

Reading

Corinthians 13:4-8

Read by Edwin Coombs

Love is patient; love is kind;
love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude.

It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not
rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth.

It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never ends.

Poem

The Art of a Good Marriage

Read by Annaliese and Rebecca

Happiness in marriage is not something that just happens. A good marriage must be created. In marriage the little things are the big things.

It is never being too old to hold hands. It is remembering to say “I love you” at least once a day. It is never going to sleep angry.

It is at no time taking the other for granted; the courtship should not end with the honeymoon; it should continue through the years.

It is having a mutual sense of values and common objectives. It is standing together facing the world. It is forming a circle of love that gathers the whole family.

It is doing things for each other, not in the attitude of duty or sacrifice, but in the spirit of joy. It is speaking words of appreciation and demonstrating gratitude in thoughtful ways.

It is not looking for perfection in each other. It is cultivating flexibility, patience, understanding and a sense of humour.

It is having the capacity to forgive and forget. It is giving each other an atmosphere in which each can grow old. It is a common search for the good and the beautiful.

It is establishing a relationship in which the independence is equal, dependence is mutual, and the obligation is reciprocal. It is not only marrying the right partner; it is being the right partner.

Renewal of Vows

The Priest says to John and Anne:

I invite you now to recall the vows that you made at your wedding on 3rd
November 1984.

John says:

I, John, took you, Anne, to be my wife.

Anne says:

I, Anne, took you, John, to be my husband;

The couple say together:

To have and to hold from that day forward,
for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer,
in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish,
till death us do part, according to God's holy law,
and this was our solemn vow.

Today, in the presence of our family and friends, we affirm our continuing
commitment to our marriage vows.

Priest:

Will you, the family and friends of John and Anne, continue to support and
uphold them in their marriage now and in the years to come?

All: We will.

Prayers

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.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.

Amen.