

Exchange of Consent

1962

First the priest asks the groom:

N., do you take N. here present, for your lawful wife according to the rite of our holy mother, the Church?

The bridegroom responds: I do.

Then he asks the bride:

N., do you take N., here present, for your lawful husband according to the rite of our holy mother, the Church?

She replies: I do.

The consent of one does not suffice, but consent must be given by both-expressed in words, if possible, but otherwise through equivalent signs, whether personally or through a proxy.

After he has received the consent of the parties, the priest tells them to join their right hands, and says:

By the authority of the Church I ratify and bless the bond of marriage you have contracted. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, + and of the Holy Spirit.

Then he sprinkles them with holy water.

1964

First the priest asks the bridegroom:

N., do you take N., here present, for your lawful wife according to the rite of our holy mother, the Church?

The bridegroom replies: I do.

Then the priest asks the bride:

N., do you take N., here present, for your lawful husband according to the rite of our holy mother, the Church?

The bride replies: I do.

The consent of one does not suffice; it must be given by both and expressed in words, if they can speak, or by equivalent signs, personally or through a proxy.

After the mutual consent of the contractants has been given, the priest directs them:

Now join your right hands and say after me:

Groom:

I, N.N., take you, N.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.

Bride:

I, N.N., take you, N.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.

Then the priest says:

By the authority of the Church I ratify and bless the bond of marriage you have contracted. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, + and of the Holy Spirit. I call upon all of you here present to be witnesses of this holy union which I have now blessed. "Man must not separate what God has joined together."

Then he sprinkles them with holy water.

Blessing and Exchange of Rings

1962

Next the priest blesses the ring saying:

V. Our help is in the name of the Lord.
R. Who made heaven and earth.
V. O Lord, hear my prayer.
R. And let my cry come to you.
V. The Lord be with you.
R. And with thy spirit.

Let us pray.

Bless O Lord, this ring, which we are blessing in Thy name, so that she who wears it, keeping faith with her husband in unbroken loyalty, may ever remain at peace with Thee, obedient to Thy will, and may live with him always in mutual love. Through Christ our Lord. R. Amen.

The priest then sprinkles the ring with holy water. The husband, taking the ring from the priest's hand, places it upon the ring finger of his wife's left hand, saying:

Take and wear this ring as a sign of our marriage vows. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

1964

Next the priest blesses the ring...he says:

V. Our help is in the name of the Lord.
R. Who made heaven and earth.
V. O Lord, hear my prayer.
R. And let my cry come to you.
V. The Lord be with you.
R. And with your spirit.

OPTION A

Prayer (for one ring)

Let us pray.

Bless, O Lord, this ring, which we are blessing in your name, so that she who wears it, keeping faith with her husband in unbroken loyalty, may ever remain at peace with you according to your will, and may live with him always in mutual love. Through Christ our Lord. R. Amen.

OPTION B

Prayer (for two rings)

Let us pray.

Bless, O Lord, these rings, which we are blessing in your name, so that they who wear them, keeping faith with each other in unbroken loyalty, may ever remain at peace with you according to your will, and may live together always in mutual love. Through Christ our Lord. R. Amen.

Then he sprinkles the ring or rings with holy water.

Now that you have sealed a truly Christian marriage, give these wedding rings to each other (this wedding ring to your bride) saying after me:

The groom takes the bride's ring from the priest and places it on the bride's ring finger, saying after the priest:

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Take and wear this ring as a sign of our marriage vows.

The bride takes the groom's ring from the priest and places it on the groom's ring finger, saying after the priest:

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Take and wear this ring as a sign of our marriage vows.

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

Then the priest adds:

V. Strengthen, O God, what you have wrought in us.
R. From your holy temple, which is in Jerusalem.

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Our Father silently as far as...

V. And lead us not into temptation.

R. But deliver us from evil.

V. Save your servants.

R. Who trust in you, my God.

V. Send them help, O Lord, from your sanctuary.

R. And sustain them from Sion.

V. Be a tower of strength for them, O Lord.

R. Against the attack of the enemy.

V. O Lord, hear my prayer.

R. And let my cry come to you.

V. The Lord be with you.

R. And with thy spirit.

Let us pray.

We beg you, Lord, to look on these your servants, and graciously to uphold the institution of marriage established by you for the continuation of the human race, so that they who have been joined together by your authority may remain faithful together by your help. Through Christ our Lord. R. Amen.

Then the priest adds:

V. Strengthen, O God, what you have wrought in us.
R. From your holy temple, which is in Jerusalem.

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Our Father (silently as far as:)

V. And lead us not into temptation.

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R. Against the attack of the enemy.

V. O Lord, hear my prayer.

R. And let my cry come to you.

V. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

Let us pray.

We beg you, Lord, to look on these your servants, and graciously to uphold the institution of marriage established by you for the continuation of the human race, so that they who have been joined together by your authority may remain faithful together by your help. Through Christ our Lord. R. Amen.

Next, with his hands elevated and extended above the spouses to bless them (the server holding the book), the priest says, all responding:

May almighty God bless you by the Word of his mouth, and unite your hearts in the enduring bond of pure love. R. Amen.

The following blessing may be omitted if the spouses are too old to expect children.

The priest says:

May you be blessed in your children, and may the love that you lavish on them be returned a hundredfold. R. Amen.

May the peace of Christ dwell always in your hearts and in your home; may you have true friends to stand by you, both in joy and in sorrow. May you be ready with help and consolation for all those who come to you in need; and may the blessings promised to the compassionate descend in abundance on your house. R. Amen.

May you be blessed in your work and enjoy its fruits. May cares never cause you distress, nor the desire for earthly possessions lead you astray; but may your hearts' concern be always for the treasures laid up for you in the life of heaven.

May the Lord grant You fullness of years, so that you may reap the harvest of a good life, and, after you have served him with loyalty in his kingdom on earth, may he take you up into his eternal dominions in heaven.

And, with his hands joined:

Through our Lord Jesus Christ his Son, who lives and reigns with him in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever. R. Amen.

After this, if the nuptial blessing is to be given, the Mass pro Sponso et Sponsa is celebrated, according to the rubrics of the Roman Missal.

Then the priest continues the nuptial Mass, as in the Roman Missal, observing all that is prescribed there.