

Rite of Marriage Outside of Mass

The Introductory Rites

1. Welcome of the bride and bridegroom by the minister and procession into the church (**the welcome can take place at the door of the church or at the altar, depending on the style of procession chosen**)
2. Greeting of the couple **and congregation by the minister**
3. Collect / **Opening prayer (six versions to choose from)**

The Liturgy of the Word

1. [Old Testament Scripture Reading](#) (nine options; if it is the Easter season, a reading from the Book of Revelation should be chosen instead)
2. [Responsorial Psalm](#) (seven options; many composers have set them to music)
3. [New Testament Scripture Reading](#) (fourteen options)
4. Gospel Acclamation
5. [Gospel](#) (ten options)
6. Homily based on the Scriptures, Church teaching on marriage, and the individual couple

The Celebration of Matrimony

1. Address to the couple by the minister
2. The [Questions before the Consent](#)
3. The [Consent](#) (two versions of the vows to choose from, and the couple can either say the words themselves or respond “I do” to the vows posed as a question by the minister)
4. The Reception of the Consent by the minister
5. The Blessing and Giving of Rings (three versions of the prayer to choose from)
6. The Universal Prayer / Prayers of the Faithful (two examples provided in the liturgical text; couples can also work with the minister to write their own)
7. The Lord’s Prayer
8. The [Nuptial Blessing](#) (three versions to choose from)
9. Blessing of the newly married couple and the congregation
10. Dismissal
11. Recessional (a hymn could be sung, or instrumental music could be played)