

## **THE WELCOME**

Fr. Andrew Behrens

**Fr. A:** Friends, we are gathered here today to witness the marriage of Charlotte and Daniel. Let us call upon God to be with us today as we celebrate this union of two into one. In the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

**All:** *Amen*

**Fr. A:** Father, you have made the bond of marriage a holy mystery, a symbol of Christ's love for his church. Hear our prayers for Charlotte and Daniel. With faith in you and each other, they pledge their love today. May their lives always bear witness to the reality of that love. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

**All:** *Amen*

### **First reading**

A reading from the first letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians

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.

**All:** *Thanks be to God.*

**Responsorial Psalm**  
Psalm 144

**Response:** *How good is the Lord to all.*

The Lord is kind and full of compassion,  
slow to anger, abounding in love.  
How good is the Lord to all,  
compassionate to all his creatures.

**Response:** *How good is the Lord to all.*

All your creatures shall thank you, O Lord,  
and your friends shall repeat their blessing.  
The eyes of all creatures look to you  
and you give them their food in due time.

**Response:** *How good is the Lord to all.*

The Lord is just in all his ways  
and loving in all his deeds.  
He is close to all who call him,  
who call on him from their hearts.

**Response:** *How good is the Lord to all.*

## **Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia

Anyone who lives in love, lives in God, and God lives in him  
Alleluia.

## **Gospel**

Matthew 5: 13-16

Jesus said to his disciples:

'You are the salt of the earth. But if salt becomes tasteless, what can make it salty again? It is good for nothing, and can only be thrown out to be trampled underfoot by men. You are the light of the world. A city built on a hilltop cannot be hidden. No one lights a lamp to put it under a tub; they put it on the lamp-stand where it shines for everyone in the house. In the same way your light must shine in the sight of men, so that, seeing your good works, they may give the praise to your Father in heaven.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

**All:**

*Thanks be to God*

## **Homily**

### **The Consent**

Fr. Andrew will now lead Charlotte and Daniel in their marriage vows.

### **Blessing and Exchange of Rings**

**Fr. A:** Bless, O Lord these rings, which we bless in your name, so that those who wear them may remain entirely faithful to each other, abide in peace and in your will, and live always in mutual charity. Through Christ our Lord.

**All:**

*Amen*

**Daniel:** Charlotte, I give you this ring as a sign of our marriage: with my body I honour you, all that I am I give to you, and all that I have I share with you, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

**Charlotte:** Daniel, I give you this ring as a sign of our marriage: with my body I honour you, all that I am I give to you, and all that I have I share with you, in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

### **Signing of the Register**

### **Bidding Prayers**

Let us pray for God's blessing on this marriage, that Charlotte and Daniel may be faithful and loving for the rest of their lives. Lord hear us.

**All:**

*Lord, graciously hear us.*

Let us pray for God's blessing on their home and family. May it be a place filled with peace and joy. Lord hear us.

**All:**

*Lord, graciously hear us.*

Let us pray for the two families who have been united through this marriage. May they continue to support Charlotte and Daniel as they live out their marriage together. Lord hear us.

**All:**

*Lord, graciously hear us.*