

*Celebrating
the
Sacrament of Marriage*



Corpus Christi Catholic Church

Old Testament Reading

Genesis 1:26-28,31

A reading is from the book of Genesis.

God said:

"Let us make man in our image, after our likeness.
Let them have dominion over the fish of the sea,
the birds of the air, and the cattle,
and over all the wild animals,
and over all creatures that crawl on the ground."

God created man in his image;
in the divine image he created him;
male and female he created them.

God blessed them, saying,

"Be fertile and multiply;
fill the earth and subdue it.

Have dominion over the fish of the sea,
the birds of the air,
and all the living things that move on the earth."

God looked at everything he had made, and he found it very good.

The Word of the Lord.

Genesis 2:18-24

The first reading is from the book of Genesis.

The Lord God said:

"It is not good for the man to be alone.
I will make a suitable partner for him."

So the Lord God formed out of the ground various wild animals and various birds of the air, and He brought them to the man to see what he would call them; whatever the man called each of them would be its name.

The man gave names to all the cattle, all the birds of the air, and all the wild animals; but none proved to be the suitable partner for the man.

So the Lord God cast a deep sleep on the man, and while he was asleep, He took out one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. The Lord God then built up into a woman the rib that He had taken from the man.

When he brought her to the man, the man said:

"This one, at last, is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; This one shall be called 'woman', for out of 'her man' this one has been taken."

That is why a man leaves his father and mother and clings to his wife, and the two of them become one body.

The Word of the Lord.

Genesis 24:48-51, 58-67

The first reading is from the book of Genesis.

The servant of Abraham said to Laban: "I bowed down in worship to the Lord, blessing the Lord, the God of my master Abraham, who had led me on the right road to obtain the daughter of my master's kinsman for his son. If, therefore, you have in mind to show true loyalty to my master, let me know; but if not, let me know that, too. I can then proceed accordingly."

Laban and his household said in reply: "This thing comes from the Lord; we can say nothing to you either for or against it. Here is Rebekah, ready for you; take her with you, that she may become the wife of your master's son, as the Lord has said."

So they called Rebekah and asked her, "Do you wish to go with this man?" She answered, "I do." At this they allowed their sister Rebekah and her nurse to take leave, along with Abraham's servant and his men. Invoking a blessing on Rebekah, they said:

"Sister, may you grow into thousands of myriads; And may your descendants gain possession of the gates of their enemies!"

Then Rebekah and her maids started out; they mounted their camels and followed the man. So the servant took Rebekah and went on his way.

Meanwhile Isaac had gone from Beer-lahai-roi and was living in the region of the Negeb. One day toward evening he went out. . . in the field, and as he looked around, he noticed that camels were approaching. Rebekah, too, was looking about, and when she saw him, she alighted from her camel and asked the servant, "Who is the man out there, walking through the fields toward us?" "That is my master," replied the servant. Then she covered herself with her veil. The servant recounted to Isaac all the things he had done. Then Isaac took Rebekah into his tent; he married her, and thus she became his wife. In his love for her Isaac found solace after the death of his mother Sarah.

The Word of the Lord.

Tobit 7:9-10, 11-15

The first reading is taken from the book of Tobit.

Tobiah said to Raphael,

"Brother Azariah, ask Raguel to let me marry my kinswoman Sarah."

Raguel overheard the words; so he said to the boy:

"Eat and drink and be merry tonight, for no man is more entitled to marry my daughter Sarah than you, brother. Besides, not even I have the right to give her to anyone but you, because you are my closest relative. But I will explain the situation to you very frankly. She is yours according to the decree of the Book of Moses. Your marriage to her has been decided in heaven! Take your kinswoman; from now on you are her love, and she is your beloved. She is yours today and ever after. And tonight, son, may the Lord of heaven prosper you both. May he grant you mercy and peace."

Then Raguel called his daughter Sarah, and she came to him. He took her by the hand and gave her to Tobiah with the words:

"Take her according to the law. According to the decree written in the Book of Moses she is your wife. Take her and bring her back safely to your father. And may the God of heaven grant both of you peace and prosperity."

He then called her mother and told her to bring a scroll, so that he might draw up a marriage contract stating that he gave Sarah to Tobiah as his wife according to the decree of the Mosaic law. Her mother brought the scroll, and he drew up the contract, to which they affixed their seals. Afterward they began to eat and drink.

The Word of the Lord.

Tobit 8:5-7

The first reading is taken from the book of Tobit.

On the wedding night Sarah got up, and she and Tobiah started to pray
and beg that deliverance might be theirs.

He began with these words:

"Blessed are you, O God of our fathers;
praised be your name forever and ever.

Let the heavens and all your creation
praise you forever.

You made Adam and you gave him his wife Eve
to be his help and support;
and from these two the human race descended.

You said, 'It is not good for the man to be alone;
let us make him a partner like himself.'

Now, Lord, you know that I take this wife of mine
not because of lust,
but for a noble purpose.

Call down your mercy on me and on her,
and allow us to live together to a happy old age.

The Word of the Lord.

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

The first reading is from the Song of Songs.

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 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 said to me:

Set me 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.

Sirach 26:1-4, 13-16

The first reading is taken from the book of Sirach.

Happy the husband of a good wife,
twice lengthened are his days;
A worthy wife brings joy to her husband,
peaceful and full is his life.
A good wife is a generous gift
bestowed upon him who fears the Lord;
Be he rich or poor, his heart is content,
and a smile is ever on his face.
A gracious wife delights her husband,
her thoughtfulness puts flesh on his bones;
A gift from the Lord is her governed speech,
and her firm virtue is of surpassing worth.
Choicest of blessings is a modest wife,
priceless her chaste person.
Like the sun rising in the Lord's heavens,
the beauty of a virtuous wife is the radiance of her home.

The Word of the Lord.

Jeremiah 31:31-32, 33-34

The first reading is from the book of the prophet Jeremiah.

The days are coming, says the Lord,
when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and
the house of Judah.

It will not be like the covenant I made with their fathers the day
I took them by the hand to lead them forth from the land of
Egypt.

But this is the covenant which I will make with the house of Israel
after those days, says the Lord.

I will place my law within them,
and write it upon their hearts;
I will be their God,
and they shall be my people.

No longer will they have need to teach their friends and rela-
tives how to know the Lord.

All, from least to greatest, shall know me, says the Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

New Testament Readings

Romans 8:31-35, 37-39

The second reading is from the letter of St. Paul to the Romans:

If God is for us, who can be against? He who did not spare his own Son but handed him over for us all, how will he not also give us everything else along with him?

Who will bring a charge against God's chosen ones? It is God who acquits us.

Who will condemn? It is Christ Jesus who died, rather, was raised, who also is at the right hand of God, who intercedes for us.

What will separate us from the love of Christ? Will anguish, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or the sword?

No, in all these things we conquer overwhelmingly through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor present things, nor future things, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The Word of the Lord....

Romans 12:1-2, 9-18

The second reading is from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

Brothers and sisters, I beg you through the mercy of God to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice holy and acceptable to God, your spiritual worship. Do not conform yourselves to this age but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, so that you may judge what is God's will, what is good, pleasing and perfect.

Your love must be sincere. Detest what is evil, cling to what is good. Love one another with the affection of brothers. Anticipate each other in showing respect. Do not grow slack but be fervent in spirit; he whom you serve is the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient under trial, persevere in prayer. Look on the needs of the saints as your own; be generous in offering hospitality. Bless your persecutors; bless and do not curse them.

Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Have the same attitude toward all. Put away ambitious thoughts and associate with those who are lowly. Do not be wise in your own estimation. Never repay injury with injury. See that your conduct is honorable in the eyes of all. If possible, live peaceably with everyone.

The Word of the Lord.

1 Corinthians 6:13-15, 17-20

The second reading is from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians

The body, however, is not for immorality,
but for the Lord, and the Lord is for the body;
God raised the Lord and will also raise us by his power.
Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ?
But whoever is joined to the Lord becomes one spirit with him.
Avoid immorality.
Every other sin a person commits is outside the body,
but the immoral person sins against his own body.
Do you not know that your body is a temple
of the holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God,
and that you are not your own?
For you have been purchased at a price.
Therefore, glorify God in your body.

The Word of the Lord.

1 Corinthians 12:31-13:-8

The second reading is from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

Set your hearts on the greater gifts.

I will show you the way which surpasses all the others.

If I speak with human tongues and angelic as well,

but do not have love, I am a noisy gong, a clanging cymbal.

If I have the gift of prophecy and, with full knowledge,

comprehend all mysteries,

If I have faith great enough to move mountains,

but have not love, I am nothing.

If I give everything I have to feed the poor and hand over

my body to be burned but have not love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient; love is kind.

Love is not jealous, it does not put on airs, it is not snobbish.

Love is never rude, it is not self-seeking,

it is not prone to anger; neither does it brood over injuries.

Love does not rejoice in what is wrong,

but rejoices with the truth.

There is no limit to love's forbearance,

to its trust, its hope, its power to endure.

Love never fails.

The Word of the Lord.

Ephesians 5:2, 21-33

The second reading is from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians

So be imitators of God, as beloved children, and live in love, as Christ loved us and handed himself over for us as a sacrificial offering to God for a fragrant aroma. Be subordinate to one another out of reverence for Christ.

Wives should be subordinate to their husbands as to the Lord. For the husband is head of his wife just as Christ is head of the church, he himself the savior of the body. As the church is subordinate to Christ, so wives should be subordinate to their husbands in everything. Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ loved the church and handed himself over for her to sanctify her, cleansing her by the bath of water with the word, that he might present to himself the church in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish. So also husbands should love their wives as their own bodies.

He who loves his wife loves himself. For no one hates his own flesh but rather nourishes and cherishes it, even as Christ does the church, because we are members of his body. "For this reason a man shall leave his father and his mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh." This is a great mystery, but I speak in reference to Christ and the church. In any case, each one of you should love his wife as himself, and the wife should respect her husband.

The Word of the Lord.

Colossians 3:12-17

The second reading is from the letter of Paul to the Colossians.

Because you are God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with heartfelt mercy, with kindness, humility, meekness, and patience.

Bear with one another; forgive whatever grievances you have against one another.

Forgive as the Lord has forgiven you.

Over all these virtues put on love, which binds the rest together and makes them perfect.

Christ's peace must reign in your hearts, since as members of the one body, you have been called to that peace.

Dedicate yourselves to thankfulness.

Let the word of Christ, rich as it is, dwell in you.

In wisdom made perfect, instruct and admonish one another.

Sing gratefully to God from your hearts in psalms, hymns, and inspired songs.

Whatever you do, whether in speech or in action,
do it in the name of the Lord Jesus.

Give thanks to God the Father through him.

The Word of the Lord.

1 Peter 3:1-9

The second reading is from the first letter of Peter

Likewise, you wives should be subordinate to your husbands so that, even if some disobey the word, they may be won over without a word by their wives' conduct when they observe your reverent and chaste behavior.

Your adornment should not be an external one: braiding the hair, wearing gold jewelry, or dressing in fine clothes, but rather the hidden character of the heart, expressed in the imperishable beauty of a gentle and calm disposition, which is precious in the sight of God.

For this is also how the holy women who hoped in God once used to adorn themselves and were subordinate to their husbands; thus Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him "Lord." You are her children when you do what is good and fear no intimidation. Likewise, you husbands should live with your wives in understanding, showing honor to the weaker female sex, since we are joint heirs of the gift of life, so that your prayers may not be hindered.

Finally, all of you, be of one mind, sympathetic, loving toward one another, compassionate, humble. Do not return evil for evil, or insult for insult; but, on the contrary, a blessing, because to this you were called, that you might inherit a blessing.

The Word of the Lord.

1 John 3:18-24

The second reading is from the first letter of John.

Children, let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth. Now this is how we shall know that we belong to the truth and reassure our hearts before him in whatever our hearts condemn, for God is greater than our hearts and knows everything.

Beloved,
if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence in God and receive from him whatever we ask, because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him.

And his commandment is this: we should believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and love one another just as he commanded us. Those who keep his commandments remain in him, and he in them, and the way we know that he remains in us is from the Spirit that he gave us.

The Word of the Lord.

1 John 4:7-12

The second reading is taken from the first letter of John.

Beloved,

let us love one another
because love is of God;
everyone who loves is begotten of God
and has knowledge of God.

The man without love has known nothing of God,
for God is love.

God's love was revealed in our midst in this way:
he sent his only Son to the world
that we might have life through him.

Love, then, consists in this:
not that we have loved God,
but that he has loved us
and has sent his Son as an offering for our sins.

Beloved,

if God has loved us so,
we must have the same love for one another.

No one has ever seen God,
Yet if we love one another
God dwells in us,
and his love is brought to perfection in us.

The Word of the Lord.

Revelation 19:1, 5-9

The second reading is from the book of Revelation.

After this I heard what sounded like the loud voice of a great multitude in heaven, saying:

"Alleluia!

Salvation, glory, and might belong to our God.

A voice coming from the throne said: "Praise our God, all you his servants, and you who revere him, small and great." Then I heard something like the sound of a great multitude or the sound of rushing water or mighty peals of thunder, as they said:

"Alleluia!

The Lord has established his reign,
our God, the Almighty.

Let us rejoice and be glad and give him glory!

For the wedding day of the Lamb has come,
his bride has made herself ready.

She was allowed to wear a bright, clean linen garment."

(The linen represents the righteous deeds of the holy ones.)

Then the angel said to me,

"Write this: Blessed are those who have been called to the
wedding feast of the Lamb."

And he said to me,

"These words are true; they come from God."

The Word of the Lord.

Gospels

Matthew 5:1-12

The Lord be with you....

✠ A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew:

When he saw the crowds, Jesus went up the mountain, and after he had sat down, his disciples came to him. He began to teach them, saying:

"Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are they who mourn,
for they will be comforted.

Blessed are the meek,
for they will inherit the land.

Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
for they will be satisfied.

Blessed are the merciful,
for they will be shown mercy.

Blessed are the clean of heart,
for they will see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they will be called the children of God.

Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of
righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you and utter
every kind of slander against you falsely because of me.

Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.

The Gospel of the Lord....

Matthew 5:13-16

The Lord be with you....

✠ A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew:

"You are the salt of the earth.

But if salt loses its taste, with what can it be seasoned?

It is no longer good for anything

but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot.

You are the light of the world.

A city set on a mountain cannot be hidden.

Nor do they light a lamp and then put it under a bushel basket;

it is set on a lampstand, where it gives light to all in the house.

Just so, your light must shine before others,

that they may see your good deeds

and glorify your heavenly Father."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Matthew 7:21, 24-29

The Lord be with you....

✠ A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew:

"Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father in heaven.

"Everyone who listens to these words of mine and acts on them will be like a wise man who built his house on rock. The rain fell, the floods came, and the winds blew and buffeted the house. But it did not collapse; it had been set solidly on rock. And everyone who listens to these words of mine but does not act on them will be like a fool who built his house on sand.

The rain fell, the floods came, and the winds blew and buffeted the house. And it collapsed and was completely ruined." When Jesus finished these words, the crowds were astonished at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as their scribes.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Matthew 19:3-6

The Lord be with you....

✠ A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew:

Some Pharisees approached him, and tested him, saying,

"Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for any cause whatever?"

He said in reply,

"Have you not read that from the beginning the Creator 'made them male and female' and said,

'For this reason a man shall leave
his father and mother and be joined to his wife,
and the two shall become one flesh'?

So they are no longer two, but one flesh.

Therefore, what God has joined together,
no human being must separate."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Matthew 22:35-40

The Lord be with you....

✠ A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew:

When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them a scholar of the law tested him by asking,

"Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?"

He said to him,

"You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.

This is the greatest and the first commandment.

The second is like it:

You shall love your neighbor as yourself.

The whole law and the prophets depend on these two commandments."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Mark 10:6-9

The Lord be with you....

✠ A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew:

But from the beginning of creation,
'God made them male and female.
For this reason a man shall leave his
father and mother and be joined to his wife,
and the two shall become one flesh.'
So they are no longer two but one flesh.
Therefore what God has joined together,
no human being must separate."

The Gospel of the Lord.

John 2:1-11

The Lord be with you....

✠ A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John:

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana in Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples were also invited to the wedding. When the wine ran short, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine."

And Jesus said to her,

"Woman, how does your concern affect me? My hour has not yet come."

His mother said to the servers,

"Do whatever he tells you." Now there were six stone water jars there for Jewish ceremonial washings, each holding twenty to thirty gallons.

Jesus told them,

"Fill the jars with water." So they filled them to the brim.

Then he told them,

"Draw some out now and take it to the headwaiter."

So they took it. And when the headwaiter tasted the water that had become wine, without knowing where it came from although the servers who had drawn the water knew, the headwaiter called the bridegroom and said to him,

"Everyone serves good wine first, and then when people have drunk freely, an inferior one; but you have kept the good wine until now." Jesus did this as the beginning of his signs in Cana in Galilee and so revealed his glory, and his disciples began to believe in him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

John 15:9-12

The Lord be with you....

✠ A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John:

Jesus said to his disciples:

"As the Father has loved me,
so I have loved you.

Live on in my love.

You will live in my love

if you keep my commandments

even as I have kept my Father's commandments,
and live in his love.

All this I tell you

that my joy may be yours and your joy may be complete.

This is my commandment:

love one another as I have loved you."

The Gospel of the Lord.

John 15:12-16

The Lord be with you....

✠ A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John:

This is my commandment:

love one another as I love you.

No one has greater love than this,

to lay down one's life for one's friends.

You are my friends if you do what I command you.

I no longer call you slaves,

because a slave does not know what his master is doing.

I have called you friends,

because I have told you everything I have heard from my Father.

It was not you who chose me,

but I who chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit that

will remain, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name he

may give you.

The Gospel of the Lord.

John 17:20-26

The Lord be with you....

✠ A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John:

Jesus looked up to heaven and prayed:

"Holy Father, I pray not only for them,
but also for those who will believe in me through their word,
so that they may all be one, as you, Father, are in me and I in you,
that they also may be in us, that the world may believe that you
sent me.

And I have given them the glory you gave me,
so that they may be one, as we are one,
I in them and you in me,
that they may be brought to perfection as one,
that the world may know that you sent me,
and that you loved them even as you loved me.

Father, they are your gift to me.

I wish that where I am they also may be with me,
that they may see my glory that you gave me,
because you loved me before the foundation of the world.

Righteous Father,
the world also does not know you,
but I know you, and they know that you sent me.

I made known to them your name and I will make it known,
that the love with which you loved me may be in them and I in
them."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Prayers of the Faithful

1. For all who minister to God's people everywhere, that they may lead us to a deeper faith in God, and a stronger love for others. *We pray to the Lord.*
2. For our president and all leaders of government, that they may be effective in achieving peace and eliminating poverty. *We pray to the Lord.*
3. For all of us gathered here, that God will teach us to use wisely the good things he has given us, that they will lead us closer to him and to eternal blessings he promises. *We pray to the Lord.*
4. For justice and rights and loyalty, that they may be stronger than injustice and destruction. *We pray to the Lord.*
5. For families, for those who teach us what it means to love, for those torn and divided, that love will never be far off and peace will find a home. *We pray to the Lord.*
6. For all married couples, that they may continue to give, be able to forgive, and find happiness deepen with the passing of each day. *We pray to the Lord.*
7. For N. and N. now beginning their lives together, that they may have divine assistance at every moment, the rich blessing of children, the constant support of friends, and a warm love reaching out to others. *We pray to the Lord.*
8. For all those who have gone before us to heaven, especially all the family and friends of N. and N., that God may bring them home to live with him forever. *We pray to the Lord.*

Liturgy Planning Session

For the marriage of

_____ and _____

Date of Rehearsal: _____ Date of Wedding: _____

Time: _____ Time: _____

Celebrant:

Maid or Matron of Honor: _____ Best Man: _____

_____ Attendants: _____
_____ and _____
_____ and _____
_____ and _____

Readers: _____ Eucharistic Ministers: _____

Acolytes: _____ Music Ministers: _____

Ushers: _____

The Order of Service

Entrance (any special instructions)

Introductory Rites

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading: Title, chapter, verses _____

Responsorial Psalm

Second Reading: Title chapter, verses _____

Alleluia

Gospel: Title, chapter, verses _____

Marriage Rite

Consent

Exchange of Vows

Exchange of Rings

Other instructions for the marriage rite:

General Intercessions: (place an X by the five petitions you choose)

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____ 4. _____ 5. _____ 6. _____ 7. _____ 8. _____

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Preparation of the Gifts

Holy, Holy, Holy

Memorial Acclamation

Amen

Our Father

Exchange of Peace

Lamb of God

Communion procession

Prayer After Communion

Sending Rites

Nuptial Blessing

Introduction of Couple

Recessional