Dear Family and Friends,

We would like to thank you for all your patience over the last year and for today; travelling the distance to join us in our marriage celebration and the start of a new chapter in our lives. You have all brought such happiness and beautiful memories to our lives and we cannot wait to share this day with you.

We have been so lucky to have your love, support and friendship throughout the years and we look forward to many more as Mr and Mrs Joseph and Mary

All Our Love,

J & M

**ORDER OF MASS**

**ENTRANCE OF THE BRIDE**

**Song: Canon in D**

**INTRODUCTORY RITES**

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

**R. Amen.**

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

**R. And with your spirit.**

**GREETING**

**GLORIA**

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.

## **OPENING PRAYER**

Let us pray,

O God, who consecrated the bond of Marriage by so great a mystery that in the wedding covenant you foreshadow the Sacrament of Christ and his Church, grant, we pray, to these your servants, that what they receive in faith they may live out in deeds. 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. **R. Amen.**

**THE LITURGY OF THE WORD**

## **FIRST READING**

**Read By: John Doe**

*Tobit 8:4-8*

A reading from the Book of Tobit

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.

**R. Thanks be to God.**

### **RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

### **Read By: Jane Doe**

*Psalm 103:1-2, 8 and 13, 17-18*

**R. The Lord is kind and merciful.**

Bless the Lord, O my soul; and all within me, his holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and never forget all his benefits.

**R. The Lord is kind and merciful.**

The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger and rich in mercy. As a father has compassion on his children, so the Lord’s compassion is on those who fear him.

**R. The Lord is kind and merciful.**

But the mercy of the Lord is everlasting upon those who hold him in fear, upon children’s children his righteousness, for those who keep his covenant.

**R. The Lord is kind and merciful.**

### **SECOND READING**

### **Read By: John Doe**

*Corinthians 12: 31 – 13:8*

A reading from the First Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians

Brothers and sisters: Strive eagerly for the greatest spiritual gifts. But I shall show you a still more excellent way. If I speak in human and angelic tongues but do not have love, I am a resounding gong or a clashing cymbal. And if I have the gift of prophecy and comprehend all mysteries and all knowledge; if I have all faith so as to move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away everything I own, and if I hand my body over so that I may boast but do not have love, I gain nothing. Love is patient, love is kind. It is not jealous, is not pompous, it is not inflated, it is not rude, it does not seek its own interests, it is not quick-tempered, it does not brood over injury, it does not rejoice over wrongdoing but rejoices with the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails.  
The word of the Lord.

**R. Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*1 John 4:8 and 11*

**Alleluia, Alleluia**

God is love; Let us love one another, as God has loved us.

**Alleluia, Alleluia**

**GOSPEL**

The Lord be with you.

**R. And with your spirit.**

*Mark 10:6-9*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

**R. Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said:

“From the beginning of creation, God made them male and female. For this reason, a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh. So, they are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore, what God has joined together, no human being must separate.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**HOMILY**

**THE CELEBRATION OF MATRIMONY**

*All stand, including the couple and the witnesses, who are positioned near them, the Priest addresses the couple in these or similar words:*

Dearly beloved, you have come together into the house of the Church so that in the presence of the church’s minister and the community your intention to enter into Marriage may be strengthened by the Lord with a sacred seal and your love be enriched with his blessing you, so that you may have strength *to* be faithful to each other for ever and assume all the responsibilities of married life. And so, in the presence of the Church, I ask you to state your intentions.

**THE QUESTION BEFORE THE CONSENT**

*The Priest then questions them about their freedom of choice, fidelity to each other, and the acceptance and upbringing of children, and each responds separately.*

**Joseph** and **Mary** have you come here to enter into Marriage without coercion, freely and wholeheartedly?

The groom and bride each say: **I have**.

Are you prepared, as you follow the path of Marriage, to love and honor each other for as long as you both shall live?

The groom and bride each say: **I am.**

Are you prepared to accept children lovingly from God and to bring them up according to the law of Christ and his Church?

The groom and bride each say: **I am.**

**CONSENT**

*The priest invites them to declare their consent:*

Since it is your intention to enter the covenant of Holy Matrimony, join your right hands, and declare your consent before God and his Church.

The groom says:

I, **Joseph,** take you, **Mary**, to be my wife. I promise to be faithful to you, in good times and in bad, in sickness and in health, to love you and to honor you all the days of my life.

The bride says:

I, **Mary,** take you, **Joseph,** to be my husband. I promise to be faithful to you, in good times and in bad, in sickness and in health, to love you and to honor you all the days of my life.

**THE RECEPTION OF CONSENT**

*Receiving their consent, the priest says to the bride and groom:*

May the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, the God of Jacob, the God who joined together our first parents in paradise, strength and bless in Christ the consent you have declared before the Church, so that what God joins together, no one may put asunder.

*The Priest invites those present to praise God: Let us bless the Lord.*

**R. Thanks be to God.**

**BLESSING AND EXCHANGE OF THE RINGS**

**EXCHANGE OF THE RINGS**

**Song: Arioso by Bach**

Priest: May the Lord bless these rings, which you will give to each other as the sign of your love and fidelity.

**R. Amen.**

*The Priest sprinkles the rings, as the circumstances so suggest, and gives them to the bride and bridegroom.*

**Mary**, receive 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.

**Joseph,** receive 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.

*Priest will say: “Now you may kiss the bride”*

**PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL**

*Priest will say: “Mindful of Jesus' assurance that he is with us always, we bring the prayerful concerns of our hearts.”*

For **Joseph** and **Mary** that may be blessed on this their wedding day and for the rest of their lives,let us pray to the lord:

**R. Lord hear of prayer**

For Pope Francis, bishops, priests, deacons, the whole Body of Christ, and all men and women, may we be strengthened by the grace and love of the Holy Spirit, let us pray to the Lord:

**R. Lord hear of prayer**

For the poor and the sick, that they may not be left alone in their sufferings and that they may find light and comfort in us and in Christ, let us pray to the Lord:

**R. Lord hear of prayer**

May God pour out His Spirit in a new and abundant way to renew humanity and all of creation, let us pray to the Lord:

**R. Lord hear of prayer**

For all those present today that we may support Joseph and Mary on their journey together, let us pray to the Lord:

**R. Lord hear of prayer**

*Priest will say: “Heavenly Father, thank you for this beautiful marriage of Joseph and Mary. We ask you to fill their hearts with your infinite love so that they may share your light with one another, their family and the world around them. We ask this through Christ out Lord.”*

***R. Amen***

**OFFERTORY**

**Song: Schubert – Ave Maria**

**THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST**

Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters), that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

**R. May the Lord accept this sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good, and the good of all his holy Church. Amen.**

**PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS**

Receive, we pray, 0 Lord, the offering made on the occasion of this sealing of the sacred bond of Marriage, and, just as your goodness is its origin, may your providence guide its course.

Through Christ our Lord. **R. Amen.**

**PREFACE: Marriage**

The Lord be with you. **R. And with your spirit.**

Lift up your hearts. **R. We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **R. It is right and just.**

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks, Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God.

For you have forged the covenant of marriage as a sweet yoke of harmony and an unbreakable bond of peace, so that the chaste and fruitful love of holy Matrimony may serve to increase the children you adopt as your own.

By your providence and grace, O Lord, you accomplish the wonder of this twofold design: that, while the birth of children brings beauty to the world, their rebirth in Baptism gives increase to the Church, through Christ our Lord.

Through him, with the Angels and all the Saints, we sing the hymn of your praise, as without end we acclaim:

**R. 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.**

You are indeed Holy, O Lord, the fount of all holiness. Make holy, therefore, these gifts, we pray, by sending down your Spirit upon them like the dewfall, so that they may become for us the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ.

You are indeed Holy, O Lord, the fount of all holiness. Make holy, therefore, these gifts, we pray, by sending down your Spirit upon them like the dewfall, so that they may become for us the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. At the time he was betrayed and entered willingly into his Passion, he took bread and, giving thanks, broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND EAT OF IT, FOR THIS IS MY BODY,

WHICH WILL BE GIVEN UP FOR YOU.

In a similar way, when supper was ended, he took the chalice and, once more giving thanks, he gave it to his disciples, saying:

TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND DRINK FROM IT, FOR THIS IS THE CHALICE OF MY BLOOD,

THE BLOOD OF THE NEW AND ETERNAL COVENANT,

WHICH WILL BE POURED OUT FOR YOU AND FOR MANY FOR THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS.

DO THIS IN MEMORY OF ME.

The mystery of faith.

**R. We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.**

Therefore, as we celebrate the memorial of his Death and Resurrection, we offer you, Lord, the Bread of life and the Chalice of salvation, giving thanks that you have held us worthy to be in your presence and minister to you. Humbly we pray that, partaking of the Body and Blood of Christ, we may be gathered into one by the Holy Spirit. Remember, Lord, your Church, spread throughout the world, and bring her to the fullness of charity, together with Francis our Pope and Giuseppe our Bishop, and all the clergy. Be mindful also, lord, of **Joseph and Mary**, whom you have brought to your wedding day, so that by your grace they may abide in mutual love and in peace. Remember also our brothers and sisters who have fallen asleep in the hope of the resurrection, and all who have died in your mercy: welcome them into the light of your face. Have mercy on us all, we pray, that with the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God, with blessed Joseph, her Spouse with the blessed Apostles, and all the Saints who have pleased you throughout the ages, we may merit to be coheirs to eternal life, and may praise and glorify you through your Son, Jesus Christ.

Through him, and with him, and in him, O God, almighty Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honour is yours, for ever and ever.

**R. Amen.**

**THE COMMUNION RITE**

At the Savior’s command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

**R. 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**

Dear brothers and sisters, let us humbly pray to the Lord that on these his servants, now married in Christ, he may mercifully pour out the blessing of his grace and make of one heart in love (by the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood) those he has joined by a holy covenant.

O God, who by your mighty power created all things out of nothing, and, when you had set in place the beginnings of the universe, formed man and woman in your own image, making the woman an inseparable helpmate to the man, that they might no longer be two, but one flesh, and taught that what you were pleased to make one must never be divided; O God, who consecrated the bond of Marriage by so great a mystery that in the wedding covenant you foreshadowed the Sacrament of Christ and his Church; O God, by whom woman is joined to man and the companionship they had in the beginning is endowed with the one blessing not forfeited by original sin nor washed away by the flood. Look now with favor on these your servants, joined together in Marriage, who ask to be strengthened by your blessing. Send down on them the grace of the Holy Spirit and pour your love into their hearts, that they may remain faithful in the Marriage covenant.

May the grace of love and peace abide in your daughter and let her always follow the example of those holy women whose praises are sung in the Scriptures. May her husband entrust his heart to her, so that, acknowledging her as his equal and his joint heir to the life of grace, he may show her due honor and cherish her always with the love that Christ has for his Church. And now, Lord, we implore you: may these your servants hold fast to the faith and keep your commandments; made one in the flesh, may they be blameless in all they do; and with the strength that comes from the Gospel, may they bear true witness to Christ before all; (may they be blessed with children, and prove themselves virtuous parents, who live to see their children's children). And grant that, reaching at last together the fullness of years for which they hope, they may come to the life of the blessed in the Kingdom of Heaven. Through Christ our Lord.

**R. Amen.**

The Peace of the Lord be with you always. **R. And with your spirit.**

Let us offer each other spiritually a sign of peace.

**R. Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.**

Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who take away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

**R. Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.**

**COMMUNION**

**Song: Lago dell’inferno by Vivaldi**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

By the power of this sacrifice, O Lord, accompany with your loving favor what in your providence you have instituted, so as to make of one heart in love those you have already joined in this holy union (and replenished with the one Bread and the one Chalice).

Through Christ our Lord.

**R. Amen**

**BLESSING AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE CELEBRATION**

The Lord be with be with you. **R. And with your sprit.**

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

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.**

May you be blessed in your children, have solace in your friends and enjoy true peace with everyone. **R. Amen.**

May you be witnesses 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.**

*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.**

Go in peace, glorifying the lord by your life.

**R. Thanks be to God.**

**SIGNATURE**

**Song: Salut d’Armour by Elgar**

**CLOSING SONG**

**Song: Inno alla Gioia**

**Bride and Groom Exit**

**The Wedding of**

**Chiesa dei Santi Apostoli**

**Florence, Italy**

**Officiant: Father Kramer Cameron**