

WELCOME TO THE BLESSING OF THE
MARRIAGE OF

VICTORIA

&

PAUL

Eootman

ON FRIDAY 18 OCTOBER

2024

AT MIDDAY

TEWKESBURY ABBEY

ENTRANCE OF THE MARRIED COUPLE

*Air on the G String (Johann Sebastian Bach)
played by Director of Music Carleton Etherington*

THE WELCOME AND PREFACE

The Revd Canon Nick Davies

*The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of
the Holy Spirit be with you*

All: And also with you

READING

A reading from Song of Songs 8:6-7, read by Lucy Swithinbank

*Place me like a seal over your heart,
like a seal on your arm;
for love is as strong as death,
its jealousy unyielding as the grave.
It burns like blazing fire,
like a mighty flame.
Many waters cannot quench love;
rivers cannot sweep it away.
If one were to give
all the wealth of one's house for love,
it would be utterly scorned.*

THE BLESSING

THANKSGIVING AND PRAYERS FOR THE MARRIAGE

Prayers by Revd Alison Rowlands

Our prayers finish with the Lord's Prayer. Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

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.**

FINAL BLESSING

EXIT OF THE COUPLE

*Wedding March (Felix Mendelssohn)
played by Carleton Etherington*

*"Here's a profundity, the best I can do:
sometimes you just know... You just know when two
people belong together. I had never really experienced
that odd happenstance before, but this time, with
her, I did. Before, I was always trying to
make my relationships work by means of willpower
and forced affability. This time I didn't have
to strive for anything. A quality of
ease spread over us. Whatever I was, well, that was
apparently what she wanted... To this day
I don't know exactly what she loves about me and
that's because I don't have to know. She just does.
It was the entire menu of myself.
She ordered all of it."*

An excerpt from The Feast of Love, by Charles Baxter