

OUR Wedding Programme

SATURDAY
18TH NOVEMBER,
2023 | 10AM

+
MASS
VOWS
PHOTOGRAPHS
RECEPTION
VENDORS

Somtochukwu
WEDS
Kenechukwu

@ ST MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH TRANS-EKULU ENUGU

Order of Mass

for the

Solemnization of Holy Matrimony

between

Somtochukwu
&
Kenechukwu

SATURDAY 18TH NOVEMBER, 2023 | 10AM

@ ST MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH
TRANS-EKULU ENUGU



After the entrance song, the priest and the faithful remain standing and make the sign of the cross, as the priest says:

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

The people answer:

Amen.

Then the priest, facing the people, extends his hands and greets all present with one of the following greetings:

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

The people answer:

And also with you.

The priest, deacon, or other suitable minister may very briefly introduce the Mass of the day.

PENITENTIAL RITE

The priest invites the people to repent of their sins:

My brothers and sisters, to prepare ourselves to celebrate the mysteries, let us call to mind our sins.

After a brief silence, all say:

I confess to almighty God, and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned through my own fault

They strike their breast:

in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done, and in what I have failed to do; and I ask blessed Mary, ever virgin, all the angels and saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.

The priest says the absolution:

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

The people answer:

Amen.



Then the Lord Have Mercy is said or sung:

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy

Christ, have mercy, Christ, have mercy,

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Then Gloria is said or sung:

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise you,

we bless you,

we adore you,

we glorify you,

we give you thanks for your great glory,

Lord God, heavenly King,

O God almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,

Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of The Father,

you take away the sins of the world,

have mercy on us;

you take away the sins of the world,

receive our prayer;

you are seated at the right hand of the Father

have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One,

you alone are the Lord,

you alone are the Most High,

Jesus Christ,

with the Holy Spirit,

in the glory of God the Father.

Amen.

Let us pray

OPENING PRAYER

Father, you have made the bond of marriage a holy mystery, a symbol of Christ's love for his Church. Hear our prayers for **Somtochukwu** and **Kenechukwu**. With faith in you and in each other they pledge their love





today. May their lives always bear witness to the reality of that love. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF TOBIT 8:4-8

On their wedding night Tobiah arose from bed and said to his wife, "Sister, get up. Let us pray and beg our Lord to have mercy on us and to grant us deliverance." Sarah got up, and they started to pray and beg that deliverance might be theirs. They began with these words: "Blessed are you, O God of our fathers; praised be your name forever and ever. Let the heavens and all your creation praise you forever. You made Adam and you gave him his wife Eve to be his help and support; and from these two the human race descended. You said, 'It is not good for the man to be alone; let us make him a partner like himself.' Now, Lord, you know that I take this wife of mine not because of lust, but for a noble purpose. Call down your mercy on me and on her, and allow us to live together to a happy old age."

They said together, "Amen, Amen."

The word of the Lord

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 102:1-2.8.13.17-18. R. v.8. Alt R. v..17

Response: The Lord is compassion and love.

- 1 My soul, give thanks to the Lord, all my being, bless his holy name. My soul, give thanks to the Lord and never forget all his blessings.
- 2 The Lord is compassion and love, slow to anger and rich in mercy.
As a father has compassion on his sons, the Lord has pity on those who fear him.
- 3 The love of the Lord is everlasting upon those who hold him in fear; his justice reaches out to children's children when they keep his covenant in truth.



SECOND READING: A READING FROM THE LETTER OF ST PAUL TO THE ROMANS 8:31-35.37-39

Nothing can come between us and the love of Christ?

With God on our side who can be against us? Since God did not spare his own Son, but gave him up to benefit us all, we may be certain, after such a gift, that he will not refuse anything he can give. Could anyone accuse those that God has chosen? When God acquits, could anyone condemn? Could Christ Jesus? No! He not only died for us - he rose from the dead, and there at God's right hand he stands and pleads for us.

Nothing therefore can come between us and the love of Christ, even if we are troubled or worried or being persecuted, or lacking food or clothes, or being threatened or even attacked. These are the trials through which we triumph, by the power of him who loved us.

For I am certain of this: neither death nor life, no angel, no prince, nothing that exists, nothing still to come, not any power, or height or depth, nor any created thing, can ever come between us and the love of God made visible in Christ Jesus our Lord.

This is the word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION 1 JN 4:12

Alleluia, alleluia!

*As long as we love one another
God will live in us,
and his love will be complete in us.
Alleluia!*

GOSPEL A READING FROM THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO JOHN 2:1-11

This was the first of the signs given by Jesus - at Cana in Galilee.

There was a wedding at Cana in Galilee. The mother of Jesus was there, and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited. When they ran out of wine, since the wine provided for the wedding was all finished, the mother of Jesus said to him, They have no wine.' Jesus said, 'Woman why turn to me?



'My hour has not come yet.' His mother said to the servants, 'Do whatever he tells you.' There were six stone water jars standing there, meant for the ablutions that are customary among the Jews: each could hold twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to the servants, 'Fill the jars with water,' and they filled them to the brim. 'Draw some out now,' he told them, 'and take it to the steward.' They did this; the steward tasted the water, and it had turned into wine. Having no idea where it came from - only the servants who had drawn the water knew - the steward called the bridegroom and said, 'People generally serve the best wine first, and keep the cheaper sort till the guests have had plenty to drink, but you have kept the best wine till now.'

This was the first of the signs given by Jesus: it was given at Cana in Galilee. He let his glory be seen, and his disciples believed in him.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

HOMILY

After the gospel, the priest gives a homily

RITE OF MARRIAGE

All stand, including the bride and the bridegroom and the priest addresses them in these or similar words:

My dear friends, 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 blesses 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:

1. **Somtochukwu** and **Kenechukwu**, have you come here freely and without reservation to give yourselves to each other in marriage?
Response: Yes, I have
2. Will you love and honor each other as man and wife for the rest of your lives?
Response: Yes, I will



The priest invites the couple to declare their consent:

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, **Kenechukwu** take you, **Somtochukwu** to be my wife. I promise to be true to you in good times and in bad, in sickness and in health. I will love you and honor you all the days of my life.

The bride says:

I, **Somtochukwu** take you, **Kenechukwu** to be my husband. I promise to be true to you in good times and in bad, in sickness and in health. I will love you and honor you all the days of my life.

Receiving their consent, the priest says:

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.

R. Amen.

BLESSING AND EXCHANGE OF RINGS

Priest: Lord, bless these rings which we bless in your name. Grant that those 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.

R : Amen.

The bridegroom places his wife's ring on her ring finger. He may say:

Somtochukwu 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. She may say:

Kenechukwu 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.

GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

The general intercessions (prayer of the faithful) follows.

All stand





Priest: In the love of man and wife, God shows us a wonderful reflection of His own eternal love. Today, **Somtochukwu** and **Kenechukwu** dedicated themselves to one another in unending love. They will share with each other all that life brings. Let us ask God to bless them in the years ahead and be with them in all circumstances of their marriage.

Response: Amen

Reader: For **Somtochukwu** and **Kenechukwu** who today received the sacrament of marriage. That their lives together may be blessed with happiness and peace, that they may help other to become more fully human and Christians and may they grow large enough to embrace the children God may send them, and may they in turn, bring greater happiness to their parents. We pray o Lord.

Response:

Reader: For the parents of the bride and groom.

That their joy at for bringing their children into the world may be renewed today in hope as they wish them every blessing in their new life together. We pray o Lord.

Response:

Reader: For their families and friends.

That the Lord may bless all those who by their prayers and practical help have brought **Somtochukwu** and **Kenechukwu** to this happy day. We pray o Lord.

Response:

Reader: For those preparing for marriage.

That they may see today in this joyful celebration of marriage, a goal towards which they aim by sincere and honest preparation. We pray o Lord.

Response:

Reader: For the faithful departed and especially for those whom we, ourselves, have loved, that God will one day unite us again in the joys of our eternal home. We pray o Lord.

Response:

Reader: We pray with Mary, who interceded with her son in Cana as we say:





All: Hail Mary, full of grace. The Lord is with. Blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, mother of God, pray for us sinners now, and at the hour of our death, Amen.

Reader: We make our petition to God, our loving father, in the silence of our hearts.

All pray silently for a while

Priest: Listen, O Lord to the prayers we offer for **Somtochukwu** and **Kenechukwu**. May their love for one another be a never failing reminder of your own love for us all. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

With hands extended, the priest sings or says one of the following:
Lord, accept our offering for this newly-married couple, **Somtochukwu** and **Kenechukwu**. By your love and providence you have brought them together; now bless them all the days of their married life. (We ask this) through Christ our Lord.

R/. Amen.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The priest begins the Eucharistic prayer. With hands extended, he sings or says:

The Lord be with you.

The people answer:

And also with you.

He lifts up his hands and continues:

Lift up your hearts.

The people: We lift them up to the Lord.

With hands extended, he continues:

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

The people: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

The priest continues the preface with hands extended.

Father, all-powerful and ever-living God, we do well always and everywhere to give you thanks. By this sacrament your grace unites man



and woman in an unbreakable bond of love and peace.

You have designed the chaste love of husband and wife for the increase both of the human family and of your own family born in baptism.

You are the loving Father of the world of nature; you are the loving Father of the new creation of grace. In Christian marriage you bring together the two orders of creation: nature's gift of children enriches the world and your grace enriches also your Church.

Through Christ the choirs of angels and all the saints praise and worship your glory. May our voices blend with theirs as we join in their unending hymn:

At the end of the preface he joins his hands and, together with the people, concludes it by singing or saying aloud:

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of power and might, 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.

COMMUNION RITE

The priest sets down the chalice and paten and, with hands joined, sings or says:

Let us pray with confidence to the Father in the words our Savior gave us:

THE LORDS PRAYER

He extends his hands and continues, with the people:

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.

After the Lord's Prayer, the prayer Deliver us is omitted.

The priest faces the bride and bridegroom and, with hands joined, says one of the following forms:



(if one or both of the parties will not be receiving communion, the words in the introduction to the nuptial blessing, through the sacrament of the body and blood of Christ, may be omitted.)

NUPTIAL BLESSING

My dear friends, let us turn to the Lord and pray that he will bless with his grace this woman **Somtochukwu** now married in Christ to this man **Kenechukwu** and that (through the sacrament of the body and blood of Christ,) He will unite in love the couple he has joined in this holy bond.

All pray silently for a short while. Then the priest extends his hands and continues:

Father, by your power you have made everything out of nothing.

In the beginning you created the universe and made mankind in your own likeness. You gave man the constant help of woman so that man and woman should no longer be two, but one flesh, and you teach us that what you have united may never be divided.

Father, you have made the union of man and wife so holy a mystery that it symbolizes the marriage of Christ and his Church.

Father, by your plan man and woman are united, and married life has been established as the one blessing that was not forfeited by original sin or washed away in the flood.

Look with love upon this woman, your daughter, now joined to her husband in marriage. She asks your blessing. Give her the grace of love and peace. May she always follow the example of the holy women whose praises are sung in the scriptures.

May her husband put his trust in her and recognize that she is his equal and the heir with him to the life of grace. May he always honor her and love her as Christ loves his bride, the Church.

Father, keep them always true to your commandments. Keep them faithful in marriage and let them be living examples of Christian life. Give them the strength which comes from the gospel so that they may be witnesses of Christ to others. (Bless them with children and help them to be good parents. May they live to see their children's children.) And, after a happy old age, grant them fullness of life with the saints in the kingdom of heaven.



We ask this through Christ our Lord.

R/. Amen.

SIGN OF PEACE

Then the priest, with hands extended, says aloud:

Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles: I leave 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

He joins his hands.

Where you live for ever and ever.

The people answer: *R/. Amen.*

The priest, extending and joining his hands, adds:

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

The people answer: And also with you.

Then the deacon (or the priest) may add:

Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Lord, in your love you have given us this eucharist to unite us with one another and with you. As you have made **Somtochukwu** and **Kenechukwu** one in this sacrament of marriage (and in the sharing of the one bread and the one cup), so now make them one in love for each other.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

CONCLUDING RITE

If there are any brief announcements, they are made at this time.

The dismissal follows. Facing the people, the priest extends his hands and sings **or** says:

The Lord be with you.

The people answer:

And also with you.



SOLEMN BLESSING

Before blessing the people at the end of Mass, the priest blesses the bride and bridegroom, using one of the forms below:

God the eternal Father keep you in love with each other, so that the peace of Christ may stay with you and be always in your home.

R/. Amen.

May (your children bless you,) your friends console you
and all men live in peace with you.

R/. Amen.

May you always bear witness to the love of God in this world so that the afflicted and the needy will find in you generous friends, and welcome you into the joys of heaven.

R/. Amen.

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

R/. Amen.



Order of Photography

1. Couple with Officiating Priests (At the Altar)
2. Couple with officiating Priests, Rev. Sisters, Couple's Parents and Sponsors (at the Altar)
3. Bride alone
4. Groom alone
5. Couple with Bride's Parents
6. Couple with Groom's Parents
7. Couple with both Parents
8. Couple with both Families
9. Couple with Bride's Immediate Family
10. Couple with Ezeogiga Family and Otta Village Community
11. Couple with groom's immediate family
12. Couple with Umuogbuifi kindred and Irukwelekor Village Community
13. Couple with Sponsors
14. Couple with Chairman
15. Couple with UNN/UNEC Staff
16. Couple with UNTH Staff
17. Couple with Professors
18. Couple with little Daughters of Jesus
19. Couple with Purple Ashebi
20. Couple with Peach/Pink Ashebi
21. Couple with Our Mother of Perpetual Help
22. Couple with League of Sacred Heart of Jesus
23. Couple with Legion of Mary
24. Couple with Zone 8 Members
25. Couple with friends of Parent's of the Groom
26. Couple with friends of Parent's of the Bride
27. Couple with Best Man and Chief Bridesmaid
28. Couple with Chief Bridesmaid
29. Couple with Best Man
30. Couple with Bridal Train
31. Bride with Chief Bridesmaid
32. Bride with Bridal Train
33. Groom with Best Man
34. Groom with Groom's Men
35. Couple with Groom's Men
36. Couple with Classmates of the Bride - Primary, Secondary and University
37. Couple with Classmates of the Groom - Primary, Secondary and University
38. Couple with Work Colleagues
39. Couple with all Men On Suits
40. Couple with all Men on Traditional Attire
41. Couple with Friends and Well Wishers (general)



Reception Programme

1. Arrivals/Introduction of the MC
 - a. Recognition of Special Guests
 - b. Introduction of the Chairman
2. Processions:
 - a. Bride's family entrance
 - b. Groom's family entrance
 - c. Couple's first entrance
3. Start up:
 - a. Chairman calls for opening prayers
 - b. Chairman's Opening Remarks
4. Welcome rites:
 - a. Breaking of the Kolanuts
 - b. Toast
 - c. Cutting of Cake
5. Couple's first caring
6. Couple's First Dance
7. Refreshments
8. Couple's Second Entrance
9. Blessing of the Couple by the Bride's Father
10. Dances:
 - a. Father and Daughter Dance (Groom and bride's mother Joins)
 - b. Mother and Son Dance (Bride and Groom's Father joins)
 - c. Couple's second dance
 - d. Dance Dance Dance
11. Presentation of gifts to the couple
12. Vote of Thanks by the Groom
13. Chairman's Closing Remarks
14. Closing Prayer
15. Dance Dance Dance



Vendors List

Planner: Crystals by Chee Events
Instagram: @crystalsbycheeevents

Brides's Makeup: Linoify
Instagram: @linoify

Bride's Hairstyling: The hair solution
Instagram: @thehairsolution_

Photography: Nemz Photography
Instagram: @nemz_photography

Videography: Danny El Films
Instagram: @danny_el_films

Bride's Wedding Dress And Accessories:
B creations
Instagram: bcreationsandbrides

Bride's reception Dress: Jenny Micheal
Instagram: @jennymichaelzG

Groom's Suit And Styling: DeMartzgold Enterprises
Instagram: @demartzgold

Groom's Reception Dress: Mesdee Investments Clothing WhatsApp: +234 803 333 1195

Couple's Perfume: DeMartzgold Enterprises
Instagram: @demartzgold
WhatsApp: +234 803 069 2942

Decor: Instinct decor
Instagram: @instinctdecor15

Lights and Effects: Grand effects
Instagram: grandeffectsandmultimedia360

Caterer(Food): Jet Celebrities Events
WhatsApp: +234 803 328 6209

Small chops: All4grubs
Instagram: @all4grub

Cocktails: Golden Age
Instagram: @goldenage.ng

E-invite And Souvenir Graphics: theKenChaw
WhatsApp: +234 816 041 1585

Wedding Card and Program Printing:
Ceefo Prints
WhatsApp: +234 806 456 9921
Instagram: ceefoprintshop

Wedding Cake: Freshious cakes
Instagram: @freshiousbakery

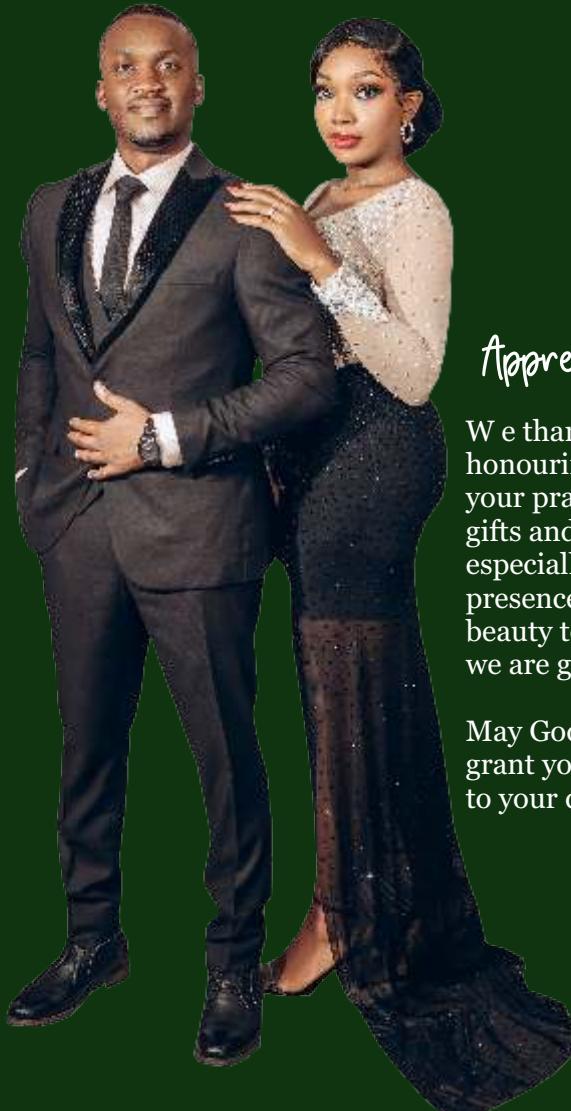
Mc: Mc Firemouth
Instagram: @firemouthcfr

Couple's Souvenirs: DeMatrzgold Enterprises
Instagram: @demartzgold

Dj: DJ Saintwills
Instagram: @djsaintwillsofficial

Ushers: Ce Bliss Ushers
Instagram: @ce_bliss_ushers

Security: De Prince Event Security
08105855254



Appreciation

We thank you for honouring us with your prayers, finances, gifts and most especially your presence which added beauty to our wedding, we are grateful.

May God Almighty grant you safe journey to your destinations.