

MARRIAGE VOWS RENEWAL RITE

After the homily.

A song for the Holy Spirit.

Prayer for Marriage Vows Renewal. *(the separated spouses)*

Holy Father, I give you thanks
because in Your plan of salvation
You have called me to the vocation of marriage,
You have joined my life to that of my companion
so that our union could become a visible sign
of the union between Christ and His Church.
We were separated
perhaps, at least partially, because of my own weaknesses.
But I believe that Christ's love for His Church
remains faithful and lasting,
notwithstanding the sins of mankind,
and I believe that You have the power to renew that which has become old.
I ask You, therefore, to forgive my sins,
to mend that which we have attempted to break,
to reconstruct that which sin has destroyed,
and to renew, through the grace of the Holy Spirit,
my love for he/she whom You have given me
as my inseparable companion and as a symbol of Your presence. Amen.

Universal Prayer:

Let's invoke God the Father, source of true love,
so that in the name of Christ He will answer our prayer.

R. *God of love and peace, hear our prayer.*

You are full and perfect unity of life
and communion of love with Your Son and with the Holy Spirit:
renew in these spouses the grace of sacrament
and rekindle in them the flame of Your love.
Let us pray. **R.**

You have set out the course of human events
in order to allow us to participate in the cross and in the glory of Christ:
allow these spouses to adhere to Your will with all their hearts
by accepting with faith the joys and pains of life.
Let us pray. **R.**

You have created man and woman in Your own image and likeness so that, by loving each other with all their hearts, they may become the image of the unity of the Holy Trinity: allow engaged couples to prepare themselves seriously to form families according to the spirit of the Gospel.
Let us pray. **R.**

You have established a new state of Christian life through the covenant of marriage: allow Christian spouses to be witnesses of the love of Your Son throughout the world.
Let us pray. **R.**

Prayer of Blessing.

The priest with his hands up towards the spouses:

Holy Father, You live with the Son and with the Holy Spirit in a perfect unity of Love.
You have created man and woman in Your own image and likeness, and through the Passover of Your Son, You have made their unity a visible sign of the covenant that unites Christ to the Church.
We pray to You for these spouses who You have sanctified through the sacrament of marriage. They have experienced the bitterness and the disappointment of separation, but they believe with all their hearts in Your love without regret, and they wish to remain faithful to the marriage covenant which You have consecrated.
Heal their wounds through the grace of the Holy Spirit, who renews the face of the earth, render them capable of forgiveness, do not allow their hearts to become dull, but, instead, through their words, their works and their lives, allow them to become witnesses in the Church and in the world of Your Love, which is stronger than sin and death.
We ask You this through our Lord, Jesus Christ, who is God, and who lives and reigns with You together with the Holy Spirit for ever and ever.
Amen.

Frà Pietro Sorci o.f.m.