



11 February 2024
World Marriage Day



INTRODUCTION:

Jesus communicates the love and mercy of God in signs that speak more eloquently than words. This is what we must learn from Jesus today.

We also celebrate World Marriage Day, to proclaim the value of Marriage, as permanent, faithful, and fruitful bond, not just to spouses and children, but all families, the Church, and the whole world. Pope Francis says - Marriage is a "Call to the Joy of Love... And Joy of the Church."

READINGS:

First Reading: Leviticus 13: 1-2, 44-46
Responsorial Psalm: Ps 32:1-2, 5, 11
Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 10: 31—11:1
Gospel: Mark 1: 40-45

PRAYERS FOR THE FAITHFUL:

Celebrant: Loving and merciful father, on this World Marriage Day, shower your blessings upon us and guide and protect us, especially all married couples, their children, friends, and relatives as we place before you, our petitions. Our response will be:

Response: Loving Father, listen to our prayer.

For the leaders of the Church, that God may continually purify their hearts, inspiring them to respond joyfully to God's call. Let us pray to the Lord.

For National and local leaders, that they may always remain united and promote peace and justice to their peoples. Let us pray to the Lord.

For married couples, that they may love each other beyond words through their actions to salute the beauty of their joys, sacrifice, and togetherness in their daily married life. Let us pray to the Lord...

For couples, whose marriages are under threat. May they keep the lines of communication open to settle disputes, truly empathize and forgive each other to experience great joy. Let us pray to the Lord.

For the elderly, sick and the suffering, that they may trust in the healing power of God thus giving glory to God. Let us pray to the Lord.

For all the prayers we hold in our hearts (pause). Let us pray to the Lord...

Celebrant: Father, in spite of our unworthiness, you call us to follow you. As you hear our prayers make us faithful to follow the vocation you have called us to live. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.