

## The celebration and blessing of a marriage

### Preparation

- Verify vestment requests with clergy and Flower Guild
- Solemn or Low Mass set-up as appropriate
- If not a Mass, officiant will wear stole and cope
- Cushions for bride and groom to kneel (or may use usual altar rail cushion)
- Chapel chairs from crypt placed on nave floor in front of pews for wedding party
- If wedding party is to be seated in chancel for the Liturgy of the Eucharist, they sit in *South* choir stalls.
- If there is a Choir, they sit in the *North* choir stalls (opposite the organ console).
- Paten with small purificator and aspersorium to bless rings
- Lectionary or readings for lectern
- Prayer books for all participants

Organist will begin prelude usually 15 minutes before service. Upon cue from MC at smoke sacristy door, organist begins processional music.

### For A Solemn Nuptial Mass

The servers, [choir and] and clergy enter from the North Door in the normal Sunday order. The bridegroom and his attendants follow the Celebrant.

The Thurifer, Crucifer, Acolytes, [Choir], [Choir clergy], MC, and SMs go to their accustomed places. D places Gospel Book on altar per custom. If one or more of the Sacred Ministers is involved in the Declaration of Consent, they may stop at top of choir steps instead of going to altar steps. If a Choir cleric is presiding at the Declaration of Consent, he stops at top of choir steps and faces the congregation. ALL genuflect.

Bridegroom and groomsmen go to foot of choir steps and line up to the right (the Epistle side).

When the bridegroom and his attendants are in place, the bridal procession enters from the library/back of the church. The bridesmaids line up at foot of choir steps toward the left (Gospel side).

SMs turn to face wedding party, and CEL or Officiant delivers the charge and witnesses the Declaration of Consent.

After the affirmation of the congregation, Introit, Kyrie, and Gloria may follow. SMs proceed to the altar to venerate and cense altar and pray the collect in the usual manner.

ALL are seated after the collect. Chapel chairs are placed in front of pews for wedding party.

After the lessons are read and sermon preached, the wedding party forms up at the foot of the choir steps and proceeds through the choir to the

Liturgical Customary of the Church of the Advent, Boston

communion rail during the “traveling music.” MC may need to cue organist to begin music. SMs form up above rail to meet them. MC places kneeling cushions for bride and groom, then brings aspersorium and paten for the rings.

The marriage itself follows, then the prayers. Omit the Lord’s Prayer if Communion is to follow.

The bride and groom kneel for the blessing. After the Peace, the wedding party moves to the South choir stalls for the nuptial mass. MC removes cushions.

Offertory follows with or without procession.

If incense is used, the bride and groom are censed together as a couple and then the other members of the wedding party as a group. Then assisting clergy, the choir, and congregation.

Canon (preface of marriage)

Proper post-communion prayer

(Blessing of people)

Wedding party leaves the long way to west door led by bride and groom. Altar party exits via North door (remind sexton to make sure door is open at end) after genuflecting.