**PARISH OF PENARTH & LLANDOUGH**

**SAMPLE MARRIAGE SERVICE**

FRONT COVER

On the front cover you may wish to include the following:

1. The name of the church
2. The date and time of the wedding
3. The name of bride and groom
4. A picture e.g. of the church, centrally located

**The Gathering**

*Stand*

*The minister welcomes the people.*

In the name of the Father,

 and of the Son,

 and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Grace and peace be with you.

**And keep you in the love of Christ.**

*[Or in Eastertide:*

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**He is risen indeed. Alleluia!]**

*A Welcome and Introduction to the service is made.*

***[A hymn may be sung.]***

*The bride and bridegroom, the best man and the person giving the bride away remain standing, whilst everyone else sits down.*

*The Priest will explain the Christian understanding of marriage in the formal words of the Preface to the Marriage Service*

*The priest will determine that there are no legal impediments to the marriage and that it is the couple’s wish to be married.*

*The people are invited to pray; silence is kept and the following Collect (prayer) is used:*

Let us pray.

God our Father,

you have taught us through your Son

that love is the fulfilling of the Law.

Grant to your servants *N* and *N* that,

loving one another, they may remain in your love

all the days of their life:

through Jesus Christ our Lord to whom with you and the Holy Spirit be all love and all glory for time and for eternity. **Amen**

**The Proclamation of the Word**

*At* ***least two readings*** *from Holy Scripture are used, one of which should be from the New Testament.*

*[A sermon will follow the readings] [Sit]*

*[A hymn may be sung.] [Stand]*

**THE MARRIAGE**

1. THE DECLARATIONS

*The bride and bridegroom stand in front of the minister.*

*The minister says to the bridegroom:*

*N*, will you take *N* to be your wife?

Will you love her, comfort her, honour and care for her, and, forsaking all others, be faithful to her

as long as you both shall live?

*He answers:*

 I will.

*The minister says to the bride:*

*N*, will you take *N* to be your husband?

Will you love him, comfort him, honour and care for him, and, forsaking all others, be faithful to him

as long as you both shall live?

*She answers:*

 I will.

*The minister says to the congregation:*

Will you, the families and friends of *N* and *N,*

support and uphold them in their marriage

nowand in the years to come?

*All say:*

 **We will.**

1. THE VOWS

*The minister introduces the vows in these or similar words:*

*N* and *N,* you will now join hands and make your vows inthe presence of God and his people.

*The bride and bridegroom face each other.*

*The bridegroom takes the bride’s right hand in his, and says:*

I, *N*, take you, *N*,

to be my wife,

to have and to hold

from this day forward;

for better, for worse,

for richer, for poorer,

in sickness and in health,

to love and to cherish,

as long as we both shall live,

according to the will and purpose of God.

In the presence of God I make this vow.

*They loose hands*.

*The bride takes the bridegroom’s right hand in hers, and says:*

I, *N* , take you, *N*,

to be my husband,

to have and to hold

from this day forward;

for better, for worse,

for richer, for poorer,

in sickness and in health,

to love and to cherish,

as long as we both shall live,

according to the will and purpose of God.

In the presence of God I make this vow.

*They loose hands.*

1. THE GIVING OF RINGS

*The minister receives the rings (ring) for blessing.*

Heavenly Father,

by your blessing let these rings(this ring)be to *N* and *N* a symbol of unending love and faithfulness, to remind them of the vow and covenant which they have made this day through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*The bride and bridegroom face each other. In turn each places a ring on the other’s finger and, holding it there says:*

*N,* I give you this ring as a sign of my love and faithfulness.

With my whole being I honour you,

all that I am I give to you,

and all that I have I share with you,

within the love of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

*If only one ring is given, the one who receives it says:*

*N*, I receive this ring as a sign of the love and faithfulness

between us.

With my whole being I honour you,

all that I am I give to you,

and all that I have I share with you,

within the love of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

1. THE PROCLAMATION

*The minister addresses the people:*

 In the presence of God, and before this congregation,

 *N* and *N* have given their consent and made their

 marriage vows to one another.

They have declared their marriage by the joining of hands and by the giving and receiving of rings (a ring).

I proclaim that they are therefore husband and wife.

*The minister joins their right hands together and says:*

Those whom God has joined together

let no one put asunder.

1. THE BLESSING OF THE MARRIAGE

*The husband and wife kneel, and the following blessing is used:*

All praise and glory to you most gracious God,

for in the beginning you created us in your own image,

male and female.

Grant your blessing we pray, to *N* and *N*, that in marriage they may be a source of blessing to each other and to all, and live together in holy love until their lives’ end. **Amen.**

*The following blessing is used:*

God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit,

 bless, preserve and keep you; the Lord mercifully look

 upon you with his favour; and so fill you with all spiritual

 blessings and grace, that you may so live together in this

 life, that in the world to come you may have life everlasting. **Amen.**

1. THE REGISTRATION OF THE MARRIAGE

 *[An anthem or hymn may be sung or other piece of music played]*

**THE PRAYERS**

*When the priest says Lord in Your mercy please respond* **Hear our Prayer**

*The prayer ends with a suitable collect*

Merciful Father,

**accept these prayers**

**for the sake of your Son,**

**our Saviour Jesus Christ. 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 thine is the kingdom,**

 **the power and the glory,**

 **for ever and ever. Amen.**

*[A hymn may be sung] [Stand]*

**THE BLESSING**

*The minister concludes the service with the following:*

God the Holy Trinity strengthen you in faith and hope and love, guide you in truth and peace and defend you on every side.

And the blessing of God almighty,

the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,

be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**