

Bridal Procession (*All stand*) *Canon in D, Pachelbel*

Introductory Rite

Fr Eastwood: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit

All: Amen

Lighting of the Candles

Penitential Rite

Fr Eastwood: My brother and sisters, let us acknowledge our sins, and so prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries.

All: I confess to almighty God and to you my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do, through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault; therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord, our God.

Fr Eastwood: May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

All: Amen

Fr Eastwood: Lord, have mercy

All: Lord, have mercy

Fr Eastwood: Christ, have mercy

All: Christ, have mercy

Fr Eastwood: Lord, have mercy

All: Lord, have mercy

Opening Prayer

Fr Eastwood: Let us pray. Father, you have made the bond of marriage a holy mystery, a symbol of Christ's love for his Church. Hear our prayers for Melissa and Matthew. With faith in you and in 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, forever and ever.

All: Amen

The Liturgy of the Word (*All sit*)

First Reading

Claire Hunt: A reading from the book of Ruth (1:16-17)

Wherever you go, I shall go. Wherever you live, I shall live. Your people will be my people, and your God will be my God. Whenever you laugh, I will laugh. Whenever you cry, your tears are mine. Wherever you die, I shall die, and there shall I be buried beside you. We will be together forever, and our love will be the gift of life.

This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm *On Eagle's Wings*

Second Reading

Conor Brown: A reading from the first letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians (12:31-13:8)

If I am without love it will do me no good whatever.

Be ambitious for the higher gift. 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.

This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation (*All stand*) *Alleluia*

Fr Eastwood: The Lord be with you

All: And with your spirit

Fr Eastwood: A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John

All: Glory to you, O Lord

The Reading of the Gospel

Fr Eastwood: The Gospel of the Lord

All: Praise to You Lord Jesus Christ.

Homily (*All sit*)

Rite of Marriage

Fr Eastwood: 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 this community. Christ blesses this love. He has already consecrated you in baptism; now, by a special sacrament, he strengthens you to fulfil the duties of your married life. And so, in the presence of the Church, I ask you to state your intentions.

Fr Eastwood: Melissa and Matthew, have you come here to enter into marriage without coercion, freely and wholeheartedly?

Melissa and Matthew: We have.

Fr Eastwood: Are you prepared, as you follow the path of marriage, to love and honour each other for as long as you both shall live?

Melissa and Matthew: We are

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

Melissa and Matthew: We are

Declaration of Consent

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

Matthew: I, Matthew, take you, Melissa, to be my wife.

I promise to be faithful to you, in good times and in bad, in sickness and in health, to love you and honour you all the days of my life.

Melissa: I, Melissa, take you, Matthew, to be my husband.

I promise to be faithful to you, in good times and in bad, in sickness and in health, to love you and honour you all the days of my life

Fr Eastwood: What God joins together man must not separate. May the Lord confirm the consent that you have given and enrich you with his blessings.

Blessing & Exchange of the Rings

Fr Eastwood: Lord, bless these rings, symbols of faithfulness and unbroken love. May Melissa and Matthew always be true to each other, may they be one in heart and mind, may they be united in love forever. Through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen

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

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

The Lighting of the Marriage Candle

Prayers of the Faithful (*All stand*)

Fr Eastwood: Let us now pray for the newly married couple, for married people everywhere, for the Church and for the world.

Jordan Donnelly: We pray for Pope Francis, the Church, the holy People of God, and for unity among all Christians.

Lord hear us

All: Lord, graciously hear us

Jordan Donnelly: We pray for all here present that God may give you peace in your hearts for today, hope in your hearts for tomorrow and love in your hearts forever.

Lord hear us.

All: Lord, graciously hear us

Jordan Donnelly: We pray for Melissa and Matthew as they begin their married life together. May their home be full of joy and laughter, may God give them good health and may they always find happiness in each other.

Lord hear us.

All: Lord, graciously hear us

Fr Eastwood: God, our Father, you have taught us that love is the fulfilling of the law: may Melissa and Matthew grow in love for each other and always remain in your love. Through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Offertory Procession *Flute instrumental - Ag Críost an Síol*

Fr Eastwood: Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation, for through your goodness we have received this wine we offer you, fruit of the vine and work of human hands, it will become for us the bread of life.

All: Blessed be God forever.

Fr Eastwood: Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation, for through your goodness we have received this wine we offer you, fruit of the vine and work of human hands, it will become our spiritual drink.

All: Blessed be God forever.

Preparation of Altar and Gifts (*All stand*)

Fr Eastwood: Pray, brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

All: May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good, and the good of all his holy Church.

Prayer over the Gifts

Fr Eastwood: Receive in your kindness Lord, the offerings we bring in gladness before you and in your fatherly love watch over Melissa and Matthew who are joined in the Sacrament of Marriage. Through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen

Fr Eastwood: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit

Fr Eastwood: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

Fr Eastwood: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right and just

It is right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks, Lord, Holy Father, almighty and eternal God, through Christ our Lord.

For in Him you have made a new covenant with your people, so that, as you have redeemed man and woman by the mystery of Christ's Death and Resurrection, so in Christ you might make partakers of divine nature and joint heirs with him of heavenly glory.

In the union of husband and wife you give a sign of Christ's loving gift and grace, so that the Sacrament we celebrate might draw us back more deeply into the wondrous design of your love. And so, with the Angels and all the Saints we praise you, and without end we acclaim:

All: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of Hosts. Heaven and Earth are full of your glory, Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the Highest.

The Eucharistic Prayer (*All kneel*)

Fr Eastwood: You are indeed Holy, O Lord, the fount of all holiness. Make holy therefore, these gifts, we pray, by sending down your Spirit upon them like the dewfall, so that they may become for us the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ.

At the time he was betrayed and entered willingly into his passion, he took bread and, giving thanks, broke it, and gave it to his disciples saying, *'Take this all of your and eat of it for this is my body which will be given up for you.'*

In a similar way, when supper was ended, he took the chalice, once more giving thanks; he gave it to his disciples, saying, *'Take this all of you, and drink from it, for this is the chalice of my blood, the blood of the new and eternal covenant, which will be poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in memory of me.'*

The Mystery of Faith

All: We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.

Fr Eastwood: Therefore, as we celebrate the memorial of his Death and Resurrection, we offer you, Lord, the Bread of life and the Chalice of salvation, giving thanks that you have held us worthy to be in your presence and minister to you.

Humbly we pray that, partaking of the Body and Blood of Christ, we may be gathered into one by the Holy Spirit.

Remember, Lord, your Church, spread throughout the world, and bring her to the fullness of charity, together with Francis our Pope, Lawrence our Bishop, the Bishop Emeritus Joseph and all the clergy.

Be mindful also, Lord of Melissa and Matthew, whom you have brought to their wedding day, so that by your grace they may abide in mutual love and in peace.

Remember also our brothers and sisters who have fallen asleep in the hope of resurrection, and all who have died in your mercy: welcome them into the light of your face.

Have mercy on us all, we pray, that with the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God, with blessed Joseph, her spouse, the blessed Apostles, and all the saints who have pleased you throughout the ages, we may merit to be coheirs to eternal life and may praise and glorify you through your Son, Jesus Christ. Through Him, and with Him and in Him, O God, almighty Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honour is yours, forever and ever.

All: Amen

The Communion Rite (*All stand*)

Fr Eastwood: At the saviour's command, and formed by divine teaching we dare to say:

All: Our Father

Nuptial Blessing

Holy father, maker of the whole world who created man and woman in your own image and willed that their union be crowned with your blessing.

We humbly beseech you for these your servants who are joined today in the Sacrament of Marriage. May your abundant blessings come upon them and may the power of your Holy Spirit set their hearts aflame from on high so that, living our together the gift of matrimony they may enrich the Church.