

## For our own marriage

Thank you God for our marriage. Help us to know and love one another more each day, just as you know and love us both.

Thank you for all the deep joy we have shared, in both ordinary and extraordinary times. Thank you for those moments when we have been especially close to you in our love.

Help us to be kind, thoughtful and attentive to one another even when we are tired, upset or self absorbed. Strengthen in us a spirit of hospitality, that we may offer welcome and encouragement to others in the way of love. When we face adversity help us to remain at peace, growing in awareness of your presence with us still. We ask this in Jesus name. Amen.



**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**

**The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and  
the love of God, and the fellowship of the  
Holy Spirit, be with us all, now, and forever.  
Amen.**



**Mothers' UNION**  
Christian care for families  
Diocese of Winchester



## Prayers for Marriage

**Lord of life and love, we pray for all who are preparing for marriage; for those who are already married and for those who find their marriages difficult. Be with them all; in their joy and sadness, their hope and their expectations, and above all, help them to understand that you hold them in love each moment of their lives. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

Almighty God, in whom we live and move and have our being, look graciously upon the world which you have made and for which your Son gave his life, and especially at this time on all whom you make to be one flesh in holy marriage.

As we remember all who have been married and those who are planning to be married in this Parish, we pray that their lives together may be a sign of your love to this broken world, that unity may overcome estrangement, forgiveness heal guilt, and joy overcome despair; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



A prayer for those preparing to marry

Lord of love, we pray for all these couples who are planning to be married in this parish. Be with them in all their preparations and on their wedding day and give them your love in their hearts throughout their married life together.

We pray for .....  
Grant to them joy of heart, seriousness of mind and reverence of spirit, that as they enter into the oneness of marriage they may be strengthened and guided by

**More information about the work of Mothers' Union in the Diocese of Winchester can be found at [www.muwinchester.org.uk](http://www.muwinchester.org.uk)**

**We pray, Lord Jesus, for all those planning to marry and for those helping them with practical details and with marriage preparation. May their joys and hopes be realised. Be with them as they plan and give them patience and understanding when things are difficult. In their growing love for each other, may they come to know you as the source of all love. Amen**



### **Thanksgiving for marriage.**

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we lift up our hearts to you through Jesus Christ our Lord. Through him you have made a covenant of grace with your people by the outpouring of your Holy Spirit. We praise you for the gift of marriage in which the love of husband and wife is brought together and reflects your plan of love for the world.

We remember today all those who have been married in this Parish, especially ..... ; for leading them to each other in friendship and love, commitment and trust.

As you pour out your love, may they grow together in your sight, and each be to the other a companion in joy, a comfort in sorrow and a strength in need. May their lives be a witness to your saving love in this troubled world.

We pray for those marrying today. Holy Spirit, be present at each union so that every couple may truly enter into the mystery of becoming one. Amen

Lord Jesus, who feasted at the marriage of your friends, we ask you to be near to those preparing now for marriage. May these couples grow together in love and understanding sustained by the vision of an enduring, life-giving relationship. Breathe your spirit into those who prepare them for marriage. May their commitment inspire, enrich and sustain those they share with, just as your sharing of yourself brought richness and joy to the marriage feast at Cana.

As the presence of your Son blessed the earthly home at Nazareth and lived as part of a human family, Bless our homes, bind us as a family, unite us in our Lord, renew us by your Holy Spirit, remind us of your promise and living word, and be among us in our home and throughout all our activities.

And bring us all at the last to that great marriage banquet of your Son in our home in heaven, where, with all your saints and angels, in the glory of your presence, we will for ever praise you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For those experiencing separation and divorce.

Lord Jesus, who quieted the storm around and within your disciples, draw near to those going through separation and divorce. Cleanse their hearts of all bitterness and resentment. Guide them as they plan their future lives. Grant them strength and courage to overcome the fears and anxieties of their new situation. We pray for their children, that they may experience your comfort, peace and healing. We pray for their parents and relatives, that they may have the strength to offer unconditional love even in their own sadness.

For those without a marriage partner.

Lord Jesus, we ask your blessing upon those whose longing for marriage is unfulfilled. Grant them your peace and channel their gift of love into enriching their lives and the lives of those around them. We pray for those who have lost their partner. Comfort them and uphold them in their loneliness. Be close to those who have recently been bereaved. Help them through each day until the pain diminishes and the sun shines once more.

