

Renewal of marriage vows (Life, Marriage and Family Sunday)

All who wish to renew their marriage vows are invited to stand.

Celebrant:

God our Father, today we thank you for the gift of married love. You have blessed and sustained your servants during the years of their life together. May your Spirit be with them as they renew their commitment.

I now invite the married couples to pray together:

All married couples:

Dear Lord, we thank you for the wonderful Sacrament of Marriage. In marriage, we have the opportunity to live the vocation you ordained for us, to experience the giving and receiving of the greatest gift of life, and to participate in the miracle of co-creation.

Lord, I thank you for my spouse. I thank you for every moment of married life we have already shared. I acknowledge the talents and gifts with which I have been blessed and also my faults and shortcomings. I thank you for the graces in the joys and sorrows that have been a part of our life together.

Husbands:

Believing these things, I wish to renew my marriage vows to you, my wife. I promise to be true to you in good times and in bad, in sickness and in health, for richer or poorer. I will love you and honour you all the days of my life.

Wives:

Believing these things, I wish to renew my marriage vows to you, my husband. I promise to be true to you in good times and in bad, in sickness and in health, for richer or poorer. I will love you and honour you all the days of my life.

The celebrant extends his hands and says the prayer of blessing:

Lord God and Creator,
we bless and praise your name.
In the beginning you made man and woman,
so that they might enter a communion of life and love.
You have blessed the union of those here present today
so that they might reflect the union of Christ with his Church.
Look with kindness on them today.
Amid the joys and struggles of their life
you have preserved the union between them;
renew their marriage covenant,
increase your love in them,
and strengthen their bond of peace,
so that, surrounded by their family,
they may always rejoice in the gift of your blessing.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

