

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

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**Rector - Archdeacon Stephen Redhead**



## **POPULAR POEMS for WEDDINGS**

Captain Corelli's Mandolin, Love's Philosophy, The Art of Marriage, Why Marriage, and The love of my life.

### **Captain Corelli's Mandolin**

Love is a temporary madness  
It erupts like volcanoes and then subsides  
And when it subsides you have to make a decision  
You have to work out whether your roots have so entwined together  
That it is inconceivable that you should ever part  
Because this is what love is  
Love is not breathlessness  
It is not excitement  
It is not the promulgation of eternal passion  
That is just being "in love" which any fool can do  
Love itself is what is left over when being in love has burned away  
And this is both an art and a fortunate accident  
Those that truly love, have roots that grow towards each other underground,  
And when all the pretty blossom have fallen from their branches,  
They find that they are one tree and not two.

### **Love's Philosophy**

The fountains mingle with the river  
And the rivers with the Ocean  
The winds of Heaven mix for ever  
With a sweet emotion

Nothing in the world is single  
All things by a law divine  
In one spirit meet and mingle  
Why not I with thine?

See the mountains kiss high Heaven  
And the waves clasp one another  
No sister-flower would be forgiven  
If it disdained its brother

And the sunlight clasps the earth  
And the moonbeams kiss the sea  
What is all this sweet work worth  
If thou kiss not me?

*Percy Bysshe Shelley 1792-1822*

## **The Art of Marriage**

The little things are the big things  
It is never being too old to hold hands  
It is never going to sleep angry  
It is at no time taking the other for granted  
The courtship should not end with the honeymoon  
It should continue through all the years  
It is having a mutual sense of values and common objectives  
It is standing together facing the world  
It is forming a circle of love that gathers in the whole family  
It is doing things for each other, not in the attitude of duty or sacrifice, but in the spirit of joy  
It is speaking words of appreciation and demonstrating gratitude in thoughtful ways  
It is not expecting the husband to wear a halo or the wife to have wings of an angel  
It is not looking for perfection in each other  
It is cultivating flexibility, patience, understanding and a sense of humour  
It is having the capacity to forgive and forget  
It is giving each other an atmosphere in which each can grow  
It is finding room for the things of spirit  
It is a common search for the good and the beautiful  
It is establishing a relationship in which the independence is equal, dependence is mutual and the obligation is reciprocal  
It is not only marrying the right partner, it is being the right partner.

## **Why Marriage? by Mari Nichols**

Because to the depths of me, I long to love one person,  
With all my heart, my soul, my mind, my body...

Because I need a forever friend to trust with the intimacies of me,  
Who won't hold them against me,  
Who loves me when I'm unlikable,  
Who sees the small child in me, and  
Who looks for the divine potential of me...

Because I need to cuddle in the warmth of the night  
With someone who thanks God for me,  
With someone I feel blessed to hold...

Because marriage means opportunity  
To grow in love in friendship...

Because marriage is a discipline  
To be added to a list of achievements...

Because marriages do not fail, people fail  
When they enter into marriage  
Expecting another to make them whole...

Because, knowing this,  
I promise myself to take full responsibility  
For my spiritual, mental and physical wholeness  
I create me,  
I take half of the responsibility for my marriage  
Together we create our marriage...

Because with this understanding  
The possibilities are limitless.

## The Love of my Life

When I met you, I had no idea  
How much my life  
Was about to be changed....  
But then, how could I have known?

A love like ours happens  
Once in a lifetime.  
You were a miracle to me,  
The one who was everything  
I had ever dreamed of,  
The one I thought existed  
Only in my imagination.

And when you came into my life,  
I realized that what I  
Had always thought was happiness  
Couldn't compare to the joy  
loving you brought to me.

You are a part of everything  
I think and do and feel,  
And with you by my side,  
I believe that anything is possible.

This day gives me a chance  
To thank you for the miracle of you...  
You are, and always will be,  
The love of my life.