

We welcome you to the Marriage of

Name

and

Name

Celebrated at

St George's Anglican Church, Malvern

Date

With special thanks to:

Celebrant:

Parents of the bride:

Parents of the groom:

Bridesmaids:

Groomsmen:

Readers:

The Bridal Procession

[Please join in the sections printed in ***bold italics***]

Gathering in God's name

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

And also with you.

Hymn

The Purposes of Marriage

We have come together in the presence of God
to witness the marriage of **Name** and **Name**
and to ask God's blessing on them
as we share their joy.

Marriage is a gift of God our creator.

It is a symbol of God's unending love for his people,
and of the union between Christ and his Church.

Christ loved his Bride the Church,
and gave himself for her.

As he has called **Name** and **Name** to marriage,
so he draws their differing gifts and hopes
into a unity of love and service.

Scripture teaches that marriage is a lifelong partnership
uniting a woman and a man in heart, mind and body.

In the joy of their union, husband and wife
enrich and respond to each other,
growing in tenderness and understanding.

Through marriage a new family is formed,
where children may be born
and grow in secure and loving care.

Marriage is therefore to be honoured by all.

No one should enter it lightly or selfishly,
but responsibly and joyfully,
with mutual respect and the promise to be faithful.

So let us pray with **Name** and **Name**
as they prepare to exchange their solemn vows:

Blessed are you, loving God,
your Spirit binds us together.

***Crown our lives with your goodness;
sustain us all our days with your love.***

Bless **Name** and **Name** with wisdom and pleasure.

Be their friend and companion in joy,
their comfort in need and sorrow.

And when this life is ended
welcome them into your presence,
there with all your holy people
to praise your holy name:

***Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
as in the beginning, so now, and for ever. Amen.***

The Bible Readings

A Reading from the book of Romans

Ready by Thomas McNamara

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.

Romans 12:9-18

Sonnet 116

Read by Isobel McNamara

Let me not to the marriage of true minds
Admit impediments. Love is not love
Which alters when it alteration finds,
Or bends with the remover to remove:
O no; it is an ever-fixed mark,
That looks on tempests, and is never shaken;
It is the star to every wandering bark,
Whose worth's unknown, although his height be taken.
Love's not Time's fool, though rosy lips and cheeks
Within his bending sickle's compass come;
Love alters not with his brief hours and weeks,
But bears it out even to the edge of doom.
If this be error and upon me proved,
I never writ, nor no man ever loved.

A Reflection The Vicar

The Betrothal

Name, will you give yourself to **Name**, to be her husband,
to live with her according to God's word?

Will you love her, comfort her,
honour and protect her,
and, forsaking all others, be faithful to her
so long as you both shall live?

I will.

Name, will you give yourself to **Name**, to be his wife,
to live with him according to God's word?

Will you love him, comfort him,
honour and protect him,
and, forsaking all others, be faithful to him
so long as you both shall live?

I will.

Families and friends,
you are witnesses to these vows.

Will you do everything in your power
to uphold **Name** and **Name** in their marriage?

We will.

The Wedding

I, Name, in the presence of God,
take you, Name, 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,
so long as we both shall live.
All this I vow and promise.

I, Name, in the presence of God,
take you, Name, 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,
so long as we both shall live.
All this I vow and promise.

The Blessing and Exchange of Rings

God of steadfast love,
by your blessing,
let these rings be for Kevin and Sophie
a symbol of their love and faithfulness
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Name / Name, I give you this ring
as a symbol of our marriage.
With all that I am and all that I have
I honour you; in the name of God.

Name / Name, I receive this ring
as a symbol of your love and faithfulness
to the end of our days.
May God enable us to grow in love together

The Declaration of the Marriage

Before God and in the presence of us all,
Name and Name have joined hands
and made their solemn vows,
promising life-long faithfulness to each other.
In the name of God,
I declare them to be husband and wife.
[THEIR HANDS ARE JOINED AND BOUND]
What God has joined together,
let no one separate.

[BRIDE AND GROOM TOGETHER]

**God of tenderness and strength,
you have brought our paths together
and led us to this day;
go with us now as we travel through good times,
through trouble, and through change.
Bless our home, our partings and our meetings.
Make us worthy of one another's best,
and tender with one another's dreams. Amen.**

The Prayers of the People

God of all grace, friend and companion,
Look in favour on **Name** and **Name**,
And all who are made one in marriage.
In your love deepen their love,
Strengthen their wills to keep the promises they have made,
That they may continue in life-long faithfulness to each other;
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Lord of life,
you shape us in your image,
and by your gracious gift
the human family is increased.
To **Name** and **Namee** grant the blessing of children.
Fill them with wisdom and love
as they care for their family,
so that they and their children
may know and love you,
through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Faithful God, giver of all good things,
Give **Name** and **Name** wisdom and devotion
In the ordering of their life together.
May they dwell together in love and peace
All the days of their life,
Seeking one another's welfare,
Bearing one another's burdens,
And sharing one another's joys;
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

The Lords Prayer

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.**

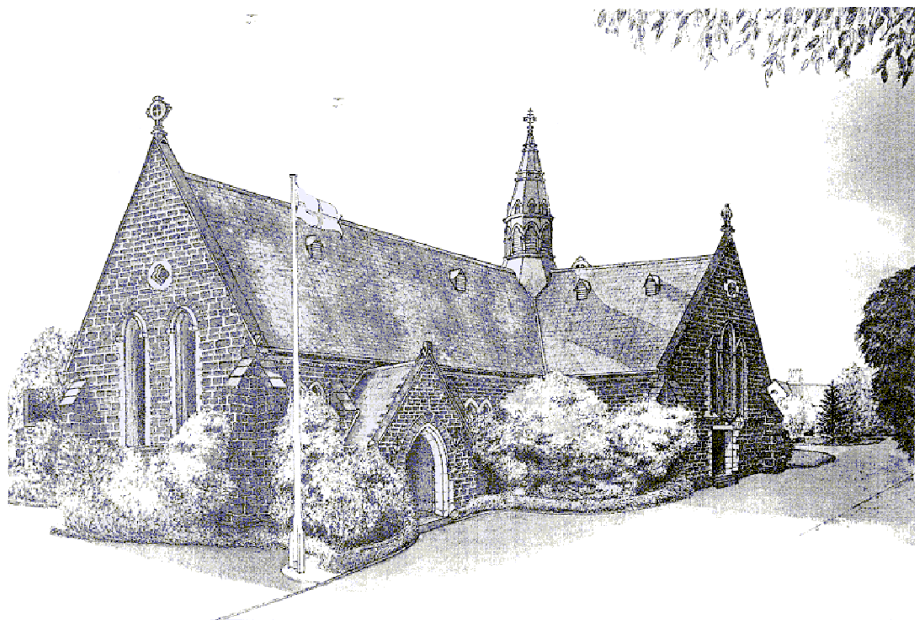
May the God of steadfastness and encouragement
grant you to live in such harmony with one another,
in accord with Christ Jesus,
that together you may with one voice
glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ:
and the blessing of God,
creator and redeemer,
giver of life and love,
be with you all, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Signing of the Register

A Blessing for the Guests

**IT WOULD BE APPRECIATED IF CONFETTI OR RICE
was confined to the driveways and not used in the church
or on the lawns.**

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