

St Hilary's Church Killay



Holy Matrimony



Please leave in Church

Welcome

Welcome to St Hilary's we hope that you enjoy the service and the whole of this day. If you would like to join us for other services, the service times are as follows.

1 st Sunday	11.00am	Eucharist (followed by coffee with Traidcraft Stall)
2 nd Sunday	11.00am	Eucharist followed by coffee
3 rd Sunday	11.00am	Eucharist followed by coffee
4 th Sunday	11.00am	Family Worship followed by coffee
5 th Sunday	10.30am	Combined Service (Ministry Area)
Every Thursday	11.00am	Eucharist

A prayer for the couple

God our Father, you have taught us through your Son that love is the fulfilling of the law. Grant to your servants that, loving one another, they may continue in your love until their lives' end: through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

St Hilary's relies on the generosity of people like yourselves to function. We receive no funding from the Government; all our income has to be raised by the congregation. If you would like to contribute to the work of the church in this place, you will find a plate by the door on the way out. If you are a UK tax payer and would like to **gift aid** your donation please fill in the envelope supplied nearby. This means that we can claim the tax back on your donation.

Thank you.

1. THE INTRODUCTION

STAND

The persons to be married stand before the Minister the man on the right of the woman.

The Minister says to the congregation:

Either

We have come together in the presence of God to witness the marriage of this man and this woman, and to pray for them. Marriage is a gift of God to mankind. Holy Scripture compares the union of Christ with his Church. It should therefore be held in honour by all mankind. It must not be entered upon lightly or thoughtlessly, but responsibly and reverently. God calls men and women to the married state so that their love may be made holy in life-long union; that they may bring up their children to grow in grace and learn to love him; and that they may honour, help and comfort one another both in prosperity and adversity.

If any of you is aware of any just impediment to this marriage, you are to declare it now.

Or

Dearly beloved, we are gathered together in the sight of God, and in the face of this congregation, to join together this man and this woman in Holy Matrimony: which is an honourable estate, instituted by God himself and signifying to us the mystical union between Christ and his Church. This holy estate Christ adorned and beautified with his presence and first miracle which he wrought, in Cana of Galilee; and it is commended by Holy Scripture to be honourable among all men. Therefore it is not by any to be entered upon unadvisedly, lightly or wantonly, but reverently, discreetly, advisedly, soberly, and in the fear of God; duly considering the causes for which Matrimony was ordained.

Matrimony was ordained for the hallowing of the union between man and woman; for the procreation of children, to be brought up in the fear and nurture of the Lord; and for the mutual society, help and comfort, that the one ought to have of the other, both in prosperity and in adversity.

Into this holy estate these persons present come now to be joined. Therefore if any man can show any just cause why they may not lawfully be joined together, let him now speak, or else hereafter for ever hold his peace.

If any of you is aware of any just impediment to this marriage, you are to declare it now.

The Priest, addressing the persons to be married, continues:

I require and charge you both, in the presence of God, that, if either of you knows any reason why, according to the law of the Church or of this land, you may not be joined together in marriage, you now make it known.

If any person alleges an impediment which is recognized by God's law or the laws of this land, he must give an indemnity against any pecuniary loss, in the event of his allegation failing, which his action brings upon the parties. If such an allegation is made and an indemnity given, the marriage must be deferred until the truth has been established. If no impediment is alleged, the Ministry of the Word follows.

2. THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

Priest: The Lord be with you;

All: And with your spirit.

The Priest says one of the following Collects:

Either

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open and all desires known: purify our thoughts through your Holy Spirit, that we may love you with heart and mind and praise you as we ought: through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Or

Almighty Lord and everlasting God, direct, sanctify and govern our hearts and bodies in the ways of your laws and in the works of your commandments; that, through your most mighty protection, both here and ever, we may be preserved in body and soul; through our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

The reader says:

The reading from ...

Either

I CORINTHIANS 13. 1-7

I may speak in tongues of men or of angels, but if I am without love, I am a sounding gong or a clanging cymbal. I may have the gift of prophecy, and know every hidden truth; I may have faith strong enough to move mountains; but if I have no love, I am nothing. I may dole out all I possess, or even give my body to be burnt, but if I have no love, I am none the better.

Love is patient; love is kind and envies no one. Love is never boastful, nor conceited, nor rude; never selfish, not quick to take offence. Love keeps no score of wrongs; does not gloat over other men's sins, but delights in the truth. There is nothing love cannot face; there is no limit to its faith, its hope, and its endurance .

Or

COLOSSIANS 3. 12-17

Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassion, kindness, lowliness, meekness, and patience, forbearing one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, as you teach and admonish one another in all wisdom, and as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs with thankfulness in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

We Say together

Either

PSALM 23

The Lord / is my / shepherd : therefore / can I / lack / nothing.

**He makes me lie down in / green / pastures : and / leads me be / side
still / waters.**

**He shall re / fresh my / soul : and guide me in the paths of
righteousness / for his / name's / sake.**

**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will / fear
no / evil : for you are with me; your / rod and your / staff, they /
comfort me.**

**You spread a table before me in the presence of / those who /
trouble me : you have anointed my head with oil / and my / cup shall
be / full.**

**Surely goodness and loving mercy shall follow me all the / days of
my / life : and I will dwell in the / house of the / Lord for / ever.**

Or

PSALM 121

**I will lift up mine eyes / unto · the / hills: from / whence / cometh · my
/ help?**

**My help cometh / from the / Lord; who hath / made / heaven and /
earth.**

**He will not suffer thy / foot · to be / moved: and he that / keepeth ·
thee / will not / sleep.**

Behold he that / keepeth / Israel: shall / neither / slumber nor / sleep.

**The Lord him-/self · is thy / keeper: the Lord upon thy right / hand
shall / give thee / shade;**

**The sun shall not / strike · thee by / day: neither / shall the / moon by
/ night.**

**‡ The Lord shall preserve thee from / all / evil: yea it is / he · that
shall / keep thee / safe.**

**The Lord shall preserve thy going out and thy / coming / in: from this
time / forth for / ever-/more.**

PLEASE STAND

The reader says:

Hear the Holy Gospel according to Saint ...

All reply

Glory be to thee, O Lord.

Either

MATTHEW 19. 4-6

Jesus said, 'Have you never read that the Creator made them from the beginning male and female?'; and he added, 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother, and be made one with his wife; and the two shall become one flesh. It follows that they are no longer two individuals: they are one flesh. What God has joined together, man must not separate.'

Or

JOHN 15. 9-12

Jesus said, 'As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you. Dwell in my love. If you heed my commands, you will dwell in my love, as I have heeded my Father's commands and dwell in his love. I have spoken thus to you, so that my joy may be in you, and your joy complete. This is my commandment: love one another, as I have loved you.'

After the Gospel all say:

Praise be to thee, O Christ.

3. THE MARRIAGE

This form for the Marriage is to be taken in full in each case if two or more marriages are solemnized at the same time.

The persons to be married standing before him, the Priest says to the man:

N., will you have **N.** to be your wife? Will you live with her in obedience to God's will and purpose? Will you love her, honour her and care for her, in sickness and in health? Will you be faithful to her, and her alone, as long as you both live?

The man answers: I will.

Then the Priest says to the woman:

N., will you have **N.** to be your husband? Will you live with him in obedience to God's will and purpose? Will you love him, honour him and care for him, in sickness and in health? Will you be faithful to him, and him alone, as long as you both live?

The woman answers: I will.

The Priest directs the man to take the woman's right hand in his right hand, and to say after him:

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,
As long as we both shall live,
According to the will and purpose of God.
And to this I give you my pledge.

Then they loose hands, and the woman takes the man's right hand in her right hand, and says after the Priest:

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,
As long as we both shall live,
According to the will and purpose of God.
And to this I give you my pledge.

Then they again loose hands, and the Ring (or Rings, if the man and the woman wish to exchange Rings) being placed on the Priest's book, the Priest may say:

Bless, O Lord, this Ring (*these Rings*), given and received as a sign of love and faithfulness. **Amen.**

The man, taking the Ring, puts it on the fourth finger of the woman's left hand, and, holding it there, says after the Priest:

Receive this Ring in token of my love and faithfulness.
I honour you with my body,
And all my possessions I share with you.

The woman, having received the Ring, says after the Priest:

I receive this Ring as a sign of the love and faithfulness between us.

If the couple wish to exchange Rings, the woman, taking the other Ring, puts it on the fourth finger of the man's left hand, and, holding it there, says after the Priest:

Receive this Ring in token of my love and faithfulness.
I honour you with my body,
And all my possessions I share with you.

The man having received the Ring, says after the Priest:

I receive this Ring as a sign of the love and faithfulness between us.

The man and the woman kneel, and the Priest says to the people:

As **N.** and **N.** have consented together in marriage, and have made their pledge to one another before God and this congregation, and have declared it by joining of hands, and by giving and receiving of a Ring (*Rings*), I declare that they are now husband and wife. In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Those whom God has joined together, let no man put asunder.

Then the Priest blesses the couple:

God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit, bless, preserve, and keep you; the Lord mercifully with his favour look upon you; and so fill you with all spiritual benediction and grace, that you may so live together in this life, that in the world to come you may have life everlasting. **Amen.**

If no Priest is present, then the Deacon prays for God's blessing on the couple:

May God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit bless, preserve and keep you; the Lord mercifully with his favour look upon you and so fill you with all spiritual benediction and grace, that you may so live together in this life, that in the world to come you may have life everlasting. **Amen.**

4. THE INTERCESSION

KNEEL

If the Marriage has taken place at the chancel steps, the Priest may now lead the newly-married couple towards the altar.

Almighty and everlasting God, strengthen these your servants **N.** and **N.** with your grace, that they may keep the promises they have made in your presence:

Lord, in your mercy;

All: Hear our prayer.

Let your peace be in their home, and your blessing upon it:

Lord, in your mercy;

All: Hear our prayer.

Bless their marriage with the gift of children. Help them to be responsible parents, and give them wisdom, love and patience to bring up their children in the Christian faith:

Lord, in your mercy;

All: Hear our prayer.

Enable them to bear one another's burdens and share one another's joys, that they may fulfil the law of Christ:

Lord, in your mercy;

All: Hear our prayer.

Make your love known through them and their home, that your holy Name may be glorified:

Lord, in your mercy;

All: Hear our prayer.

Let us sum up our prayers as we join together and say the great prayer which Jesus taught us.

**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.**

The Priest says:

To God the Father, who first loved us, and made us accepted in the Beloved;
To God the Son, who loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own Blood;
To God the Holy Spirit, who sheds the love of God abroad in our hearts,
Be all love and all glory, for time and for eternity **Amen.**

The blessing of God Almighty, The Father, The Son and The Holy Spirit be with you and with those you love wherever they may be, this special day and always.
Amen

The registers are now signed in the vestry

May God give you
A house full of sunshine,
Hearts full of cheer,
Love that grows deeper
each day of the year.
(from an old Welsh blessing)

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