

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.

This is the word of the Lord.

Response: Thanks to be to God

Gospel Reading

Fr Alan: The Lord be with you

Response: And with your spirit

A Reading from the holy Gospel according to John 15: 9

Remain in my love.

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 loved you.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Response: Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ

Homily

The Rite Of Marriage

Declaration of Consent

All Stand

Fr Alan: 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 intentions to enter into Marriage may be strengthened by the Lord with a sacred seal. Christ abundantly blesses the love that binds you. Through a special Sacrament, he enriches and strengthens those he has already consecrated by Holy Baptism, that they may 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.

Questions before the Consent

Fr Alan: Áine and George, have you come here to enter into Marriage without coercion, freely and wholeheartedly?

Bride and Groom: I have.

Fr Alan: George, are you resolved to take Áine to be your wife: to love her, comfort her, honour and protect her, and forsaking all others, to be faithful to her as long as you both shall live?

Groom: I am.

Fr Alan: Áine, are you resolved to take George to be your husband: to love him, comfort him, honour and protect him, and forsaking all others, to be faithful to him as long as you both shall live?

Bride: I am.

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

Bride and Groom: I am.

The Declaration of Freedom

Groom: I declare that I know of no legal reason why I, George Welsh may not be joined in marriage to Áine Kirwan.

Bride: I declare that I know of no legal reason why I, Áine Kirwan, may not be joined in marriage to George Welsh.

The Consent

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

Groom: I, George Welsh, take you, Áine Kirwan, to be my wedded wife,
to have and to hold from this day forward,
for better, for worse,
for richer, for poorer,
in sickness and in health,
to love and to cherish
till death do us part.

Bride: I, Áine Kirwan, take you, George Welsh, to be my wedded husband
to have and to hold from this day forward,
for better, for worse,
for richer, for poorer,
in sickness and in health,
to love and to cherish
till death do us part.

The Reception of the Consent

Fr Alan: May the Lord in his kindness strengthen the consent you have declared before the Church,
and graciously bring to fulfilment his blessing within you.

What God joins together, let no one put asunder.

Fr Alan: Let us bless the Lord.

Response: Thanks be to God.

The Blessing of the Rings

Fr Alan: Bless and sanctify your servants
in their love, O Lord,
and let these rings, a sign of their faithfulness,
remind them of their love for one another.
Through Christ our Lord.

The Giving of the Rings

Groom: Áine, 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.
Amen.

Bride: George, 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.
Amen.

Prayers Of The Faithful

Read by Diarmuid Linehan, Fiona Fox, Janet Welsh, Liam Óg O'Dwyer and Cat Symons

Response to each prayer: Lord, graciously hear us

Diarmuid: 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 and pray for all those who are suffering due to illness, loneliness, injustice, or poverty at this time. We also remember those who care for them, that God will give them the hope and inner strength they need. Lord, hear us.