

# **Opening Prayer**

Where (N. and N) appear is replaced by the Bride and Grooms name:

## **Option 1.**

**Priest:** Let us pray.

*All pray in silence for a brief period.*

Be attentive to our prayers,

O Lord, and in your kindness uphold

what you have established for the increase of the human race,

so that the union you have created may be kept safe by your assistance.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,

who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

one God, for ever and ever.

## **Option 2.**

O God, who in creating the human race

willed that man and wife should be one,

join, we pray, in a bond of inseparable love

these your servants who are to be united

in the covenant of Marriage so that,

as you make their love fruitful, they may become,

by your grace, witnesses to charity itself.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,

who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

one God, for ever and ever.

## **Option 3.**

Be attentive to your prayers, O Lord,

and in your kindness pour out your grace

on these your servants (N. and N.), that,

coming together before your altar,

they may be confirmed in love for one another.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,

who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

one God, for ever and ever.

## **Option 4.**

O God, who consecrated the bond of Marriage  
by so great a mystery that in the wedding covenant  
you foreshadow the Sacrament of Christ and his Church,  
grant, we pray, to these your servants,  
that what they receive in faith they may live out in deeds.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.

## **Option 5.**

Grant, we pray, almighty God,  
that these your servants,  
now to be joined by the Sacrament of Matrimony,  
may grow in the faith they profess  
and enrich your Church with faithful offspring.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.

## **Option 6.**

O God, who since the beginning of the world  
have blessed the increase of offspring,  
show favour to our supplications  
and pour forth the help of your blessing  
on these your servants (N. and N.),  
so that in the union of Marriage  
they may be bound together in mutual affection,  
in likeness of mind and in shared holiness.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.