

## Liturgy of the Word

*First Reading - Read by Seamus O'Driscoll*

*Song of Songs 2:8-10,14,16,8:6-7*

Hark! My lover—here he comes,  
springing across the mountains, leaping across the hills.

My lover is like a gazelle, or a young stag.

Here he stands behind our wall, gazing through the windows,  
peering through the lattices.

My lover speaks; he says to me,  
“Arise, my beloved, my dove, my beautiful one, and come!”

“O my dove in the clefts of the rock, in the secret recesses of the cliff,  
let me see you, let me hear your voice, for your voice is sweet,  
and you are lovely.”

My lover belongs to me and I to him.

He says to me:

“Set me as a seal on your heart, as a seal on your arm;  
for stern as death is love, relentless as the nether world is devotion;  
its flames are a blazing fire;  
Deep waters cannot quench love, nor floods sweep it away.”

The Word of the Lord.

**All:** Thanks be to God.

***Responsorial Psalm 148 (Ps 148:1-4, 9-14. R: v.12)***

**Response:** Praise the name of the Lord.

**All:** Praise the name of the Lord.

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise him in the heights.

Praise him, all his angels, praise him, all of his host.

**Response:** Praise the name of the Lord.

Praise him, sun, and moon, praise him, shining stars. Praise

him, highest heavens, and the waters about the heavens.

**Response:** Praise the name of the Lord.

All the mountains and hills, all fruit trees and cedars, beasts wild and  
tame, reptiles and birds on the wing.

**Response:** Praise the name of the Lord.

All earth's kings and peoples, earth's princes and rulers. Young men  
and maidens, old men together with children.

**Response:** Praise the name of the Lord.

Let them praise the name of the Lord for he alone is exalted. The  
splendour of his name reaches beyond heaven and earth.

**Response:** Praise the name of the Lord.

*Second Reading - Read by Seamus O'Driscoll Óg*

*1 John 4:7-12*

**A reading from the first letter of St John**

My dear people,

Let us love one another since love comes from God,  
and everyone who loves God is begotten by God,  
and knows God.

Anyone who fails to love can never have known God,  
because God is love.

God's love for us revealed, when he sent into the world his  
only Son, so that we could have life through him.

This is the love I mean, not our love for God,  
but God's love for us when he sent his Son  
to the sacrifice that takes our sins away.

My dear people,

Since God has loved us so much, we too should love one another.

No one has ever seen God, but as long as we love one another,  
God will live in us, and his love will complete us.

**Reader:** The word of the Lord.

**All:** Thanks be to God.

## **Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia! Alleluia!

God is love; Anyone who lives in love lives in God,  
and God lives in him

Alleluia! Alleluia!

### **The Gospel**

**Fr:** The Lord be with you.

**All:** And with your spirit.

**Fr:** A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Mark (10:6-9)

**All:** Glory to you, O Lord.

### **Jesus said:**

“From the beginning of creation God made them male and female. That is why a man must leave father and mother, and the two become one body. They are no longer two, therefore, but one body. So then, what God has united, man must not divide.”

**Fr:** The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## **Homily**

*Please stand*

### **Liturgy of Marriage**

**Fr:** 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 his community. Christ blesses this love. He has already consecrated you in baptism. Now, by a special sacrament, he strengthens you to fulfill the duties of your married life.

Áine and Matthew, you are about to celebrate this sacrament. Have you come here of your own free will and choice and without compulsion to marry each other?

**Both:** We have.

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

**Both:** We will.

**Fr:** Are you willing to accept with love the children God may send you and bring them up in accordance with the law of Christ and his Church.

**Both:** We are.

## Declaration of Consent

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

**Matthew:** I, Matthew, take you, Áine, as my wife,

for better, for worse,

for richer, for poorer,

in sickness and in health,

till death do us part.

**Áine:** I, Áine, take you, Matthew, as my husband,

for better, for worse,

for richer, for poorer,

in sickness and in health,

till death do us part.

**Fr:** What God joins together no one must not separate.  
May the Lord confirm the consent that you have given  
and enrich you with his blessings.

## **Blessings of the Rings**

**Fr:** Lord, bless Áine and Matthew and consecrate their married life. May these rings be a symbol of their faith in each other, and a reminder of their love, through Christ our Lord.

**All:** Amen

**Matthew:** Áine, wear this ring as a sign of our faithful love. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Áine:** Matthew, wear this ring as a sign of our faithful love. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

## **Prayers of the Faithful**

**Fr:** For Áine and Matthew who now celebrate with us their joy and gratitude in receiving God's gift of love in the Holy Sacrament of Matrimony; that they may grow old together by sharing life's joys, struggles and challenges in order to become better persons and Christians. May the blessings of the Lord guide them through their lives as husband and wife. Lord in your gentleness

**All:** Hear our prayer

**Fr:** For the parents of Aine and Matthew, that they may be an example of love to their children. Lord in your gentleness

**All:** Hear our prayer

**Fr:** For all that are gathered here today to celebrate with Áine and Matthew, especially as they have travelled a great distance; that God will bless them and watch over them.

Lord in your gentleness

**All:** Hear our prayer

**Fr:** For our loved ones who have gone ahead of us. Lord in your gentleness

**All:** Hear our prayer