

## Marriage Service without Mass

The following draft order of service will help you in the planning stages, regarding content and layout.

It is followed by the texts which will be used during the wedding, which involve you in making a number of choices.

This, in turn is followed by the readings you may choose from the scriptures (Bible)

**Anything printed in red is an instruction for you or the printer and is not needed in the text!**

The golden rule to follow is that, in any booklets printed for the congregation, there is no need to print anything other than the running order, and the texts they will be using.

Each time the word 'hymn' appears, it is bracketed. This indicates that a hymn at this point is not compulsory, but that it is an appropriate place to have one

You will need to check whether the words of the hymns are in copyright. The end of the service should have a footnote which reads:

### ORDER OF SERVICE

**At the Entrance of the Bride** - name the piece of music and the composer

**Welcome**

### INTRODUCTORY RITES

**(Hymn)** Print hymn in full. If printed in two columns, ensure verse numbering.

**Opening Prayer**

### LITURGY OF THE WORD

**First Reading:** Print scripture reference - **no need to print text.**

*At the end of the passage, the reader says:*                   The word of the Lord.  
R.   Thanks be to God.

**Responsorial Psalm:** from the selection of readings

or

**(Hymn)** Print hymn in full. If printed in two columns, ensure verse numbering.

**(Second Reading)** - same instructions as for first reading.

**Gospel:**           V.     The Lord be with you.  
                      R.     And with your spirit.  
                      V.     A reading from the holy Gospel according to.....(name of Gospel)  
                      R.     Glory to you, Lord.

Print scripture reference - **no need to print text.**

*At the end of the passage, the priest says:*                   The gospel of the Lord.  
R.   Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

**Homily** (if most people are not Catholics, it is probably better to put 'address' instead)

## **RITE OF MARRIAGE**

**Questions before Consent**

**Civil Declaration of Freedom**

**Exchange of Consent**

**Blessing and Exchange of Ring(s)**

**Prayer of the Faithful:** *after each petition, the reader says:*

V Lord, in your mercy.

R. Hear our prayer.

*(If you are writing your own intercessions, please use the form 'We pray for....' or 'Let us pray for....' , stating the intention: e.g. We pray for John and Mary, that the Lord, who has brought them to this happy day, will be their constant companion. Don't use the form 'Dear Jesus', or 'Lord'. That form indicates a prayer. The reader is inviting people to pray, not leading them in prayer.)*

**Nuptial Blessing**

**Blessing**

**(Hymn)** same instructions as for other hymns

**Signing of the Registers** Two registers are used – so make sure the heading is printed in the plural.

**Recessional:** name the piece of music and the composer