross to be the way of life.  
Pour out the abundance of your blessing  
on this man and this woman.  
Defend them from every enemy.  
Lead them into all peace.  
Let their love for each other  
be a seal upon their hearts,  
a mantle about their shoulders,  
and a crown upon their heads.  
+Bless them in their work  
and in their companionship;  
in their sleeping and in their waking;  
in their joys and in their sorrows;  
in their life and in their death.  
Finally, in your mercy,  
bring us all to that table where your saints  
feast for ever in your heavenly home. **Amen.**

The Lord +bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face to shine on you  
and be gracious to you.  
The Lord lift up his countenance on you,  
and give you peace. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord:  
**+in the name of Christ. Amen.**

*Recessional Music:*

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