

HOLY HOUR PRAYER SERVICE FOR WORLD MARRIAGE DAY

Opening Hymn:

During Hymn, the Blessed Sacrament is exposed.

Incensing of the Blessed Sacrament.

Opening Prayer:

Leader: Lord our God, in this great sacrament we come into the presence of Jesus Christ your Son, born of the Virgin Mary and crucified for our salvation. May we who declare our faith in this fountain of love and mercy drink from it the water of everlasting life. We ask this through Christ our Lord. (taken from "Holy Communion and Worship of the Eucharist outside Mass" page 137)

First Scripture Reading:

Leader: Tobit 7:11, beginning at "Raquel said to him" and to the end of verse 12.

Silent Reflection: "From now on you are her love and she is your beloved"

Lord Jesus, how is it that you brought us together?

Second Scripture Reading:

Leader: Tobit 8:4-8

Silent Reflection: "My love, get up; let us pray"

"You made Adam and you gave him his wife Eve to be his help and support."

Lord Jesus, lead me to be a greater help and support to my spouse.

Hymn:

Third Scripture Reading:

Leader: Ephesians 5:21-33

Silent Reflection: "Be subordinate to one another out of reverence for Christ."

"Christ loved the church and handed himself over for her."

"This is a mystery but I speak in reference to Christ and the church."

Lord Jesus, how am I to be "subordinate"?

Lord Jesus, I need your help to "hand myself over" for my spouse.

Fourth Scripture Reading:

Leader: John 2:1-11

Silent Reflection: "Jesus and his disciples were also invited to the wedding."

"Jesus did this as the beginning of his signs in Cana in Galilee."

Lord, help me to recognize your presence in my marriage.

Lord, what favors you have done for my spouse and myself!

Hymn:

Fifth Scripture Reading:

Leader: John 13:34-35

Silent reflection: "I give you a new commandment, love one another."

Lord, I need you to teach me how to love.

Prayers:

Leader: (From the Book of Blessings, #97, #100, #101, and #103)

Hymn:

Incensing of the Blessed Sacrament

Concluding Prayer

Benediction with the Blessed Sacrament

Reposition of Blessed Sacrament

Divine Praises

Closing Hymn

Music Suggestions

Holy Hour of Prayer World Marriage Day

Opening Hymn

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee (tune: ODE TO JOY)
Lift Up Your Hearts (Roc O'Connor, SJ) (OCP / New Dawn)
Love Divine, All Loves Excelling (tune: HYFRYDOL)
We Have Been Told (David Haas) (GIA)

Second Hymn (following Second Scripture Reading and Silent Reflection)

any musical setting of Psalm 103 or Psalm 128 (A Cantor will therefore be needed.)

Come and Journey With Me (David Haas) (GIA)
Companions On the Journey (Carey Landry) (OCP / New Dawn)
Covenant Hymn (Rory Cooney) (GIA)
Love Is the Sunlight (text: Borghild Jacobson (GIA) / tune: BUNESSAN – “Morning Has Broken”)

Third Hymn (following Fourth Scripture Reading and Silent Reflection)

The following specifically mention the Wedding at Cana:

God, In the Planning (also known as, “Bridegroom and Bride”)
(text: John L. Bell, Iona Community (GIA) / tune: SLANE (trad. Irish tune)

God, Who Created Hearts to Love

(text: M.D. Ridge (OCP / New Dawn) / tune: LASST UNS ERFREUEN)

O Father, All-Creating (tune: AURELIA) (ICEL Resource Collection / Worship, 3rd ed.)

These are also recommended:

For the Beauty of the Earth (tune: DIX)

Hear Us Now, Our God and Father (tune: HYFRYDOL or ODE TO JOY)

The Servant Song (Will You Let Me Be Your Servant?) (Richard Gillard)

Hymn (following the Prayers)

If yet another theme-centered hymn is desired, (i.e. “love”, “marriage”, etc.) please refer to the songs listed above. Otherwise, the traditional hymns for Benediction are now sung to accompany the incensing of the Blessed Sacrament. (“O Salutaris” and “Tantum Ergo”)

Pastoral Note: *If another theme-centered hymn is used prior to Benediction, planners should be aware that this will mean the assembly will be singing three songs in a row. A decision will need to be made as to whether this is desirable given their particular situation.*

Closing Hymn

The Closing Hymn may be from one of the categories listed below.

General Hymns of Praise and Thanksgiving

All Creatures of Our God and King (tune: LASST UNS ERFREUEN)

Canticle of the Sun (Marty Haugen) (GIA)

Glory and Praise to Our God (Dan Schutte) (OCP / New Dawn)

Holy God, We Praise Thy Name (tune: GROSSER GOTT)

Mission-Oriented / Sending Forth

(Giving expression to the ways Christian Married Love can have an effect in our world)

Lead Me, Lord (John Becker) (OCP / New Dawn)

Lord, Whose Love In Humble Service (tune: BEECH SPRING or IN BABILONE)

Send Down the Fire (Marty Haugen) (GIA)

The Love of Christ Urges Us On (Jeffrey Honore) (World Library Publications)

We Are Called (David Haas) (GIA)