

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF BETHESDA-BY-THE-SEA † PALM BEACH, FLORIDA

The Celebration and Blessing of the Marriage of

Mary Claire Elizabeth Blanchat and William Lawrence Anderson

Saturday, the seventh of November, two thousand twenty, at three o'clock

A wedding is a sacred service of the Church.

Please turn off your cellular phone before the service begins.

*Please refrain from taking flash photography
once the service has begun.*

Preludes

Ave Maria Franz Schubert
"Air" from *Suite No. 3 in D* Johann Sebastian Bach
Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring Bach

Processional

Please stand as the Procession begins.

Trumpet Tune in C David Johnson

The Greeting and Declaration

*Then the Celebrant, facing the people and the persons to be married,
addresses the congregation and says*

Dearly beloved: We have come together in the presence of God to witness and bless the joining together of Mary Claire and William in Holy Matrimony. The joining of two people in a life of mutual fidelity signifies to us the mystery of the union between Christ and his Church, and so it is worthy of being honored among all people.

The union of two people in heart, body, and mind is intended by God for their mutual joy; for the help and comfort given one another in prosperity and adversity; and, when it is God's will, for the gift of children and their nurture in the knowledge and love of the Lord. Therefore marriage is not to be entered into unadvisedly or lightly, but reverently, deliberately, and in accordance with the purposes for which it was instituted by God.

Into this holy union Mary Claire Elizabeth Blanchat and William Lawrence Anderson now come to be joined.

If any of you can show just cause why they may not lawfully be married, speak now; or else for ever hold your peace.

Then the Celebrant says to the persons to be married

I require and charge you both, here in the presence of God, that if either of you knows any reason why you may not be united in marriage lawfully, and in accordance with God's Word, you do now confess it.

The Declaration of Consent

The Celebrant says to one member of the couple, then to the other

Mary Claire, will you have this man to be your husband; to live together in the covenant of marriage? Will you love him, comfort him, honor and keep him, in sickness and in health; and, forsaking all others, be faithful to him as long as you both shall live?

Answer I will.

William, will you have this woman to be your wife; to live together in the covenant of marriage? Will you love her, comfort her, honor and keep her, in sickness and in health; and, forsaking all others, be faithful to her as long as you both shall live?

Answer I will.

The Celebrant then addresses the congregation, saying

Will all of you witnessing these promises do all in your power to uphold these two persons in their marriage?

PEOPLE *We will.*

The Ministry of the Word

CELEBRANT The Lord be with you.

PEOPLE *And also with you.*

Let us pray.

O gracious and everliving God, you have created human-kind in your image: Look mercifully upon Mary Claire and William who come to you seeking your blessing, and assist them with your grace, that with true fidelity and steadfast love they may honor and keep the promises and vows they make; through Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

First Lesson Ecclesiastes 4:9–12

READER The Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE *Thanks be to God.*

Psalm 128 (in unison)

- 1 Happy are they all who fear the Lord, *
and who follow in his ways!
- 2 You shall eat the fruit of your labor; *
happiness and prosperity shall be yours.
- 3 Your wife shall be like a fruitful vine
within your house, *
your children like olive shoots round
about your table.

- 4 The man who fears the Lord *
shall thus indeed be blessed.
- 5 The Lord bless you from Zion, *
and may you see the prosperity of Jerusalem
all the days of your life.
- 6 May you live to see your children's children; *
may peace be upon Israel.

Second Lesson Romans 12:9–18

READER The Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE *Thanks be to God.*

Gospel

John 15:7–17

BEFORE THE GOSPEL

PRIEST The Holy Gospel of our Lord
Jesus Christ according to John.

PEOPLE *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

AFTER THE GOSPEL

PRIEST The Gospel of the Lord.

PEOPLE *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

Homily The Rector

A brief period of silence follows the Homily.

The Marriage

Each member of the couple, in turn, takes the right hand of the other and says

In the Name of God, I, Mary Claire/William, take you, Mary/William, to be my wife/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, until we are parted by death. This is my solemn vow.

The Priest may ask God's blessing on rings as follows

Bless, O Lord, these rings to be signs of the vows by which Mary Claire and William have bound themselves to each other; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The giver places the ring on the ring finger of the other's hand and says

Mary Claire/William, I give you this ring as a symbol of my vow, and with all that I am, and all that I have, I honor you, in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Then the Celebrant joins the right hands of the couple and says

Now that Mary Claire and William have given themselves to each other by solemn vows, with the joining of hands and the giving and receiving of rings, I pronounce that they are wed to one another, in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Those whom God has joined together let no one put asunder.

PEOPLE *Amen.*

The Prayers

The congregation responds with "Amen" after each of the short petitions.

READER Let us pray.

Eternal God, creator and preserver of all life, author of salvation, and giver of all grace: Look with favor upon the world you have made, and for which your Son gave his life, and especially upon Mary Claire and William whom you make one flesh in Holy Matrimony. *Amen.*

Give them wisdom and devotion in the ordering of their common life, that each may be to the other a strength in need, a counselor in perplexity, a comfort in sorrow, and a companion in joy. *Amen.*

Grant that their wills may be so knit together in your will, and their spirits in your Spirit, that they may grow in love and peace with you and one another all the days of their life. *Amen.*

Give them grace, when they hurt each other, to recognize and acknowledge their fault, and to seek each other's forgiveness and yours. *Amen.*

Make their life together a sign of Christ's love to this sinful and broken world, that unity may overcome estrangement, forgiveness heal guilt, and joy conquer despair. *Amen*

Bestow on them, if it is your will, the gift and heritage of children, and the grace to bring them up to know you, to love you, and to serve you. *Amen.*

Give them such fulfillment of their mutual affection that they may reach out in love and concern for others. *Amen.*

Grant that all married persons who have witnessed these vows may find their lives strengthened and their loyalties confirmed. *Amen.*

Grant that the bonds of our common humanity, by which all your children are united one to another, and the living to the dead, may be so transformed by your grace, that your will may be done on earth as it is in heaven; where, O Father, with your Son and the Holy Spirit, you live and reign in perfect unity, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The Blessing of the Marriage

The People remain standing. The couple kneels, and the Priest says the following prayer

Most gracious God, we give you thanks for your tender love in sending Jesus Christ to come among us, to be born of a human mother, and to make the way of the cross to be the way of life. We thank you, also, for consecrating the union of two people in his Name. By the power of your Holy Spirit, pour out the abundance of your blessing upon Mary Claire and William. Defend them from every enemy. Lead them into all peace. Let their love for each other be a seal upon their hearts, a mantle about their shoulders, and a crown upon their foreheads. Bless them in their work and in their companionship; in their sleeping and in their waking; in their joys and in their sorrows; in their life and in their death. Finally, in your mercy, bring them to that table where your saints feast for ever in your heavenly home; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The couple still kneeling, the Priest adds this blessing

God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit, bless, preserve, and keep you; the Lord mercifully with his favor look upon you, and fill you with all spiritual benediction and grace; that you may faithfully live together in this life, and in the age to come have life everlasting. *Amen.*

The Peace

CELEBRANT The peace of the Lord be always with you.

PEOPLE *And also with you.*

The Holy Communion

CELEBRANT The Lord be with you.
PEOPLE *And also with you.*
CELEBRANT Lift up your hearts.
PEOPLE *We lift them to the Lord.*
CELEBRANT Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
PEOPLE *It is right to give him thanks and praise.*

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

The Celebrant adds a proper preface then continues

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

CELEBRANT AND PEOPLE

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, 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 congregation kneels.

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

CELEBRANT AND PEOPLE

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. *AMEN.*

CELEBRANT

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

CELEBRANT AND PEOPLE

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, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

CELEBRANT Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

PEOPLE *Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.*

Communion

In the Episcopal Church, all baptized Christians are encouraged to receive communion. This is the Lord's table. It is the Lord's wish that those who want to reaffirm their union with the Lord and each other should receive communion. During communion, please come forward at the direction of the ushers to the crossing. During the coronavirus pandemic, we ask that you extend your hands forward, palms crossed and facing upward, to receive the host, then remove your mask and consume the host. (Please note that receiving the host alone is fully receiving communion.) If you would like to receive a blessing instead, simply cross your arms across your chest. Please tell the priest if you wish to receive a gluten-free wafer.

Canon in D

Johann Pachelbel

Postcommunion Prayer (in unison)

O God, the giver of all that is true and lovely and gracious: We give you thanks for binding us together in these holy mysteries of the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Grant that by your Holy Spirit, Mary Claire and William, now joined in Holy Matrimony, may become one in heart and soul, live in fidelity and peace, and obtain those eternal joys prepared for all who love you; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing

RESPONSE *Amen.*

The Dismissal

RESPONSE *Thanks be to God.*

Recessional

Fanfare

Nicolas Jacques Lemmens

† † †

Celebrant

The Rev. James R. Harlan, *Rector*

Organist

Dr. Stuart Forster, *Associate for Music and Liturgy*

Parents of the Bride

Mr. and Mrs. Mark Andrew Blanchat

Parents of the Groom

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Anderson III

Maid of Honor

Cornelia Kohler Anderson

Bridesmaid

Kelley Snider Anderson

Best Man

Fred Anderson IV

Groomsmen

Fred Anderson III

Andrew Colbert Hunt Blanchat

Derek Marshall Dean Blanchat

Harold Lawrence Kohler

Lectors

Christopher Dean Mergenthaler

Andrew Colbert Hunt Blanchat

Fred Anderson IV

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of

Mary Beth Mergenthaler, Renee Sheehan Edwards, Kathleen Goodwin Anderson, Fred Anderson, Jr.,
Cornelia Hoffmann Kohler, Harold Kohler, Mr. Frederick C. Johnson



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