

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

### FIRST READING

*Read by Laura Wilson*

*A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus (26: 1-4, 13-16)*

Blessed the husband of a good wife,  
twice-lengthened are his days;  
A worthy wife brings joy to her husband,  
peaceful and full is his life.

A good wife is a generous gift  
bestowed upon him who fears the Lord;  
Be he rich or poor, his heart is content,  
and a smile is ever on his face.

A gracious wife delights her husband,  
her thoughtfulness puts flesh on his bones;  
A gift from the Lord is her governed speech,  
and her firm virtue is of surpassing worth.

Choicest of blessings is a modest wife,  
priceless her chaste soul.

A holy and decent woman adds grace upon grace;  
indeed, no price is worthy of her temperate soul.

Like the sun rising in the Lord's heavens,  
the beauty of a virtuous wife is the radiance of her home.

The word of the Lord.

**R: Thanks be to God**

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**R. May the Lord bless us, all the days of our lives**

1. O blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways!  
By the labour of your hands you shall eat.  
You will be happy and prosper. **(R)**

2. Your wife will be like a fruitful vine in the heart of your house;  
your children like shoots of the olive,  
around your table. **(R)**

3. Indeed thus shall be blessed the man who fears the Lord.  
May the Lord bless you from Zion  
all the days of your life. **(R)**

### SECOND READING

*Read by Katie Gobin*

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians (12:31-13:8.)

Be ambitious for the higher gifts.

And I am going to show you a way that is better than any of them.  
If I have all the eloquence of men or of angels, but speak without love,  
I am simply a gong booming or a cymbal clashing.  
If I have the gift of prophecy,  
understanding all the mysteries there are, and knowing everything,  
and if I have faith in all its fullness, to move mountains,  
but without love, then I am nothing at all.  
If I give away all that I possess, piece by piece,  
and if I even let them take my body to burn it,  
but am without love, it will do me no good whatever.

Love is always patient and kind; it is never jealous;  
love is never boastful or conceited; it is never rude or selfish;  
it does not take offence, and is not resentful.  
Love takes no pleasure in other people's sins but delights in the truth;  
it is always ready to excuse, to trust, to hope,  
and to endure whatever comes.  
Love does not come to an end.  
The word of the Lord

**R: Thanks be to God**

## ALLELUIA

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.  
God is love;  
let us love one another as God has loved us.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

## GOSPEL

*Fr Gerry McNellis*  
John 15:9-12

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

Jesus said to his disciples;  
"As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you.  
Remain in my love.

If you keep my commandments you will remain in my love,  
just as I have kept my Father's commandments and remain in his  
love.

I have told you this so that my own joy may be in you and your joy  
be complete.

This is my commandment:  
love one another, as I have loved you."  
The Gospel of the Lord.

Response: **Praise to you Lord, Jesus Christ.**

## HOMILY

*Fr Gerry McNellis*

## RITE OF MARRIAGE

The Celebrant questions Stephanie and Adam about their readiness for marriage. Then follows the consent and the blessing and the exchange of rings.

## BIDDING PRAYERS

*Read by Colin and Kevin Cunningham*

*Colin:*

'Love one another as I love you'. With the words of the Gospel at the forefront of our minds, we make our prayers today.

For Stephanie and Adam, that their lives will be filled with peace and joy, that their home will be a place of happiness and laughter and that their love will strengthen and comfort them on their journey through life together. We pray that together they will face whatever challenges life brings them.

**Response: Lord, we ask you, hear our prayer**

*Kevin:*

By this marriage, two families have been united. We pray for their families and friends who have given them care and support throughout their lives and in preparing for their marriage; for all those who have encouraged them in their love for one another and for those who have supported them in caring for their young daughter, Aalia. For all those they think of with gratitude, may the Lord reward them for their goodness and kindness.

**Response: Lord, we ask you, hear our prayer**

Colin:

Lord, we are blessed today to be gathered together for a happy occasion. Let us give thanks for our own blessings, for the gifts of life and health, which we so often take for granted. We pray for all those who are bereaved, sick, lonely or struggling in today's world and for all those affected by war, injustice or poverty. We pray that they be strengthened by God's love and for lasting peace among all people.

*Response:* **Lord, we ask you, hear our prayer**

Kevin:

We remember today with a special love, all of those family members and friends who have gone before us and who would have loved to share in the joy and happiness of this day. We thank God for the happy memories they have left with us and may God one day unite us again.

*Response:* **Lord, we ask you, hear our prayer**

## THANKSGIVING HYMN- I WILL BE WITH YOU

*I will be with you wherever you go.  
Go now throughout the world!  
I will be with you in all that you say.  
Go now and spread My word!*

Come, walk with me on stormy waters.  
Why fear? Reach out, and I'll be there.

*I will be with you.....*

And you, My friend, will you now leave Me,  
or do you know Me as your Lord?

*I will be with you.....*

Your life will be transformed with power  
by living truly in My name.

*I will be with you.....*

And if you say: 'Yes, Lord, I love You.'  
then feed My lambs and feed My sheep.

*I will be with you.....*

## NUPTIAL BLESSING

## THE LORD'S 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

## SIGNING OF THE REGISTER

## HYMN- AS I KNEEL BEFORE YOU

As I kneel before you  
As I bow my head in prayer  
Take this day, make it yours  
And fill me with your love

*Ave Maria  
Gratia plena  
Dominus tecum  
Benedicta tu*

All I have I give you  
Every dream and wish are yours  
Mother of Christ  
Mother of mine, present them to my Lord

*Ave Maria.....*

As I kneel before you  
And I see your smiling face  
Every thought, every word  
Is lost in your embrace

*Ave Maria....*



### AN IRISH BLESSING

May the road rise to meet you.  
May the wind be always at your back.  
May the sun shine warm upon your face,  
The rains fall soft upon the fields.

May the light of friendship guide your paths together.  
May the laughter of children grace the halls  
of your home.

May the joy of living for one another trip a smile  
from your lips and a twinkle from your eye.

And when eternity beckons,  
at the end of a life heaped high with love,  
May the good Lord embrace you  
with the arms that have nurtured you  
the whole length of your joy-filled days.

May the gracious God hold you both  
in the palm of His hands.

And, today, may the Spirit of Love  
find a dwelling place in your hearts.  
Amen.

### RECESSIONAL

The Wedding March

*A Midsummer Night's Dream- Felix Mendelssohn*