

# Wedding Readings

## ***Biblical texts which can be used for First and Second Readings.***

A.

*Reader:* A reading from the book of Genesis.

Then the Lord God said: "It is not good for the man to live alone, I will make a suitable companion to help him." So God took some soil from the ground and formed all the animals and all the birds. Then God brought them to the man to see what he would name them; and that is how they all got their names. So the man named all the birds and all the animals; but not one of them was a suitable companion to help him.

Then the Lord God made the man fall into a deep sleep, and while he was sleeping, he took out one of man's ribs and clothe it in flesh. God formed a woman out of the rib and brought her to the man. Then the man said: "At last, here is one of my own kind: bone taken from my bones and flesh from my flesh."

Woman is her name, because she was taken out of man. That is why a man leaves his father and mother and is united to his wife, and they become one.

The word of the Lord.

*All:* Thanks be to God.

B.

*Reader:* A reading from the book of Tobit.

Tobias said to Sarah, "You and I must pray and petition our Lord to win his grace and his protection." She stood up, and they began to pray for protection, and this was how they began:

"You are blessed, O God of our fathers; blessed, too, is your name, for ever and ever. Let the heavens bless you and all things you have made for evermore. It was you who created Eve, his wife, to be his help and support; and from these two, the human race was born.

It was you who said: "It is not good that the man should be alone; let us make him a helpmate like himself." And so I do not take my wife for lustful motive, I do it in singleness of heart.

Be kind enough to have pity on her and on myself and bring us to old age together."

And together they said: "Amen, Amen."

The word of the Lord.

*All:* Thanks be to God.

C.

*Reader:* A reading from the Song of Songs.

My love is mine and I am his. Come my love let us go to the fields. We will see the vines are budding. If their blossoms are opening, if the pomengranate trees are in flower, then I shall give you the gift of my love. The mandrakes yield their fragrance the most exquisite fruits are at our doors; the new as well as the old, I have stored them for you, my love. I belong to my love and my love belongs to me.

Set me like a seal on your heart, like a seal on your arm. For love is strong as death, passion as relentless as sheol. The flesh of it is as a flash of fire, a flame of the Lord himself. Love no flood can quench, no torrents drown. My beloved is mine and I am his. How right is it to love you.

The word of the Lord.  
All: Thanks be to God.

D.

Reader: A reading based on the Letter of Paul to the Corinthians.  
Love is a very special and beautiful gift. It brings out the very best in people. Without it we are nothing. Love has often been described in various ways. It means something to each of us. Perhaps a good definition of it is the joyous feeling we experience as a result of a strong attachment to someone. However, it does not just remain with us but is something we share with others in our daily lives. It is the basis of our Christian Faith.

In order to receive love, one must love. Many people search for it all their lives, they are so busy trying to be loved that they often forget to love. Love is not often restricted, it has no barriers. It is not always perfect, nor does it pretend to be. Love is bearing the good with the bad. It is being there when someone needs you. It means saying a comforting word in times of stress.

Love is something sacred and it should be cherished. It is also the basis of any strong relationship. It is present between husband and wife, parents and their children, sisters and brothers, relatives and friends, it is everywhere. We must try to always reach out to those around us. Christ showed us how to love.

Love has no end.  
The word of the Lord.  
All: Thanks be to God.

E.

Reader: A reading based on the letter of Paul to the Ephesians.  
Give yourself to one another completely, be generous in your giving and made no conditions for these gifts. Love one another constantly and fully.

Be humble in your acceptance of your partner's love. Be honest with each other, be thankful for each other's love and strive to develop its richness day by day.

Respect each other in every way. Be patient with one another's weaknesses and accept each other. Communicate constantly with one another, be calm, patient, tolerant and reasonable in your communication.  
Be capable of good listening. Share with one another misfortune and fortune alike. Be compassionate and express your love for one another constantly. Know your limitations and be honest with yourself as you are with one another.

Fuse your souls into one and be happy for the love you have been so fortunate to find in one another.  
The word of the Lord.  
All: Thanks be to God.

F.

Reader: A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Colossians.  
You are God's chosen race, his saints; he loves you, and you should be clothed in sincere

compassion, in kindness and humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with one another; forgive each other as soon as a quarrel begins. The Lord has forgiven you, now you must do the same. Over all these clothes, to keep them together and complete them, put on love. And may the peace of Christ reign in your hearts because it is for this that you were called together as parts of one body. Always be thankful.

Let the message of Christ, in all its richness, find a home with you. Teach each other, and advise each other, in all wisdom. With gratitude in your hearts sing psalms and hymns and inspired songs to God, and never say or do anything except in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father, through him.

The word of the Lord.  
All: Thanks be to God.

G.

Reader: A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews.  
Keep on loving one another as Christian brothers and sisters. Remember to welcome strangers in your homes. There were some who did that and welcomed angels without knowing it. Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them. Remember those who are suffering, as though you were suffering as they are.

Marriage is to be honoured by all, and husbands and wives must be faithful to each other. God will judge those who are immoral and those who commit adultery. Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be satisfied with what you have. For God has said: "I will never leave you; I will never abandon you." Let us be bold, then, and say: "The Lord is my helper, I will not be afraid."

The word of the Lord.  
All: Thanks be to God.

***Texts which can be used as a Responsorial Psalm.***

A.  
Reponsorial Psalm  
Response: The Lord is kind and merciful.  
Reader: My soul give thanks to the Lord, all my being, bless his holy name. My soul give thanks to the Lord, and never forget all his blessings.

All: The Lord is kind and merciful.  
Reader: The Lord is compassion and love, slow to anger and rich in mercy. As a father has compassion on his sons, the Lord has pity on those who fear him.

All: The Lord is kind and merciful.  
Reader: The Love of the Lord is everlasting, upon those who hold him in fear; his justice reaches out to children's children when they keep his covenant in truth.

All: The Lord is kind and merciful.

B.

Reponsorial Psalm  
Response: Happy are those who fear the Lord.

Reader: O blessed are they who fear the Lord, and walk in his ways. By the labour of your hands you shall eat, you will be happy and prosper.

All: Happy are those who fear the Lord.

Reader: Your wife will be like a fruitful vine in the heart of your house; your children like shoots of the olive, around your table.

All: Happy are those who fear the Lord.

Reader: Indeed thus shall be blessed the person who fears the Lord. May the Lord bless you from Zion all the days of your life.

All: Happy are those who fear the Lord.

### ***Gospel Texts which can be used for the Gospel.***

A.

*Priest:* The Lord be with you.

*All:* And also with you.

*Priest:* A reading from the Gospel according to John.

*All:* Glory to you O Lord.

*Priest:* Jesus said to his disciples:

“This is my commandment: Love one another, as I have loved you. One an have no greater love than to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. You are my friends, if you do what I command you. I shall not call you servants any more, because a servant does not know his master’s business: I call you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have learnt from my Father.

You did not choose me, no, I chose you, and I have commissioned you to go out and bear fruit, fruit that will last, and then the Father will give you anything you ask Him in my name.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

*All:* Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

B.

*Priest:* The Lord be with you.

*All:* And also with you.

*Priest:* A reading from the Gospel according to John.

*All:* Glory to you O Lord.

*Priest:* Jesus said to his disciples:

“As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you. Remain in my love. If you keep my commandments you will remain in my love just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and remain in his love.

I have told you this, so that my own joy may be in you and your joy be complete.

This is my commandment: love one another as I have loved you.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

*All:* Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

C.

*Priest:* The Lord be with you.

*All:* And also with you.

*Priest:* A reading from the Gospel according to John.

*All:* Glory to you O Lord.

*Priest:* From the beginning of creation, God made them male and female.

That is why a man leaves his father and mother, and the two become one body. They are no longer two, therefore, but one body. So then, what God has united, must not be divided.

The Gospel of the Lord

*All:* Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

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