



Saint Miriam

A Nuptial Mass

Welcome to Saint Miriam



We welcome you to Saint Miriam on this most important moment in the lives of this couple!

Today, we invite you to leave behind the worries and concerns of everyday life and join us in the celebration of their marriage! This is an opportunity for us to share not only in their joy and love, but also to reaffirm and appreciate the love and the friendship we experience in our own lives and from God above. May we all celebrate by being fully present during our short time together.

A marital commitment includes the willingness to be open and vulnerable, and the courage to take risks. Marriage is a conscious act of will. To remain in marriage, a couple must continually renew their will to be married. Marital partners accept the challenges that living together in love offer, as they decide to face the fears that are a necessary part of establishing and nurturing an intimate relationship. Our couple should be celebrated in their love today!

Those of you who are married, or in relationships, may take this moment to consciously reaffirm your commitment to your partners today and silently reaffirm or renew your vows from your pew! Marriage consists of entrusting our deepest selves into the loving care of another and is both a public and legal act to be sure, but also an emotional and spiritual act that deepens our relationship with our Creator God.

Today, we will witness a true miracle, as two people promise to embrace conflict as well as peace; to work as well as play; to struggle as well as coast; to give as well as receive; and to be with, stay with, and move toward one another.

And that, to me as a priest, is a calling for all of us to improve upon every day we gather together.

I wish you every miracle!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jim +', with a large, sweeping flourish above it.

Monsignor +Jim

As the Entrance Hymn is played, the Presiding Priest, and any assisting ministers, make their way to the Chancel area, and after reverencing the altar, they remain standing with the Assembly for the Introductory Rites.

Introductory Rites

Entrance Procession - Stand

Sign of the Cross & Greeting

Priest: In the Name of the Father, and of the  Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
All: Amen.

Priest: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
All: **And with your spirit.**

The Welcome

The Giving

The Admonishment

The Foundation of Marriage

Gloria

All: **Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.
We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father.
Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us.
For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,**

**you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

The Opening Prayer

The Readings of the Mass are found in the Lectionary and follow a set, three year cycle. There are three readings assigned to each Sunday; the first comes from the Hebrew Scriptures, except during Easter Season when we find selections from the Book of Acts. The responsorial psalm is taken from the Book of Psalms and is then followed by a reading from the New Testament Letters.

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading - Sit

A reading from the Hebrew Testament, will be offered, except in Easter Season.

The Response from the Reader, or Lector, comes at the end of the reading and is followed by the acclamation of the Assembly :

Lector: **The Word of the Lord.**

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Responsorial Psalm

A psalm is offered from the Hebrew Testament, Book of Psalms. The psalm changes weekly and the proper response if given by the Leader and then repeated by the Assembly following each stanza of the psalm.

Second Reading

A reading from the New Testament, or an Epistle from the New Testament will be offered. On Thursdays, there is only one reading.

The Response from the Reader, or Lector, comes at the end of the reading and is followed by the acclamation of the Assembly:

Lector: **The Word of the Lord.**

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel - Stand

The Gospel readings follow a three cycle of Year A, Year B, and Year C. Year A is generally taken from Matthew, Year B from Mark, and Year C is from Luke. John's Gospel is read throughout Lent and Easter seasons and on various occasions during the year. While not every passage is read, the Gospels are generally read from start to finish during this cycle.

Reading of the Gospel

Priest or Deacon: The Lord be with you.
All: And with your spirit.
Priest or Deacon: A Reading from the Holy Gospel....
All: Glory to you, O Lord!

After the Gospel is Proclaimed:

Priest or Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord!
All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

The homily, or sermon, is done by a priest or deacon. Most generally the theme of the homily is taken from the readings and Gospel for the day, but may also be taken from the feast or a seasonal theme. The purpose of the homily is to take the sacred words of Holy Scripture, or sacred texts of the Holy Mass, and make them more relevant as a guide for us today.

Homily - Sit

[after the sermon, a time of silence and reflection is honored]

The Couple Returns and Faces Altar

The Rite of Marriage

The Charge & Consent

The Exchange of Vows

The Blessing and Exchange of Rings

In the Gospels, Jesus says where two or more pray in His name, the prayers will be answered. Before concluding the Liturgy of the Word, we pause as a community of faith to gather our prayers for the needs of the Church, the world, for the needs of God's people and our own needs, spoken aloud or held in silence.

Prayer of the Faithful - Sit

The Lector and/or Presider will guide the Assembly on the proper prayer response for the particular Mass. On some occasions, the petitions and responses are sung and the Leader will help guide the Assembly. The response is:

All: Grant this, O Lord.

Preparation of the Altar and the Gifts - Sit

Prayer over the Gifts

Priest: Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation, for through your goodness we have received ...

All: Blessed be God forever.

Priest: Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation, for through your goodness we have received ...

All: Blessed be God forever.

Liturgy of the Eucharist

We now enter the most solemn and sacred time in our celebration together with The Eucharistic Prayer. The Prayer begins with the Preface and "The Lord be with you" to which the people respond "And also with you." Throughout this entire Eucharistic Prayer, the priest says the vast majority of the prayer with only a few responses by the people. We are all called to share in the offering of our sacrifices. The priest, acting as the Presider, says the prayers on behalf of all us as the people of God. However, as we pray in the Eucharistic Prayer that the Spirit come upon the gifts of bread and wine, we also pray that the Spirit come upon us and transform us into "one body, one spirit in Christ." As active participants in the Mass, we listen and offer ourselves as the priest leads us in the Eucharistic Prayer.

Orate, Fratres

Priest: Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters), that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

All: May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of God's name, for our good and the good of all God's holy Church.

Prayer Over the Offerings - *Stand*

Preface Dialogue - *Remain Standing*

Priest: The Lord be with you.

All: **And with your spirit.**

Priest: Lift up your hearts.

All: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Priest: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

All: **It is right and just.**

Sanctus

All: **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of hosts,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

The Eucharistic Prayer - *Kneel*

Mystery of Faith

Priest: The mystery of faith:

One of the following is used:

A All: **We proclaim your death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.**

B All: **When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your death, O Lord, until you come again.**

C All: **Save us, Savior of the world, for by your Cross and Resurrection you have set us free.**

As we prepare to receive Holy Communion, as a Community of God, we come together to pray in the words that Jesus taught us, The Lord's Prayer. We pray for the Lord to give us our daily bread. We also ask for forgiveness for our errors, and where we have fallen short, and we ask that we be strengthened to do God's will. This is a time for all to gather as one and offer our deepest intentions in prayer and hope.

Our Father - *Stand*

Priest: At the Savior's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

All:

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.

Priest:

Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil, graciously grant peace in our days, that, by the help of your mercy, we may be always free from sin and safe from all distress, as we await the blessed hope and the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

All: **For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever.**

The fraction rite is the breaking of the bread that has become the Body of Christ. In offering His life for us on the Cross, Jesus has become the Lamb of God that is offered for our sins. As the priest breaks the bread, the people sing the Lamb of God, acknowledging Jesus' sacrifice on the cross that takes away our sins.

Lamb of God

All: **Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.**

Priest: Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world.
Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

All: **Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.**

Communion

In receiving Communion, we profess faith in Jesus. In coming forth to receive Communion, we are agreeing to strive to do God's will in all things. If we don't agree to strive to do God's will, then Communion is not something we seek.

All are welcome to receive Holy Communion at Saint Miriam. As Catholics, the reception of Holy Communion is a sign of our unity in faith and life in the Catholic Church. We believe in the real Presence of Christ at the Table. Therefore, when you receive the consecrated Bread or Wine, please respond with your affirmation, "Amen!" You may receive the Bread on your tongue, or in your hands crossed over one another; the Wine should come from the Chalice, but please do not intinct (dip your Bread into the Cup). If, for any reason, you do not wish to drink from the Cup, please simply fold your arms across your chest and receive a blessing as you pass.

Period of Silence

When the distribution of Holy Communion is completed, the Presider retires to the Presidium, and we honor a period of silence for prayer. A meditation hymn may also be offered. We end the Communion Rite with a prayer that we will be strengthened and transformed by the Holy Communion we have just received as a community of faith.

Prayer after Communion - Sit

Priest: The Lord be with you.

All: **And with your spirit.**

Priest: Let us pray.

[All pray in silence. The priest then says a Prayer after communion and all say,]

All: **Amen.**

After the Prayer, the priest and the couple move to altar center and the couple stands, or kneels, for the Blessing.

The Nuptial Blessing:

The Benediction

The Solemn Blessing

Priest: Bow your heads and pray for God's blessing,

And now may almighty God bless you,  Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
Amen.

The Pronouncement

The Announcement

The Recessional



Saint Miriam
Parish & Friary