

**ORDER OF MASS FOR THE SOLEMNIZATION OF HOLY MATRIMONY
BETWEEN**

N -----

AND

N-----

ON -----

AT OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP CATHOLIC CHURCH

14B, MUSA YAR ADUA STREET, VICTORIA ISLAND, LAGOS.

TIME: -----

OFFICIATING PRIESTS:

VERY REVD. FR. JULIUS A. OLAITAN

REV. FR. JULIAN EGWUATU

CHOIR:

OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP CHOIR

SPONSORS: -----

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ENTRANCE HYMN

INTRODUCTORY RITES (ALL STAND)

Priest: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Priest: The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: And with your spirit.

PENITENTIAL RITES

Priest: Brethren, let us acknowledge our sins and so prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries.

(After a brief silence)

All: I confess to Almighty God, and to you brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done, and in what I have failed to do; through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault; therefore I ask Blessed Mary, ever virgin, and all the angels and saints and you my brothers and sisters to pray for me to the Lord our God.

Priest: May Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins and bring us to life everlasting.

All: Amen.

GLORIA:

OPENING PRAYER

Priest : Let us pray

O God, who since the beginning of the world have blessed the increase of offspring, show favour to our supplications and pour forth the help of your blessing on these your servants, **N** and **N**, so that in the union of Marriage they may be bound together in mutual affection, in likeness of mind, and in shared holiness. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

All: Amen

(All sit)

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Reader: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

SECOND READING

Reader: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

(ALL STAND)

Alleluia, alleluia!

GOSPEL READING

The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

THE HOMILY

(ALL SEAT)

7. RITE OF MARRIAGE

(All stand, including the bride and bridegroom, and the Priest addresses them in these words:)

N and **N**, you have come together in this church so that the Lord may seal and strengthen your love in the presence of the Church's minister and this community Christ abundantly

blessees this love. He has already consecrated you in baptism and now he enriches and strengthens you by a special sacrament so that you may assume the duties of marriage in mutual and lasting fidelity. And so, in the presence of the Church, I ask you to state your intentions.

(The priest then questions them about their freedom of choice, faithfulness to each other, and the acceptance and upbringing of children. Each answers the questions separately.)

Priest: Have you come here freely and without reservation to give yourselves to each other in marriage?

Groom and Bride: I have.

Priest: Will you love and honour each other as man and wife for the rest of your lives?

Groom and Bride: I will

Priest: Will you accept children lovingly from God, and bring them up according to the law of Christ and his Church?

Groom and Bride: I will

DECLARATION OF CONSENT

Priest: Since it is your intention to enter into marriage, join your right hands, and declare your consent before God and his church.

They join hands.

The bridegroom says: I, N, take you, N, for my lawful wife, to have and to hold, from this day forward, for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, until death do us part.

The bride says: I, N, take you, N, for my lawful husband, to have and to hold, from this day forward, for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, until death do us part.

Receiving their consent, the priest says:

Priest: You have declared your consent before the Church. May the Lord in his goodness strengthen your consent and fill you both with his blessings.

What God has joined, men must not divide.

By the authority granted me by the Church, I now pronounce you, Man and Wife.

All: Amen

BLESSING AND EXCHANGE OF RINGS

Priest: Lord, bless these rings which we bless in your name. Grant that N and N who wear them may always have a deep faith in each other. May they do your will and always live together in peace, good will, and love. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

(The bridegroom places his wife's ring on her ring finger.)

Groom: N, take this ring as a sign of my love and fidelity. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

(The bride places her husband's ring on his ring finger.)

Bride: N, take this ring as a sign of my love and fidelity. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL (ALL STAND)

Priest: In the love of a man and wife, God shows us a wonderful reflection of his own eternal love. Today, **N** and **N** have dedicated themselves to each other in unending love. They will share with each other all that life brings. Let us ask God to bless them in all circumstances of their marriage.

Response:

Reader: Let us pray for the church before whom have pledged their vows and the clergy, Francis, our Pope, Alfred Adewale Martins, our Archbishop, Priests, Religious and those who have the responsibility of being leaders among God's people, that God may be their strength and guide. We pray, O Lord

(R)

Reader: May the grace given to in this Sacrament of Matrimony be always active in them. May it inspire them when life seems dull and strengthen them in times of trial. May it give them understanding in moments of tension, and fill them with gratitude when all goes well. We pray Oh Lord

(R)

Reader: May the love of grow large enough to embrace the children God has sent to them. May they in turn, bring even greater happiness to their parents. We pray O Lord

(R)

Reader: By this marriage our families have been united. May all of us, and particularly the families of **N** and **N** increase in affection for one another, and find in one another a source of help and strength. We pray O Lord

(R)

Reader: We pray for friends of who have travelled from far and near to witness this marriage, especially those who have had some part in this happy day, May God bless their good intentions and give them his undying friendship as well as journey mercies. We pray O Lord

(R)

Reader: Let us pray for all married couples, that God may give them the strength and comfort in each other and joy to their children. We also pray for all gathered here today, that God, who really loves us, may help us to understand that when we love one another we are sharing God's love. We pray O Lord

(R)

Reader: Let us now commend ourselves to our Blessed Mother Mary, the Mother of God as we say.....

ALL: Hail Mary, full of Grace, the Lord is with you. Blessed are you amongst women and blessed is thy fruit of thy womb, Jesus, Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death, Amen.

Reader: Let us pray for a while in silence for our individual intentions.

Priest: Listen Oh Lord, to the prayers we offer for **N** and **N**. May their love for each other be a constant reminder of your own love for us all, we ask through Christ our Lord.

ALL: Amen

OFFERTORY HYMN

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

(PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS)

Priest: Pray, my brothers and sisters, that our sacrifice may be acceptable to God, the Almighty Father.

All: May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of His Name, for our good and the good of all His Holy Church.

Priest: Receive in your kindness, Lord, the offerings we bring in gladness before you, and in your fatherly love watch over those you have joined in a sacramental covenant. Through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen

Priest: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

Priest: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

Priest: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right and just.

(The Priest continues the Preface)

All: Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of hosts.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

(All kneel while the Priest continues with the Eucharistic Prayer)

Mystery of Faith

Priest: Let us proclaim the mystery of faith

All: We proclaim your death, O Lord, and profess your resurrection until you come again.

Priest: Father, accept this offering from your whole family and from N and N for whom we now pray. You have brought them to their wedding day: grant them the gift and joy of children and happy life together. Through Christ our Lord, Amen.

Priest: At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

All: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

NUPTIAL BLESSING

(After the Lord's Prayer, the prayer 'Deliver us' is omitted. The Priest, standing and facing the bride and bridegroom, invokes upon them God's blessing).

Priest: My dear friends, let us turn to the Lord and pray that He will bless with His grace **N (bride)** now married in Christ to **N (groom)**, and that He will unite in love the couple He has joined in this holy bond.

All: Amen

(All pray silently for a short while. Then the Priest extends his hands and continues his prayers)

SIGN OF PEACE

Priest: Lord Jesus, You said to Your Apostles: I give you peace, my peace I give you. Look not on our sins, but on the faith of Your Church and grant us the peace and unity of Your Kingdom, where You live forever and ever.

All: Amen

Priest: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

All: And with your spirit.

Priest: Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

(All kneel)

Priest: Behold the Lamb of God, behold Him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those who are called to the supper of the Lamb.

All: Lord, I am not worthy that You should enter under my roof but only say a word and my soul shall be healed.

Priest: May the body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, bring us to everlasting life.

All: Amen.

COMMUNION HYMN

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (ALL STAND)

Priest: Let us pray.

Lord, in your love, you have given us this Eucharist to unite us with one another and with you. As you have made Tony and Taiwo one in this sacrament of marriage, so now make them one love with each other. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

13. SIGNING OF MARRIAGE REGISTER

SOLEMN BLESSING AT THE END OF MASS

The Priest, with hands extended over the bride and bridegroom, says:

Priest: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

Priest: May God the eternal Father keep you of one heart in love for one another that the peace of Christ may dwell in you and abide always in your home.

R/ Amen

Priest: May you be blessed in your children, have solace in your friends, and enjoy true peace with everyone.

R/ Amen

Priest: May you witness in the world to God's charity, so that the afflicted and needy who have known your kindness may one day receive you thankfully into the eternal dwelling of God.

R/ Amen

Priest: And may Almighty God bless you, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

R/ Amen.

Priest: Go forth, the Mass is ended.

R/. Thanks be to God.

RECESSIONAL HYMN