

The Priest, with hands joined, calls upon those present to pray, saying:

Let us pray to the Lord for this bride and groom,  
who come to the altar as they begin their married life,  
that (partaking of the Body and Blood of Christ)  
they may always be bound together by love for one another.

And all pray in silence for a while.

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

**H**oly 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.

The prayer Lord Jesus Christ is omitted, and The peace of the Lord is said immediately.  
 Then the bride and bridegroom and all present offer a sign, in keeping with local customs,  
 that expresses peace, communion and charity.

### Communion Antiphon

Jn 13: 34

I give you a new commandment, that you love one another  
 as I have loved you, says the Lord (E.T. alleluia).

### Prayer after Communion

Having been made partakers at your table,  
 we pray, O Lord,  
 that those who are united by the Sacrament of Marriage  
 may always hold fast to you  
 and proclaim your name to the world.  
 Through Christ our Lord.

### Solemn Blessing at the End of Mass

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

May God the all-powerful Father grant you his joy  
 and bless you in your children.

**R.** Amen.

May the Only Begotten Son of God  
 stand by you with compassion in good times and in bad.

**R.** Amen.

May the Holy Spirit of God  
 always pour forth his love into your hearts.

**R.** Amen.

And he blesses all the people, adding:

And may almighty God bless all of you, who are gathered here,  
 the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit.

**R.** Amen.