

## THE RENEWAL OF MARITAL VOWS



*ANNA AND ANDREW MALTON*

*(January 23, 1988 - January 26, 2013)*

### PROCESSIONAL HYMN

"How Great Thou Art" - Catholic Book of  
Worship #554

### WELCOME

*Celebrant:* On behalf of Anna and Andrew, I welcome you all to this celebration of love and life together, forever, in Jesus Christ our Lord.

### PRAYER

*Celebrant:* Father, you have blessed and sustained Andrew and Anna in the bond of marriage. Continue to increase their love throughout the joys and sorrows of life, and help them to grow in holiness all their days. Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

*Everyone:* **Amen**

### LITURGY OF THE WORD OF GOD

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

Genesis 1.26-31

God said, 'Let us make man in our image and likeness to rule the fish in the sea, the birds of heaven, the cattle, all wild animals on earth, and all creatures that crawl upon the earth.' So God created man in his own image; in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. God blessed them and said to them, 'Be fruitful and increase, fill the earth and subdue it, rule over the fish in the sea, the birds of heaven, and every living thing that moves upon the earth.' God also said, 'I give you all plants that bear seed: they shall be yours for food. All green plants I give for food to the wild animals, to all the birds of heaven, and to all creatures on earth, every living creature.' So it was; and God saw all that he had made, and it was very good.

*Reader:* The word of the Lord.

*Everyone:* **Thanks be to God.**

*Reader:* A reading from the book of the Prophet Hosea.

Hosea 2.16-23

This is the very word of the Lord. Listen! I will woo Israel, I will go with her into the wilderness and speak to her heart: there I will restore her vineyards, turning the Valley of Trouble into the Gate of Hope, and there she will answer as in her youth, when she came up out of Egypt. On that day, she shall call me 'My Husband', and shall no more call me 'My Baal'; and I will wipe from her lips the very names of the Baalim; never again shall their names be heard. This is the very word of the Lord.

Then I will make a convent on behalf of Israel with the wild beasts, the birds of the air, and the things that creep on the earth and I will break the bow and sword and weapon of war and sweep them off the earth, so that all living creatures may lie down without fear. I will betroth you to myself for ever, betroth you in lawful wedlock with unfailing devotion and love; I will betroth you to myself to have and to hold, and you shall know the Lord. At that time I will give answer, says the Lord, I will answer for the heavens and they will answer for the earth, and the earth will answer for the corn, the new wine, and the oil, and they will answer for Israel. I shall sow my people anew in the land, and I will show love to my daughter and say to my son, 'You are my people', and he will say, 'My God'.

*Reader:* The word of the Lord.

*Everyone:* **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 33 May Your Love Be Upon Us**  
music by Christopher Reilly

May your love— be up- on us;— may your love— be up- on us, O Lord,  
as we place our hope in you: all our hope in you.

*Reader:* A reading from the First Letter of John.

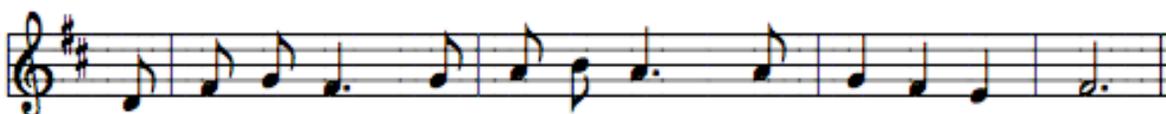
1 John 3.18-24 NAB

Beloved children, let us love in deed and in truth, and not merely talk about it. This is our way of knowing we are committed to the truth and are at peace before him no matter what our consciences may charge us with; for God is greater than our hearts and all is known to him. Beloved, if our consciences have nothing the charge us with, we can be sure that God is with us and that we will receive at his hands whatever we ask. Why? Because we are keeping his commandments and doing what is pleasing in his sight. His commandment is this: we are to believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and are to love one another as he commanded us. Those who keep his commandments remain in him, and he in them. And this is how we know that he remains in us from the Spirit that he gave us.

*Reader:* The word of the Lord.

*Everyone:* **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 128 O blessed are those who fear the Lord



O blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways.

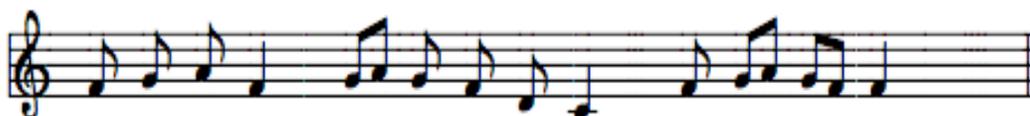
*Reader:* A reading from the first Letter of Paul to the Corinthians. 1 Corinthians 12.31-13.8

Now I will show you the best way of all: I may speak in tongues of men or of angels, but if I am without love, I am sounding a gong or a clashing cymbal. I may have the gift of prophecy, and know every hidden truth; I may have faith strong enough to move mountains; but if I have no love, I am nothing. I may dole out all I possess, or even give my body to be burnt, but if I have no love, I am none the better. Love is patient; love is kind and envies no one. Love is never boastful, not conceited, nor rude; never selfish, not quick to take offence. Love keeps no score of wrongs; does not gloat over other men's sins, but delights in the truth. There is nothing love cannot face; there is no limit to its faith, its hope, its endurance. Love will never come to an end.

*Reader:* The word of the Lord.

*Everyone:* **Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia, Everyone who loves is born of God



Al- le- lu- ia. Al- le- lu- ia.— Al- le- lu- ia.

GOSPEL

*Celebrant:* A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Matthew 19.4-6

*Everyone:* **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said, 'Have you never read that the Creator made them from the beginning male and female?'; and he added 'For this reason, a man shall leave his father and mother, and be made one with his wife, and the two shall become as one. It follows that they are no longer two individuals: they are one flesh. What God has joined together, man must not separate.'

*Celebrant:* The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## RENEWAL OF VOWS

*Celebrant:* My dear friends Andrew and Anna, you have come here with your family and friends to celebrate your faithfulness to each other and to thank God for the years he has given you to live in mutual love. Through the joys and sorrows, the triumphs and trials of life, God has been with you. The Church shares your joy today and is thankful to you for being such a powerful sign of God's loyal and faithful love for the world. God has enriched and strengthened you over the years by the sacrament of marriage. In renewing your vows today, you give witness once again to God's love.

*Celebrant:* You have proven your devotion to each other by your life together. Now join you right hands and renew your consent before God and his Church.

I, Andrew, take you, Anna, as my wife.  
I promise to be true to you in good times and in bad,  
In sickness and in health.  
I will love you and honour you  
All the days of my life.

I, Anna, take you, Andrew, as my husband.  
I promise to be true to you in good times and in bad,  
In sickness and in health.  
I will love you and honour you  
All the days of my life.

*Celebrant:* You have declared your consent once again before the Church. May the Lord in His goodness fill you both with His blessings.

*Everyone:* **Amen**

*Celebrant:* My brothers and sisters, let us turn in prayer to God, that He may bless Andrew and Anna and extend His blessing to all who need His help.

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

For Anna and Andrew, now living joined together by God, we pray:  
Father, bless and protect them; guard them and guide them;  
be for them a tower of strength, and grant them your salvation.  
We ask in the name of Jesus Christ.

*Everyone:* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For all who are married: whether in bad times or good times, whether in sickness or in health, their lives together are a special sign of Christ's love for us his people. We pray:

Lord God, to all who are joined together in love  
be present to rejoice where there is prosperity;

be present to heal where there is brokenness;  
be present in your protecting Spirit,  
and bring them at last into your sure salvation.  
We ask in the name of Jesus Christ.

*Everyone: Lord, hear our prayer.*

For the whole of Christ's church, for us who are called and signed by our Lord, Jesus, we pray:  
Almighty God, we pray that you will continue to inspire your universal church  
with the spirit of truth, unity, and harmony. We ask in the name of Jesus Christ.

*Everyone: Lord, hear our prayer.*

For our whole world's peace, we pray:

Lord Jesus, Prince of Peace, guide and direct the rulers and people  
of all countries so that all may enjoy the blessings of freedom and peace.  
We ask in the name of Jesus Christ.

*Everyone: Lord, hear our prayer.*

As Anna and Andrew give thanks for divine guidance since the beginning of their life together, we pray  
especially for young people who in their work, their friendships, or within themselves, are in need of God's  
guidance:

Go before them, Lord, in all their doings, with the light of your love, and further them with your  
continuous help; so that in all their works, begun, continued, and ended in you,  
they may give glory to your holy Name. We ask in the name of Jesus Christ.

*Everyone: Lord, hear our prayer*

For parents and grandparents, and for ourselves as parents, we pray:

Father, you bring new life into the world through the cooperation of parents.  
May their homes and hearts continue to be places of life and love,  
through the abiding presence of your Spirit.  
We ask in the name of Jesus Christ

*Everyone: Lord, hear our prayer*

For our beloved dead, we pray:

Give them eternal rest, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine on them.  
We ask in the name of Jesus Christ who died, and is risen, Alleluia.

*Everyone: Lord, hear our prayer*

For all united here in this place in the name of God, we pray:

May the Word of God sustain us all in our vocation to love.  
We ask in the name of Jesus Christ

*Everyone: Lord, hear our prayer*

## BLESSING

*Celebrant:* Blessed are you, Lord, King of all creation: You have made us your beloved people, and have showered your gifts upon us. With Andrew and Anna we bless you, and thank you for their years together. Continue to fill their hearts with love for you and for each other. Stretch out your hand upon them and bless them. Grant that, as they have lived their lives with one heart and one mind, they may continue to witness to your presence in their marriage. Bless their children and all their relatives and friends and lead them through this life to eternal happiness with you. We offer you all praise and glory through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*Everyone: Amen*

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

## FINAL BLESSING

*Celebrant:* May the Lord bless you, and keep you.  
May the Lord let His face shine upon you, and be gracious to you.  
May the Lord look upon you with kindness, and fill you up with peace:  
In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

## RECESSIONAL HYMN

1. Praise, my soul, the King of Heaven;  
To His feet thy tribute bring.  
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,  
Who like me His praise should sing:  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Praise the everlasting King.

2. Praise Him for His grace and favour  
To our fathers in distress.  
Praise Him still the same as ever,  
Slow to chide, and swift to bless.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Glorious in His faithfulness.

3. Fatherlike He tends and spares us;  
Well our feeble frame He knows.  
In His hands He gently bears us,  
Rescues us from all our foes.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Widely yet His mercy flows.

4. Angels, help us to adore Him;  
Ye behold Him face to face;  
Sun and moon, bow down before Him,  
Dwellers all in time and space.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Praise with us the God of grace.

*Thank you all for coming and celebrating with us today!*

*Anna and Andrew*