

Final Blessing for Marriage Sunday – 13 February 2011

Father of life and love;
You created us in your image – woman and man you created us.
We rejoice and thank you for the gift of each other.

On this Sunday when we celebrate the gift of Marriage,
we remember too, with love, our parishioners who are single.
Their wholehearted love and service to neighbour
inspires us all on the path of discipleship.

We give you thanks for those of our parishioners
who are widowed.
May their journey of love and then loss,
keep us faithful to giving thanks daily for our loved ones.

We give you thanks for our gay and lesbian parishioners,
whose presence and friendship we cherish,
for they are always your children.

We give you thanks for our separated and divorced parishioners.
Their heartbreak challenges us to care tenderly for our relationships,
and their courage and strength give us hope.

Lord, we ask your blessing on those preparing for marriage.
Give them the help they need
and the support of our parish, their families and friends.

We give you thanks, finally, for all married couples.
Through the joys and sorrows, triumphs and trials of life
the love of man and woman in the Sacrament of Matrimony
is a powerful sign of your faithful love for the world.
Continue to bless their lives together with peace and joy,
until they rejoice together in the wedding feast of heaven.

May Almighty God bless you, ✚ the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen.