

The Marriage of

X

and

Y

Sketch of the Church

Date Month Year
The Church of St Peter, Harborne

Organ music for the entry of the bride

The Welcome

First Hymn

Preface –

“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 his bride, the Church...” etc

The Declarations

“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?

Answer: I will.” etc

The Collect (*a prayer of reflection – collecting our thoughts - as we go further into the service*)

The Readings – *a maximum of three may be chosen, with at least one from the Bible - for example (this is the most famous one):*

1 Corinthians 13

If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions, and if I make a sacrifice of myself so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in

part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

A second hymn (*optional*)

Sermon (*a short talk given by the Vicar*)

The Marriage – *this includes the vows!*

The Signing of the Register (*during which music may be performed, either by the organist or by other performers chosen by the couple*)

Prayers, ending with the Lord's Prayer

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.
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.

Final Hymn

The Blessing and Dismissal

Organ music as we leave the church...