

**The Anglican Parish of Kangaroo Point
The Church of St. Mary the Virgin**



Rector - Archdeacon Stephen Redhead

WEDDING ORDER OF SERVICE

BRIDAL PROCESSION

(Own Choice of Music)

WELCOME

The Congregation is asked to remain standing.

Greeting by Father Stephen

Fr. Stephen: *The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.*

All: *And also with you.*

These words said by the Priest – Members of the families of Name & Name, do you give your blessing to this marriage?

Response: We do.

Candle Lighting by family members if required.

Fr. Stephen: *God is love, and those who live in love, live in God, and God lives in them.*

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

(Hymn could be sung here)

Fr. Stephen: *Marriage is a gift of God our creator; it is a symbol of God's unending love for his people, and the union between Christ and his Church. Christ loved his Bride the Church, and gave himself for her. As he has calledand.....to marriage, so he draws their differing gifts and hopes into a unity of love and service.*

Scripture teaches that marriage is a lifelong partnership uniting a woman and a man in heart, mind and body.

In the joy of their union, husband and wife enrich and respond to each other, growing in tenderness and understanding. Through marriage, a new family is formed where children may be born and grow in secure and loving care. Marriage is therefore to be honoured by all. No one should enter into it lightly or selfishly, but responsibly and joyfully, with respect and the promise to be faithful.

So let us pray withand.....as they prepare to exchange their solemn vows.

Blessed are you, loving God, your Spirit binds us together.

All: *Crown our lives with your goodness; sustain us all our days with your love.*

Fr. Stephen: *Blessand.....with wisdom and pleasure. Be their friend and companion in joy, their comfort in need and sorrow. And when this life is ended welcome them into your presence, there with all your people to praise your holy name.*

All: *Blessed be God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit, as in the beginning, so now and forever. Amen.*

The Congregation sits:

READINGS

One or Two Reading/s from the Bible:
Own Choice – (See List of Suggested Readings)
A piece of prose, a poem or a piece of your own composition could be inserted here – read by others or yourselves.

HOMILY: *Usually given by the celebrating Priest*

HYMN - *A hymn could be sung here*

THE WEDDING

Fr Stephen: *.....(Groom), will you give yourself to ... (Bride), 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 as long as you both shall live?*

Groom: *I will*

Fr. Stephen: *.....(Bride), will you give yourself to ... (Groom), 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 as long as you both shall live?*

Bride: *I will.*

Fr. Stephen: *Families and friends, you are witness to these vows. Will you do everything in your power to upholdand.....in their marriage?*

All: *We will.*

Groom: *I,.....(groom), in the presence of God, take you, (bride), 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.*

Bride: *I,.....(bride), in the presence of God, take you(groom), 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.*

BLESSING AND EXCHANGE OF RINGS

Fr. Stephen: *God of steadfast love, by your blessing, let these rings be forand....., a symbol of their love and faithfulness, through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

All: *Amen*

Groom: *, 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.*

Bride: *....., 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.*

Bride: , 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.

Groom: , 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.

Fr. Stephen: Before God, in the presence of us all,andhave joined hands and made their solemn vows, promising lifelong 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 separate.

Bride and Groom: God of tenderness and strength, you have brought our paths together and led us to this day; go with us now as we travel through good times, through trouble, and through change. Bless our home, our partings and our meetings. Make us worthy of one another's best, and tender with one another's dreams. Amen

Fr. Stephen: 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.

All: Amen

The Bride and Groom light their Marriage Candle. (Optional)

(HYMN) (Optional)

*A Selection of any of these prayer is to be made – minimum 3
Any person or group of people may lead the prayers. The selection of prayers concludes with the Lord's Prayer. For a different style of the prayers, see concluding pages.*

Leader: 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 their life together be a sign of your love to the broken world, so that unity may overcome estrangement, forgiveness heal guilt, and joy overcome despair. Lord, in your mercy

All: Hear our prayer.

Leader: May.....and.....so live together that the strength of their love may reflect your love and enrich our common life.
Lord, in your mercy

All: Hear our prayer.

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

All: Hear our prayer.

Leader: May.....and.....be blessed with the gift of children. Fill them with wisdom and love as they care for their family.
Lord, in your mercy

All: Hear our prayer.

The Prayers

Leader: *May the lonely, the bereaved, and all who suffer want or anxiety, be defended by you, O Lord.
Lord, in your mercy*

All: *Hear our prayer.*

Leader: *May those whose lives are today brought together be given wisdom, patience and courage to serve one another in Christ's name.
Lord, in your mercy*

All: *Hear our prayer.*

Leader: *May friends and family gathered here, and those separated by distance, be strengthened and blessed this day.
Lord, in your mercy*

All: *Hear our prayer.*

Leader: *We praise you, merciful God, for those who have died in the faith of Christ. May we be strengthened by their example. Accept our prayers, loving God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us to pray,*

All: *Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your 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.

Blessing and Dismissal:

Fr. Stephen: *Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.*

All: *In the name of Christ. Amen.*

SIGNING OF THE REGISTER

Music – Own Choice

RECESSIONAL

(Music – Own Choice)

For a different style of prayers, see next page.

These are prayers in a different style than the ones printed above. You can choose from these if you prefer them. A selection of three or four is appropriate, concluding with the Lord's Prayer.

For faithfulness

*God of all grace, friend and companion, look in favour on.....
and....., and all who are made one in marriage.
In your love, deepen their love, strengthen their wills to keep the promises they have made, that they may continue in life-long faithfulness to each other; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen*

For the joy of loving

God our Creator, we thank you for your gift of sexual love by which husband and wife may delight in each other, and share with you the joy of creating new life. By your grace mayand remain lovers, rejoicing in your goodness all their days. Amen

For children

Lord of life, you shape us in your image, and by your gracious gift, the human family is increased. Toandgrant the blessing of children. Fill them with wisdom and love as they care for their family, so that they and their children may know and love you, through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

For an existing family

God of all grace and goodness, we thank you for this new family, and for everything parents and children have to share; by your Spirit of peace draw them together and help them to be true friends to one another. Let your love surround them and your care protect them, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

For grace to live well

Faithful God, giver of all good things, giveand wisdom and devotion in the ordering of their life together. May they dwell together in love and peace all the days of their life, seeking one another's welfare, bearing one another's burdens and sharing one another's joys; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

For discipleship

Eternal God, without your grace nothing is strong, nothing is sure. Strengthenandwith patience, kindness and gentleness, and all other gifts of the Holy Spirit, so that they may fulfil the vows they have made. Keep them faithful to each other and to you. Fill them with such love and joy that they may build a home of peace and welcome. Make their life together a sign of Christ's love in this broken world, that unity may overcome estrangement, forgiveness heal guilt, and joy conquer despair; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

For the families of the couple

Gracious Lord, bless the parents and families ofand that they may grow in love and friendship. Grant that, as they have witnessed these vows today, they may find their lives enriched and strengthened and their loyalties confirmed. Amen

For the healing of memory

Loving God, you are merciful and forgiving. Grant that those who are suffering the hurts of the past may experience your generous love. Heal their memories, comfort them, and send them all from here renewed and hopeful. Amen

For the joy of companionship

All praise and blessing to you, God of love, creator of the universe, maker of man and woman in your likeness, source of blessing for married life. All praise to you, for you have created courtship and marriage, joy and gladness, feasting and laughter, pleasure and delight. May your blessing come in full upon.....and May they know your presence in their joys and sorrows. May they reach old age in the company of friends and come at last to your eternal kingdom. Amen

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