

## **The Celebration of Matrimony**

### THE ORDER OF CELEBRATING MATRIMONY BETWEEN A CATHOLIC AND A CATECHUMEN OR A NON-CHRISTIAN

**124.** Then, with all standing, including the couple and the witnesses, who are positioned near them, the one who presides addresses the couple in these or similar words:

**Dearly beloved,  
you have come together here  
before a minister of the Church  
and in the presence of the community  
so that your intention to enter into Marriage  
may be strengthened by the Lord with a sacred seal,  
and your love be enriched with his blessing,  
so that you may have strength  
to be faithful to each other for ever  
and to assume all the responsibilities of married life.  
And so, in the presence of the Church,  
I ask you to state your intentions.**

## The Questions before the Consent

**125.** The one who presides then questions them about their freedom of choice, fidelity to each other, and the acceptance and upbringing of children, and each responds separately.

**N. and N., have you come here to enter into Marriage without coercion, freely and wholeheartedly?**

The bridegroom and bride each say:

I have.

The one who presides continues:

**Are you prepared, as you follow the path of Marriage, to love and honor each other for as long as you both shall live?**

The bridegroom and bride each say:

I am.

The following question may be omitted, if circumstances suggest this, for example, if the couple are advanced in years.

**Are you prepared to accept children lovingly from God and to bring them up according to the law of Christ and his Church?**

The bridegroom and bride each say:

I am.