

The Dismissal

The Blessing

Minister God the Holy Trinity make you strong in faith and love,
defend you on every side,
and guide you in truth and peace;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

The registration of the marriage takes place at this point if it has not done so earlier.

At the departure of the couple all stand.

Benefice of Twyford, Owslebury, Morestead and Colden Common

Service of Marriage

At the entry of the Bride all stand

The Introduction

The Welcome

The minister welcomes the people using these words

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

All **And also with you.**

Minister God is love, and those who live in love live in God;
and God lives in them. - *1 John 4.16*

All **God of wonder and of joy:
grace comes from you,
and you alone are the source of life and love.
Without you, we cannot please you;
without your love, our deeds are worth nothing.**

**Send your Holy Spirit,
and pour into our hearts
that most excellent gift of love,
that we may worship you now
with thankful hearts
and serve you with willing minds;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

A Hymn may be sung

Benefice Wedding Service 2012

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Preface

Minister In the presence of God, we have come together
to witness the marriage of *N* and *N*,
to pray for God's blessing on them,
to share in their joy,
and celebrate their love.

Marriage is a gift of God in creation
through which husband and wife may know the grace of God.
It is given
that as man and woman grow together in love and trust,
they shall be united with one another in heart, body and mind,
as Christ is united with the church.

The gift of Marriage brings husband and wife together
in the delight and tenderness of sexual union
and joyful commitment to the end of their lives.
It is a foundation of family life
in which children are nurtured
and in which each member of the family,
in good times and in bad,
may find strength, companionship and comfort,
and grow to maturity in love.

Marriage is a way of life made holy by God,
and blessed by the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ
with those celebrating a wedding at Cana in Galilee.
Marriage is a sign of unity and loyalty
which all should uphold and honour.
It enriches society and strengthens community.
No one should enter it lightly or selfishly
but reverently and responsibly in the sight of almighty God.

N and *N* are now to enter this way of life.
They will each give their consent to the other
and make solemn vows,
and in token of this will each give and receive a ring.
We pray with them that the Holy Spirit will
guide and strengthen them,
that they may fulfil God's purposes
for the whole of their earthly life together.

A hymn may be sung

The registration of the marriage may take place during the hymn

SIT

One or more Readings may be used.

The Prayers

KNEEL

The husband and wife kneel before the holy table

There follow prayers for the couple and their families

The prayers conclude with the Lord's Prayer

Minister In faith and trust we pray.

All **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.**

STAND

A hymn may be sung

The Proclamation

Minister In the presence of God, and before this congregation,
N and *N* have given their consent
and made their marriage vows to each other.
They have declared their marriage by the joining of hands
and by the giving and receiving of *rings*.
I therefore proclaim that they are husband and wife.

The minister joins their right hands together and says

Minister Those whom God has joined together let no one put asunder.

The Blessing of the Marriage

Minister Blessed are you, O Lord our God,
for you have created joy and gladness,
pleasure and delight, love, peace and fellowship.
Pour out the abundance of your blessing
upon *N* and *N* in their new life together.
Let their love for each other be a seal upon their hearts,
and a crown upon their heads.
Bless them in their work and companionship;
awake and asleep,
in joy and in sorrow,
in life and in death.
Finally, in your mercy, bring them to that banquet
where your saints feast for ever in your heavenly home.
We ask this through Jesus Christ your Son, our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

All **Amen.**

The minister says to the couple

Minister God the Father,
God the Son,
God the Holy Spirit.
bless, preserve, and keep you;
the Lord mercifully grant you the riches of his grace,
that you may please him both in body and soul,
and, living together in faith and love,
may receive the blessings of eternal life.

All **Amen.**

The Declarations

The minister says to the congregation.

Minister First I am required to ask anyone present
who knows of a reason why these persons
may not lawfully marry, to declare it now.

The minister says to the couple

Minister The vows you are about to take are to be made
in the presence of God, who is judge of all
and knows the secrets of our hearts;
therefore if either of you knows a reason why you
may not lawfully marry, you must declare it now.

The Minister says to the bridegroom

Minister *N*, will you take *N* to be your wife?
Will you love her, comfort her, honour and protect her,
and, forsaking all others,
be faithful to her as long as you both shall live?

The bridegroom answers

I will.

The Minister says to the bride

Minister *N*, will you take *N* to be your husband?
Will you love him, comfort him, honour and protect him,
and, forsaking all others,
be faithful to him as long as you both shall live?

The bride answers

I will.

The Minister says to the congregation

Minister Will you, the family and friends of *N* and *N*
support and uphold them in their marriage
now and in the years to come?

All **We will.**

The Collect

The minister invites the people to pray, silence is kept, and the minister says the Collect.

Minister Almighty God,
from the beginning,
you have blessed creation with abundant life.
Pour out your blessings upon *N* and *N*,
that they may be joined in mutual love and companionship,
in holiness, and commitment to each other.
We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

All Amen.

One or more Readings may be used.

A Hymn may be sung

The Marriage

The Vows

Minister *N* and *N*, I now invite you to join hands and make your vows,
in the presence of God and his people.

Who brings this woman to be married to this man?

The bride and bridegroom face each other.

The bridegroom takes the bride's right hand in his, and says

*I, N, take you, N,
to be my wife,
to have and to hold
from this 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.
In the presence of God I make this vow.*

They loose hands

The bride takes the bridegroom's right hand in hers, and says

*I, N, take you, N,
to be my husband,
to have and to hold
from this 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.
In the presence of God I make this vow.*

They loose hands

The Giving of Rings

The minister receives the rings, and says

Minister Heavenly God,
by your blessing let these rings be to *N* and *N*
a symbol of unending love and faithfulness,
to remind them of the vow and covenant
which they have made this day
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*The bridegroom places the ring on the fourth finger of the bride's left hand,
and holding it there, says*

*N, 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,
within the love of God,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.*

*They loose hands and the bride places a ring on the fourth finger of the bridegroom's left
hand, and holding it there, says*

*N, 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,
within the love of God,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.*