

## The Nuptial Blessing

## THE ORDER OF CELEBRATING MATRIMONY

## WITHIN MASS

**74.** Then the Priest, with hands extended over the bride and bridegroom, continues:

## WITHOUT MASS

**105.** Then the minister, standing and turned toward the bride and bridegroom with hands extended over them, says the following prayer.

**74./105.**

**O God, who by your mighty power  
created all things out of nothing,  
and, when you had set in place  
the beginnings of the universe,  
formed man and woman in your own image,  
making the woman an inseparable helpmate  
to the man,  
that they might no longer be two, but one flesh,  
and taught that what you were pleased to make one  
must never be divided;**

**O God, who consecrated the bond of Marriage  
by so great a mystery  
that in the wedding covenant you foreshadowed  
the Sacrament of Christ and his Church;**

**O God, by whom woman is joined to man  
and the companionship they had in the beginning  
is endowed with the one blessing  
not forfeited by original sin  
nor washed away by the flood.**

Look now with favor on these your servants,  
joined together in Marriage,  
who ask to be strengthened by your blessing.  
Send down on them the grace of the Holy Spirit  
and pour your love into their hearts,  
that they may remain faithful in the Marriage covenant.

**M<sub>1</sub>**  
*(cont.)*

May the grace of love and peace  
abide in your daughter N., and let her always follow  
the example of those holy women  
whose praises are sung in the Scriptures.

May her husband entrust his heart to her,  
so that, acknowledging her as his equal  
and his joint heir to the life of grace,  
he may show her due honor  
and cherish her always  
with the love that Christ has for his Church.

And now, Lord, we implore you:

may these your servants  
hold fast to the faith and keep your commandments;  
made one in the flesh,  
may they be blameless in all they do;  
and with the strength that comes from the Gospel,  
may they bear true witness to Christ before all;  
(may they be blessed with children,  
and prove themselves virtuous parents,  
who live to see their children's children).

And grant that, reaching at last together  
the fullness of years  
for which they hope,  
they may come to the life of the blessed  
in the Kingdom of Heaven.  
Through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

(111B) *(text continues on next card)*

## The Nuptial Blessing

### THE ORDER OF CELEBRATING MATRIMONY WITHIN OR WITHOUT MASS

All pray in silence for a while.

**207.** Then the Priest (or Deacon), with hands extended over the bride and bridegroom, continues:

**Holy Father,  
who formed man in your own image,  
male and female you created them,  
so that as husband and wife, united in body and heart,  
they might fulfill their calling in the world;  
O God, who, to reveal the great design you formed in  
your love,  
willed that the love of spouses for each other  
should foreshadow the covenant you graciously  
made with your people,  
so that, by fulfillment of the sacramental sign,  
the mystical marriage of Christ with his Church  
might become manifest  
in the union of husband and wife among your faithful;**

**Graciously stretch out your right hand  
over these your servants (N. and N.), we pray,  
and pour into their hearts the power of the Holy Spirit.**

**Grant, O Lord,  
that, as they enter upon this sacramental union,  
they may share with one another the gifts of your love  
and, by being for each other a sign of your presence,  
become one heart and one mind.**

**May they also sustain, O Lord, by their deeds  
the home they are forming  
(and prepare their children  
to become members of your heavenly household  
by raising them in the way of the Gospel).**

**Graciously crown with your blessings your daughter N.,  
so that, by being a good wife (and mother),  
she may bring warmth to her home  
with a love that is pure  
and adorn it with welcoming graciousness.**

**Bestow a heavenly blessing also, O Lord,  
on N., your servant,  
that he may be a worthy, good, and  
faithful husband (and a provident father).**

**Grant, holy Father,  
that, desiring to approach your table  
as a couple joined in Marriage in your presence,  
they may one day have the joy  
of taking part in your great banquet in heaven.  
Through Christ our Lord.**

R. Amen.

For what follows in the Order of Celebrating  
Matrimony without Mass, see card M4.

## The Nuptial Blessing

THE ORDER OF CELEBRATING MATRIMONY  
WITHIN OR WITHOUT MASS

**209.** Then the Priest (or Deacon), with hands extended over the bride and bridegroom, continues:

**Holy Father, maker of the whole world,  
who created man and woman in your own image  
and willed that their union be crowned with your blessing,  
we humbly beseech you for these your servants,  
who are joined today in the Sacrament of Matrimony.  
May your abundant blessing, Lord,  
come down upon this bride, N.,  
and upon N., her companion for life,  
and may the power of your Holy Spirit  
set their hearts aflame from on high,  
so that, living out together the gift of Matrimony,  
they may (adorn their family with children  
and) enrich the Church.**

**In happiness may they praise you, O Lord,  
in sorrow may they seek you out;  
may they have the joy of your presence  
to assist them in their toil,  
and know that you are near  
to comfort them in their need;  
let them pray to you in the holy assembly  
and bear witness to you in the world,  
and after a happy old age,  
together with the circle of friends that surrounds them,  
may they come to the Kingdom of Heaven.  
Through Christ our Lord.**

R. Amen.