

# THE RITE OF MARRIAGE

## STATEMENT OF INTENTIONS

*Priest:* My dear friends, you have come together in this church so that the Lord may seal and strengthen your love in the presence of the Church's minister and this community. In this way you will be strengthened to keep mutual and lasting fidelity with each other and to carry out the other duties of marriage. And so, in the presence of the Church, I ask you to state your intentions.

\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ have you come here freely and without reservation to give yourselves to each other in marriage?

Will you love and honor each other as man and wife for the rest of your lives?

Will you accept children lovingly from God, and bring them up according to the law of Christ and his Church?

Since it is your intention to enter into marriage, join your right hands, and declare your consent before God and his church.

## THE CONSENT

*The bridegroom says:*

I, \_\_\_\_\_, take you, \_\_\_\_\_ for my lawful wife, to have and to hold from this day forward, for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, until death do us part.

*The bride says:*

I, \_\_\_\_\_, take you, \_\_\_\_\_, for my lawful husband, to have and to hold from this day forward, for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, until death do us part.

## RECEPTION OF CONSENT

*The priest:*

You have declared your consent before the Church. May the Lord in his goodness strengthen your consent and fill you both with his blessings.

What God has joined, men must not divide. Amen