Wedding Traditions

The song Edelweiss is a Swiss Gerber family tradition to include in the wedding ceremony. It is named after the edelweiss, a white flower found high in the Swiss Alps.



The bridal crown tradition is characteristic in Sweden and in Scandinavian culture. The first known decoration for a bride in Sweden was known as piglocken, a headband wrapped with colored ribbons that streamed down her back, also sometimes called huvudla or hlad-la. Later these headbands became more ornate and shaped into a crown, brudkrona. The crowns would be made with either silver or gold and embedded with precious stones to enhance its appearance.

The rite and blessing of las arras matrimoniales (coins) takes place immediately after the blessing and giving of rings. The bride and groom select a married couple to present a box with 13 coins, which represent the 12 months of the year and the poor (the thirteenth). They also represent Jesus and his 12 apostles. The exchange of the coins represents promise of the couple to provide for the needs of their spouse and trust in their ability to do so. They also represent the couple's promise of generosity to those that come to them in need.

El lazo (wedding lasso) is a double cord presented to the married couple symbolizing their indissoluble union. The lasso, which is typically a figure-eight or double rosary, is wrapped around the new husband and wife. After placement of the lasso, the couple is blessed.

Prelude

PLEASE REMAIN SEATED.

Trio of Cello, Flute, and Harp
"Moon River"
"Edelweiss" - Rodgers & Hammerstein

Processionals

PLEASE STAND.

Procession of the Parents

"Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring"- Bach

Procession of the Flower Girls, Ring Bearer, and Bridal Party "Canon in D"- Pachelbel

Procession of the Father and Bride "Bridal Chorus"-Wagner

Introductory Rites

Sign of the cross and greeting

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

All respond: Amen.

Priest: May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All respond: And with your spirit.

Gloria in Excelsis

Here we remind ourselves what God has done for us and we praise and glorify Him.

All sing: 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.

Collect

Priest: Let us pray... All respond: Amen.

Liturgy of the Word

PLEASE SIT.

First Reading (English): Sirach 26:1-4, 13-16

Read by Susie Freiburger

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

All respond: Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm (English): Psalm 103:1-4, 8.

Sung by Checer Jean Francois

All sing: The Lord is kind and merciful; The Lord is kind and merciful.

Second Reading (Spanish): Primera Carta a los Corintios 12:31-13:8

Read by Ilaria Raniero

Lector: Palabra de Dios.

All respond: Te alabamos, Senor.

PLEASE STAND.

Cantor: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

All respond: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Gospel (English): Matthew 7:21, 24-27

Priest: The Lord be with you.

All respond: And with your spirit.

Priest: A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

All respond: Glory to You, O Lord.

GOSPEL IS READ.

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.

All respond: Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ.

Homily (Bilingual)

Rite of Marriage

In the Catholic Church, marriage is a Sacrament, which means that it is a visible sign of God's grace, instituted by Christ and entrusted to the Church, by which divine life is dispensed to us. A marriage between two Christians should be a clear, visible sign of God's love for His people.

PLEASE STAND.

Statement of Intentions

The priest asks the couple about their freedom of choice, fidelity to each other, and the acceptance and upbringing of children.

Exchange of Vows

The couple stands before their family and friends to vow to live in faithful love and union with each other through all joys and hardships. More than just a feeling of affection, this love is a lifelong promise and commitment. The congregation serves as a witness who will help guide and support the couple through their marriage.

Priest: Let us bless the Lord.

All respond: Thanks be to God.

Blessing & Giving of Rings

The couple exchanges rings as a sign of their unending fidelity to each other and of God's unending love.

All respond: Amen.

Blessing & Giving of the Arras

The arras, or wedding coins, represent the couple's promise to provide for each other's needs and their commitment to care for those who come to them.

Presenting couple: Adrian Lynch & Samantha Wolf

Blessing & Giving of the Lazo

The tradition of the lazo, or cord and veil, is a representation that what God has joined, no one may divide. The couple becomes yoked together as one.

Presenting couple: Ken & Meg Spangler

Lighting of the Unity Candle

The Unity Candle symbolizes two lives now joined as one in marriage. The groom and bride each light separate candles, then use their lights to light the bigger candle. Today, the bride and groom will be using the Unity Candle that was used by the bride's parents in their wedding.

Prayers of the Faithful

We will now pray for the world, the Church, the gathered community, and the new family.

Reader: Let us pray to the Lord.

All respond with cantor: Lord, hear our prayer.

PLEASE SIT.

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Presentation of the Gifts

As the priest prepares the offerings of bread and wine, we offer our lives in prayer.

Offertory

The ushers present the offering of the congregation to the Church. Spiritually, we also present our hearts, minds, souls and our cares and concerns to the Father who loves us.

Priest: Pray, brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

All respond: May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands, for the praise and glory of His name, for our good and the good of all His holy Church.

Preface

Priest: The Lord be with you.

All respond: And with your spirit.

Priest: Lift up your hearts.

All respond: We lift them up to the Lord.

Priest: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All respond: It is right and just.

Eucharistic Prayer (Bilingual)

The priest continues to pray the Eucharistic Prayer while the congregation listens and prays in union with the priest.

Sanctus

The Sanctus is taken from Isaiah 6:1-4 and it proclaims the glory of God. We sing this before the Consecration to honor God and unite ourselves in a song of praise with the choirs of angels.

All proclaim:

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord, God of hosts.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed in he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

PLEASE KNEEL OR BE SEATED AFTER SINGING.

The Consecration

The priest performs the act of consecration by recalling the words of Jesus during the Last Supper in Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20. In doing so, the bread and wine are transformed into the body and blood of Christ by the Holy Spirit, which is also known as transubstantiation. Reception of communion gives strength, courage and charity to the faithful through the work of Christ and the Holy Spirit.

Doxology (Bilingual)

The Eucharistic Prayer concludes with the final doxology to which the congregation responds by chanting, "Amen."

PLEASE STAND AFTER SINGING.

The Lord's Prayer

This is a prayer taken from Scripture (Matthew 6:9-13) taught by Jesus to His disciples. We continue to invoke the Lord's intercession in the same words Christ taught us.

All pray: 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.

Sign of Peace

Priest: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

All respond: And with your spirit.

The sign of the peace is now exchanged.

Agnus Dei

All: 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.

PLEASE KNEEL.

Priest: Behold the Lamb of God, behold Him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those who are called to the supper of the Lamb.

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

These final words recall the words of the centurion in Matthew 8:8, who in faith says to the Lord that He needs only say the word and his servant can be healed.