

**Reading**

**Blathnaid:** A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians

**Fr Michael:** A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

**Fr Michael:** Homily

**Rite of Marriage - The Address**

**Fr Michael:**

Dear children of God, you have come to this church so that the Lord may seal your love in the presence of the priest and of both communities.

Thérèse and Lee you are about to celebrate this marriage. Have you come here of your own free will and choice and without compulsion to marry each other?

**Thérèse & Lee:** We have

**Fr Michael:**

Will you love and honour each other in marriage all the days of your life?

**Thérèse & Lee:** We will

### ***Declaration of consent***

***Fr Michael:***

I invite you then to declare before God and his church your consent to become husband and wife.

Lee, do you take Thérèse as your wife, for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, till death do you part?

***Lee:*** I do

Thérèse , do you take Lee as your husband, for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, till death do you part?

***Thérèse:*** I do

What God joins together human beings must not separate. May the Lord confirm the consent that you have given and enrich you with his blessings.

### ***Blessing of Rings***

***Fr Michael:***

May the Lord bless these rings which will be a sign of your love and fidelity.

***All:*** Amen

### ***Exchanging of Rings***

***Lee:*** Thérèse, wear this ring as a sign of our love and fidelity.

***Thérèse:*** Lee, wear this ring as a sign of our love and fidelity

### ***Lighting of the Marriage Candle***

Thérèse and Lee light their marriage Candle which represents their union as husband and wife.

### ***Prayers of the Faithful***

**Anne:** On this special day we ask that you bless Thérèse and Lee on their journey through life. May they rejoice with one another in moments of strength and be compassionate towards each other in moments of weakness. May they love and appreciate one another for who they are. May the love of Thérèse and Lee be patient and gentle, ready to trust and endure whatever life brings. May their home be a gentle place of laughter, understanding and kindness. Lord hear us.

**All:** Lord graciously hear us.

**Emma Jo:** By this marriage, two families have been united. We pray for both families and that they continue to be an inspiration and a source of love, support and guidance to Thérèse and Lee as they build a new life together. Lord hear us.

**All:** Lord, graciously hear us.

**Grainne:** For those who are sick, lonely or struggling in today's world. May they be strengthened by God's love and aided by friends and family. Lord hear us.

**All:** Lord, graciously hear us.

**Emma:** We remember today with a special love, the smiles and laughter of family and friends who touched our lives and are sadly no longer with us. We know that they would have loved to share in the joy and happiness of this day. We thank God for the happy memories they have left us. May they all rest in peace. Lord, hear us.

**All:** Lord, graciously hear us.

**Fr Michael:** Invitation to prayer  
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. Amen.

**Fr Michael : Nuptial blessing**

Let us ask God to bless Thérèse and Lee, now married in Christ. God our Father,  
Creator of the universe, maker of man and woman in your own likeness,  
You give man and woman to be companions to each other, so that they should  
no longer be two, but one flesh, teaching us that those who have so united  
may never be separated.

Father, you have sanctified marriage in a mystery so holy that it is a sign of the  
union of Christ and his Church. Look with love upon Thérèse and Lee as they ask  
your blessing. May they live in peace with you, may they be faithful to each other,  
generous and kind. May they place their trust in each other and be faithful, gentle  
and strong companions to each other. Father, keep Therese and Lee strong in faith  
and true to their love for each other.

May they be faithful and examples of Christian living and witnesses of Christ. Bless  
them with children and help them to be good parents. As they now come as man and  
wife to your altar, may they one day share your feast in Heaven. We ask this through  
Christ our Lord

**All:** Amen