

A Celebration of the Covenant of Love  
in the Holy Sacrament of Matrimony

of

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*and*  
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Parish of the Holy Sacrifice  
UP Diliman, Quezon City

**INVITATION TO WORSHIP**

**COMMENTATOR:** *There is a moment in each of our lives when life gains a richer meaning because it is shared. This morning, we have come to celebrate the beginning of a new life together for **Danny & Joy**. In this joyous Feast of Love, let us, as witnesses and as community in Christ, lift **Danny & Joy** to the Lord, through the most Blessed Mother, and pray that Christ may bestow on them His grace as they start their new life together as husband and wife.*

*With **Rev. Fr. Jose Dizon**, our celebrant, let us all make this occasion a celebration of life.*

**ENTRANCE HYMN**

**INTRODUCTORY RITES**

**PRIEST:** *My dear friends, united as a community, we welcome **Danny & Joy** as they respond to God's call in the Sacrament of Matrimony.*

*Let us now start this celebration, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.*

*ALL: Amen.*

**OPENING PRAYER**

**PRIEST:** *May the grace of Our Lord and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.*

*ALL: And also with you.*

*PRIEST: Dearly beloved **Danny & Joy**, God is love and has, in a mysterious way, drawn you together in love. But He leaves you free to make that love grow or to let it wither and die. The Lord will help you to forge a future for your love, if you do your share, when you stand to the commitment to love and honor one another in good times and in bad, in poverty and in plenty, in sickness and in health, for better or for worse, in that covenant which you are about to seal.*

*Now, my brothers and sisters, to prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries, let us call to mind our sins.*

*PRIEST: Most loving Father, You love us not because we are lovable, but by loving us, you have made us lovable and have called us to participate in your creative love, Lord, have mercy.*

*ALL: Lord, have mercy.*

*PRIEST: Lord Jesus Christ, You Are the eternal bridegroom who loves the church as Your spouse. Forgive us for often failing to respond to Your divine love. Christ, have mercy.*

*ALL: Christ, have mercy.*

*PRIEST: Lord, you have instituted the Sacrament of Marriage to help establish peace and unity in our lives and communities. Forgive our failures in responding to this gift. Lord, have mercy.*

*ALL: Lord, have mercy.*

*PRIEST: May Almighty god have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.*

*ALL: Amen.*

## **GLORIA**

*PRIEST: Glory to God in the Highest...*

*ALL: ...and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King Almighty God and Father, We worship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glory. Lord Jesus Christ only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world; have mercy on us; You are seated at the right hand of the Father, receive our prayer. 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.*

## **PRAYER**

*PRIEST: Let us pray. Almighty Father, you have made the bond of marriage a holy mystery, a symbol of Christ's love for His Church. Hear our prayers for **Danny & Joy**. With faith in You and each other, they pledge their love today. May their lives always bear witness to the reality of that love. We ask you this through our Lord, Jesus Christ, Your son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever.*

*ALL: Amen.*

*COMMENTATOR: Please be seated for the Liturgy of the Word.*

## LITURGY OF THE WORD

### FIRST READING

COMMENTATOR: *The first reading explains the meaning of love and why it is important in our daily life. Everything is nothing without love. Let us listen to the first reading taken from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians.*

LECTOR:

*I may be able to speak the languages of men and even of angels, but if I have no love, my speech is no more than a noisy gong or a clanging bell. I may have the gift of inspired preaching; I may have all knowledge and understand all secrets; I may have all the faith needed to move mountains – but if I have no love, I am nothing. I may give away everything I have, and even give up my body to be burned – but if I have no love, this does me no good.*

*Love is patient and kind; it is not jealous or conceited or proud; love is not ill-mannered or selfish or irritable; love does not keep a record of wrongs; love is not happy with evil, but is happy with the truth. Love never gives up; and its faith, hope, and patience never fail.*

*Love is eternal. There are inspired messages, but they are temporary; there are gifts of speaking in strange tongues, but they will cease; there is knowledge, but it will pass. For our gifts of knowledge and of inspired messages are only partial; but when what is perfect comes, then what is partial will disappear.*

*This is the word of the Lord.*

*ALL: Thanks be to God.*

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

READER: *Let our response be “May the Lord bless us, all the days of our lives.*

*ALL: May the Lord bless us, all the days of our lives.*

READER: *Happy are you who fear the Lord, and walk in His ways. For you shall eat the fruit of your hard work; happy shall you be and favored.*

*ALL: May the Lord bless us, all the days of our lives.*

READER: *Your wife shall be like a fruit vine in the recesses of your home; your children like olive plants around your table.*

*ALL: May the Lord bless us, all the days of our lives.*

READER: *Behold, thus is the man blessed, who fears the Lord. The Lord bless you from Zion; May you see the prosperity of Jerusalem all the days of your lives.*

*ALL: May the Lord bless us, all the days of our lives.*

READER: *Many are the troubles of the just man, but out of them all the Lord delivers him; He watches over all his bones not one of them shall be broken.*

*ALL: May the Lord bless us, all the days of our lives.*

READER: *May you see your children’s children. Peace be upon Israel!*

*ALL: May the Lord bless us, all the days of our lives.*

## **GOSPEL**

COMMENTATOR: *Please stand to honor the Holy Gospel*

ALL: *Alleluia, alleluia (to be sung).*

PRIEST: *The Lord be with you.*

ALL: *And also with you.*

PRIEST: *A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.*

COMMENTATOR: *Glory to you, O Lord.*

PRIEST: *As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you. Live on in my love. You will live in my love if you keep my commandments, even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and I live in His love. All this I tell you that My joy may be yours and your joy may be complete.*

*This is my commandment; love one another as I have loved You. There is no greater love than this; to lay down his life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. It is not you who chose me, it was I who chose you to go forth and bear fruit. Your fruit must endure, so that all you ask the Father in my name, He will give you.*

*The command I give you is this, that you love one another.*

*This is the gospel of the Lord.*

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

COMMENTATOR: *Please be seated for the homily.*

## **HOMILY**

### **rites of marriage**

COMMENTATOR: *Please remain seated for the marriage rites. May we request the groom and the bride to please rise. May we request also the parents, the principal sponsors to come forward and stand beside the couple.*

### **ALLOCATION**

PRIEST: *Dearly beloved **Danny & Joy**, you are here today to seal your love with an eternal bond before the Church. I assure you of the prayers of the community that God may pour His abundant blessing on your love and help you carry out the duties of married state.*

*And you, my brothers and sisters, may I ask you to help them with your prayers and accept them as a new couple in our Christian community.*

*In the presence of the Church, I now ask you to answer truthfully the following questions:*

***Joy**, did you come here on your own free will to bind yourself forever in the love and service of **Danny**?*

BRIDE: *Yes, I do, Father.*

PRIEST: ***Danny**, did you come here on your own free will to bind yourself forever in the love and service of **Joy**?*

GROOM: *Yes, I do, Father.*

*PRIEST: Are you both ready to raise as good Christians the children whom God will give you?*

*GROOM & BRIDE: Yes, Father.*

### **EXCHANGE OF MARRIAGE VOWS**

*PRIEST: **Danny & Joy**, since you wish to contract Holy Matrimony please join your right hands and express your intention before God and His church.*

*GROOM: Ours is neither a long engagement nor a whirlwind romance. Thanks to modern technology, our physical distance was not a hindrance to the expression of our mutual affection. I once said that I will love you forever, and in the presence of our family, friends and colleagues, I repeat that promise. I will do anything for you, as manifested by my vain attempt to sing for you today. I will be a good husband and father. As I remain committed to the struggle for meaningful change, I assure you that I will always have time for you and the family we will build together. At this point in my life, personal ambition does not matter anymore since you are right here with me. For me, this is my most fruitful year, not because I won a journalism award, but because I have the biggest reward of all – YOU.*

*BRIDE: Before I met you, I was already resigned to living a single life; I pictured myself living alone in the province, focused on career development and other advocacies. But when I met you, I began to see a different future: the two of us living happily together with our children. Yes, ours is neither a long engagement nor a whirlwind romance. We can call it a three-quarter romance. Since April, we have used practically all means of communication like snail mail, landline, SMS, and email. Finally, this December in this place where we first asked for blessing, I walk down the aisle with a firm*

*commitment to make our marriage work. I promise to be a good wife to you and a good mother to our children. Indeed, our marriage is also my biggest reward as I cap this memorable year with a life-changing decision.*

*PRIEST: Now together say the prayer that comes from your hearts.*

*GROOM & BRIDE: Grant us, O Lord, to be one heart and one soul from this day forward; for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, until death do us part.*

### **CONFIRMATION OF THE MARRIAGE BOND**

*PRINCIPAL SPONSORS: We have heard **Danny & Joy** pledge themselves to each other and to God in marriage, before God and His community. We testify that they are now husband and wife, one flesh. May God bless them and may their examples draw others in union with God.*

*PRIEST: And I, by the authority of the Church, calling on all those present here as witnesses, confirm and bless the bond of marriage which you have contracted in the name of the Father and of the Son and the Holy Spirit.*

*ALL: Amen.*

*COMMENTATOR: The parents and the principal sponsors may now be seated.*

### **BLESSING/GIVING OF THE ARRHAE AND RINGS**

*COMMENTATOR: May we request the ring and coin bearers to please come forward.*

**PRIEST:** *Danny & Joy, we shall now bless your arrhae and rings.  
Our help is in the name of the Lord.*

**ALL:** *He made Heaven and Earth.*

**PRIEST:** *(Arrhae) – Let us pray, Bless O Lord, your servants, **Danny & Joy** with sufficiency of material possessions, which these arrhae symbolize, so that they may use them to attain eternal life, Through Christ our Lord.*

**ALL:** *Amen.*

**PRIEST:** *(Rings) – Let us pray, Bless O Lord these rings, so that your servants, **Danny & Joy**, who wear them, may ever live in mutual love and unbroken loyalty through Christ our Lord.*

**ALL:** *Amen.*

**PRIEST:** *Now, face each other and give this rings to each other.*

**GROOM:** ***Joy**, wear this ring as a sign of my love and loyalty. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.*

**BRIDE:** *I will love you and be faithful to you all the rest of my life.*

***Danny**, wear this ring as a sign of my love and loyalty. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.*

**GROOM:** *I will love you and be faithful to you all the rest of my life.*

***Joy**, I give these arrhae as a token of my desire to accept you as you are in a life-long commitment with me and as a pledge of my dedication to your welfare. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.*

**BRIDE:** ***Danny**, in receiving these arrhae, I completely accept you and the responsibility of building a Christian family with you. In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.*

## **RECEIVING THE COUPLE INTO THE COMMUNITY**

**PRIEST:** *My dear brothers and sisters, who are gathered here today, I ask you to help **Danny & Joy** with your prayers that they may live in love and fidelity to one another, let us express our acceptance of them as a new couple in our Christian community by giving them a warm round of applause.*

## **PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL**

**COMMENTATOR:** *Please rise.*

**PRIEST:** *Dearly beloved, now that we have heard God's words and felt His presence in this exchange of marriage vows, let us help **Danny & Joy** with our prayers and accept them as a newly wedded couple in our Christian community.*

**READER:** *For **Danny & Joy**, that they may love each other with perpetual fidelity, and perseveringly help one another, until a ripe old age. Let us pray to the Lord.*

**ALL:** *Lord, hear our prayers.*

**READER:** *For the parents of **Danny & Joy**, who gave them gift of life, taught them to live their lives loving Christ and His people, and stood by their side always may they continue to accompany them with affection and guide them as living*

*example of God's love through the sacrament of marriage. Let us pray to the Lord.*

*ALL: Lord, hear our prayers.*

*READER: For the family of **Danny & Joy**, who have been a part of their lives and experiences and who have helped them make what they are now in reaching this special day, that they may continue to stand by them in all their joys and trials. Let us pray to the Lord*

*ALL: Lord, hear our prayers.*

*READER: For our loved ones, who have gone before us that they may be rewarded for the life and love they so generously shared with us. Let us pray to the Lord.*

*ALL: Lord, hear our prayers.*

*READER: That the married people all over the world by their faithful love may become witness of that love which was revealed when Jesus Christ died for us. Let us pray to the Lord.*

*ALL: Lord, hear our prayers.*

*READER: For all whose ideals are shattered, whose efforts are not met with success or whose marriages have failed, that they may not withdraw from life but find the opportunity and courage to build a new future. Let us pray to the Lord.*

*ALL: Lord, hear our prayers.*

*PRIEST: Heavenly Father, the greatest commandments of your kingdom is the law of love. Unite **Danny & Joy** in their love*

*for each other, and grant them to be faithful to You and to each other. At the end of a long and well-spent life, reward them with eternal happiness, together with their children and those who love them. We ask this through Christ our Lord.*

*ALL: Amen.*

## **LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST**

### **OFFERTORY**

*COMMENTATOR: Please be seated for the offertory procession which is the start of the Liturgy of the Eucharist. (The couple kneels down)*

*(CANDLES) O Lord, accept these candles as a symbol of **Danny & Joy's** faithful devotion to you by constant prayers. May you be the light throughout their married life, and keep the flame of love forever burning in their hearts.*

*(FLOWERS) O Lord, accept these flowers in its full bloom so that **Danny & Joy** will live a colorful life together. We offer these flowers just as the Holy Eucharist is a thanksgiving for the many graces that you are giving us.*

*(FRUITS) O Lord, accept these abundant fruits of the field, the products of your toil. Like these fruits, may **Danny & Joy** have fruitful years ahead.*

*(EGGS) O Lord, accept these eggs we offer, so that **Danny & Joy** may undergo a significant transformation to become better partners to one another and good parents to their children, with your undying love and guidance.*

## **CEREMONY OF THE CANDLE, VEIL, CORD**

*(After the offertory procession) May we call on the secondary sponsors to please put their respective symbols to the couple.*

### **(CANDLE )**

*May the candle sponsors come forward and light the candles. These candles symbolize the light throughout the married life of **Danny & Joy**. May these candles keep the flame of love burning in their hearts.*

### **(VEIL )**

*May we call on the Veil sponsors to place the veil over the head of the bride and over the shoulder of the groom. This veil symbolizes that God, like a cloud, will overshadow them with His love all the days of their life. Thus we pray that God will preserve them from all harms; keep their love chaste and true; guide them to live with fidelity and oneness of heart and mind.*

### **(CORD )**

*Cord Sponsors please come forward and place the cord over the shoulders of the couple. These conjugal cord that binds them now will remind them of total and unconditional love with each other and that the Sacrament of Matrimony is forever binding and irrevocable, help them face their lives courageously and be in mutual support in carrying out their duties as husband and wife.*

### **(RIBBON )**

*May the Ribbon sponsors come forward and place the ribbon over the shoulder of the couple. May this ribbon full of scent reminds **Danny & Joy** of the beauty of holiness of their union, and that God will always be with them throughout eternity and keep their married life more ideal and full of scent of love, loyalty and respect to each other.*

## **PREPARATION OF THE ALTAR AND THE GIFTS**

*PRIEST: Blessed are You, Lord God of all creation, through Your goodness we have this bread to offer, which earth has given and human hands have made. It will become for us the bread of life.*

*ALL: Blessed be God forever.*

*PRIEST: By the mystery of this water and wine, we come to share in the divinity of Christ, who humbles Himself to share in our humanity. Blessed are You, Lord God of all creation, through Your goodness we have this wine to offer, fruit of the vine and work of human hands. It will become for us our spiritual drink.*

*ALL: Blessed be God forever.*

## **PRAYER FOR THE GIFTS**

*PRIEST: Pray brethren, that our sacrifice may be acceptable to God, the Almighty Father.*

*ALL: May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands, for the praise and glory of His name, for our good, and the good of all his church.*

*COMMENTATOR: Please rise.*

*PRIEST: Lord, accept our offerings for this newly married couple, **Danny & Joy**. By your love and providence you have brought them together; now bless them the gift and joy of children as well as a long and happy married life together. We ask this through Christ our Lord.*

*ALL: Amen.*



## **EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER**

*PRIEST: The Lord be with you.*

*ALL: And also with you.*

*PRIEST: Lift up your hands.*

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

*PRIEST: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.*

*ALL: It is right to give him thanks and praise.*

## **PREFACE**

*PRIEST: Father, all powerful and ever living God, we do well always and everywhere to give you thanks. By this sacrament your grace unites man and woman in an unbreakable bond of love and peace. You have designed the chaste love of husband and wife for the increase both of the human family and your own family born in baptism. You are the loving Father of the new creation of grace. In Christian marriage you bring together the two orders of creation: nature's gift to children enriches the world and your grace enrich also your church. Through Christ the choir of angels and all the saints praise and worship your glory. May our voices blend with theirs as we join in their unending hymn of praise.*

*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY. . .*

## **EUCCHARISTIC RITE**

*COMMENTATOR: Please kneel down for the consecration.*

*PRIEST: Lord, You are holy indeed, the fountain of all holiness. Let your spirit come upon these gifts to make them holy, so that they may become for us the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

*Before He was given up to death. He freely accepted. He took the bread and gave you thanks. He broke the bread and gave it to His disciples and said:*

*Take this, all of you, and eat it: this is my body which will be given up to you.*

*When supper was ended, he took the cup. Again He gave you thanks and praise, gave the cup to His disciples, and said: Take this all of you, and drink from it: This is the cup of my blood. The blood of the new and everlasting covenant. It will be shed for you and for all men so that sins may be forgiven.*

*Do this in memory of me.*

*Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.*

## **MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION (To be sung)**

*PRIEST: In memory of his death and resurrection, we offer you, Father, this life-giving bread, this saving cup. We thank you for counting us worthy to stand in your presence and serve you. May all of us who share in the body and blood of Christ, be brought together in unity by the Holy Spirit.*

*Lord, remember your church throughout the world, make us grow in love, together with John Paul our Pope, our Bishops, and all the clergy.*

*Remember our brothers and sisters who have gone to their rest in the hope of rising again; bring them and all the departed into the light of your presence.*

*Have mercy on us all; make us worthy to share eternal life with Mary, the Virgin Mother of God, with apostles, and with all the saints, who have done your will throughout the ages. May we praise you in union with them, and give you glory, through your Son Jesus Christ.*

*Through Him, with Him, in Him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, forever and ever.*

*ALL: Amen. (To be sung)*

*PRIEST: Let us pray with confidence to the Father, in the words our Savior taught us.*

*ALL: Lord's Prayer. (To be sung)*

### **NUPTIAL BLESSING**

*PRIEST: My dear friends, let us now turn to the Lord and pray that He will bless with His grace **Joy**, now married Christ with **Danny**, and that He will unite in love the couple He has joined in this holy bond.*

*Look upon **Joy**, your daughter, now joined to her husband in marriage. She asks for your blessing, give her the grace of love and peace. May she always follow the example of the holy women, whose praises are sung in the Scriptures. May her husband put his trust in her and recognize that she is his equal and the heir with him to the life of grace.*

*Father, bless **Danny**, your son, may he be a good husband and father, caring for his family, generous, kind and faithful in love to his wife. May he always honor and love her as Christ loves His bride, the Church.*

*Father, keep them always true to your commandments. Keep them faithful in marriage and let them be living examples of Christian life, give them the strength which comes from the Gospel so that they may be witnesses of Christ to others. Bless them with children and help them to be good parents. May they live to see their children's children. And after a happy old age, grant them fullness of life with the saints in the kingdom of heaven. We ask this through Christ our Lord.*

*ALL: Amen.*

### **COMMUNION RITE**

*PRIEST: Lord, Jesus Christ, You said to your apostles, "I leave you peace, my peace I give you", Look not on our sins but on the faith of your Church and grant us the peace and unity of your kingdom where You live forever and ever.*

*ALL: Amen.*

*PRIEST: The peace of the Lord be with you always.*

*ALL: And also with you.*

*PRIEST: Let us offer each other the sign of peace.*

*ALL: Lamb of God, (to be sung)*

*COMMENTATOR: Please kneel.*

*PRIEST: This is Jesus who unites husbands and wives together. This is Jesus who has brought us together to witness the exchange of vows between **Danny and Joy**. This is Jesus who will guide and help **Danny and Joy** all the days of their married life. May this mingling of the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ bring eternal life to us who receive Him. This is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world happy are those who are invited to his supper.*

*ALL: Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word and I shall be healed.*

## **COMMUNION**

*COMMENTATOR: (After Communion) The secondary sponsors may now remove their respective symbols.*

*COMMENTATOR: Please rise.*

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

*PRIEST: Let us pray, Lord, in Your love You have given us this Eucharist to unite us with one another and with You.*

*As you, have made **Danny & Joy** one in this sacrament of matrimony, and in the sharing of the one cup. So, make us one in love for each other. We ask this through Christ our Lord.*

*ALL: Amen.*

## **ADMONITIONS AND FINAL BLESSINGS**

*PRIEST: **Danny & Joy**, now that you have received the Holy Sacrament of Matrimony, I admonish you to remain faithful to each other.*

***Joy**, love **Danny**, your husband and be a good wife. Persevere in faith and love and holiness.*

***Danny**, love **Joy**, your wife as Christ loves His church and live with her in the holy fear of the Lord.*

*PRIEST: The Lord be with you.*

*ALL: And also with you.*

## **SEVENFOLD BLESSING**

*PRIEST: May the Lord bless you by the word of His mouth.*

*ALL: Amen.*

*PRIEST: May He unite your hearts in an enduring bond of pure love.*

*ALL: Amen.*

*PRIEST: May your children bring happiness, and may the love that you lavish on them be returned a hundredfold.*

*ALL: Amen.*

*PRIEST: May the peace of Christ dwell always in your heart and in your home, may you have true friends to stand by you both in joy and sorrow.*

*ALL: Amen.*

*PRIEST: May you be ready with help and consolation for all those who come to you in need; and may the blessing promised to the compassionate be yours in abundance.*

*ALL: Amen.*

*PRIEST: May the Lord grant you fullness of years, so that you may reap the harvest of a good life; and after you have served Him with loyalty in His kingdom on earth, may He take you up into His eternal dominion in heaven.*

*ALL: Amen.*

*PRIEST: And may Almighty God bless you, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.*

*ALL: Amen.*

*PRIEST: This Eucharistic celebration is over. Let us go in peace continuing to live the love we have celebrated here.*

*ALL: Thanks be to God.*

*PRIEST: Dear friends, **Danny & Joy**, a while ago pledge to God and to each other their love and life as husband and wife. Their relatives and friends, also wish to see a tangible proof of that love. We wish to witness that sign of love through a loving kiss.*

## **SIGNING OF MARRIAGE CONTRACT**

## **RELEASE OF WHITE DOVES**

## **PHOTO SESSION**

*COMMENTATOR: We shall now have the taking of souvenir photos. Please be ready and follow the order of picture taking. Thank you.*