

KNANAYA BETROTHAL

(The couples and uncles from each side gather in front of the altar along with other relatives and friends. The priest addresses them in the following or similar words).

CELEBRANT: Betrothal is an expression of the free wills of the couples before the church to enter into marriage. One paternal uncle from each side stands as witness to this and both shake hands before the holy altar as a symbol of their agreement. The uncles participate in the responsibility of getting their brother's child married. They assure that the marriage will be conducted on a particular date in a particular manner. This is also an expression of the new relation that is to be originated not between two persons alone but also of two families.

As we gather here to witness this mutual agreement of these young people and their families, let us pray that God who has invited them to married life for mutual love and to take part in his creation, help them to keep their promise. Let us start this service with the Knanaya traditional prayer song remembering the founder of our church, St. Thomas the Apostle.

(കാർമ്മികനും സമൂഹവും ഒരുമിച്ച്)

മാർത്തോമ്മൻ നന്മയാലൊന്നു തുടങ്ങുന്നു
നന്നായ്‌വരണമേ ഇന്ന്.
ഉത്തമനായ മിശിഹാ തിരുവുള്ളം
ഉണ്ടെ എഴുന്നൾക വേണം.

കാരണമായവരെല്ലാം കൂടിട്ട്
നന്മ വരുത്തിത്തരണം.
ആലാഹാ നായനും അമ്പൻ മിശിഹായും
കൂടെ തുണയ്ക്കയിവർക്ക്.

CEL: Glory to God in the Highest

ALL: Amen

CEL: Peace and hope to people on earth, always and forever.

ALL: Amen

CEL: Our Father in heaven

ALL: hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth / as it is in heaven. Give us this day the bread we need / and forgive us our debts and sins / as we have forgiven those who offended us. / Do not let us fall into temptation, / but deliver us from the evil one. / For, Yours is the kingdom, the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Our Father in heaven, heaven and earth are full of Your glory. / angels and people sing out Your Glory; / Holy, holy, holy are You.

SER: Let us pray. Peace be with us.

CEL: God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, we adore you and glorify you because you had

blessed and made prosperous the married life of our forefathers beginning with Abraham. Have mercy on these young people ---- and ---- (names) who are going to make their formal promise for their wedding. Fill their lives with your love and help them to keep their promises. God you know our intentions. Please send your Holy Spirit on them so that they make right decisions according to your teachings. Help them to prepare for a blessed married life. God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

ALL: Amen.

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| <p><i>Sarvadhipanam Karthave Ninne vanagi namickunnu liso natha vinayamode Nine namichu pukazhthunnu</i></p> | <p>സർവാധിപനം കർത്താവേ, നിന്നെ വണങ്ങി നമിക്കുന്നു ഇശോനാഥാ, വിനയമൊടെ നിന്നെ നമിച്ചു പുകഴ്ത്തുന്നു.</p> |
| <p><i>Marthyanu nithya mahonnathama-Muthanam Nee arulunnu Akshayamavanude almavin- uthamarakshayemekunnu</i></p> | <p>മർത്യനു നിത്യമഹോന്നതമാ- മുതാനം നീയരുളുന്നു അക്ഷയമവനുടയാത്താവി- ന്നുത്തമരക്ഷയുമേകുന്നു.</p> |

SER: Let us pray. Peace be with us.

CEL: My Lord, You are truly the one who raises our bodies. You are the savior of our souls / and the preserver of our lives. We are bound always to thank, adore, and glorify You, / the Lord of all, forever.

ALL: Amen.

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| <p><i>Sabdamuyarthi padiduvin Sakalarumonnai padiduvin Ennenum jeevickum Sarvesarane vazhthiduvin</i></p> | <p>ശബ്ദമുയർത്തിപ്പാടിടുവിൻ സർവ്വരുമൊന്നായ് പാടിടുവിൻ എന്നെന്നും ജീവിക്കും സർവ്വേശ്വരനേ വാഴ്ത്തിടുവിൻ.</p> |
| <p><i>Paripavanoanam sarvesa Paripavanoanam belavane Paripavanoanam amarthyane Nin kripa njangalkekaname</i></p> | <p>പരിപാവനനാം സർവ്വേശാ പരിപാവനനാം ബലവാനേ, പരിപാവനനാം അമർത്യനേ, നിൻകൃപ ഞങ്ങൾക്കേകണമേ.</p> |

SER: Let us pray. Peace be with us.

CEL: Glorious, Mighty, Immortal, and Holy God! You who are pleased to dwell in the holy ones! We beseech You! Look upon us, pardon us, and show us compassion / according to Your nature. The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. The Lord of all, forever.

ALL: Amen.

READING

READER: Brothers and sisters, be *seated* and listen attentively. A reading from the book of *Tobith*.

READER: (*Bowing to the celebrant*) Bless me, my Lord.

CEL: May God + bless you.

READER: “Be on your guard, son, against every form of immorality, and above all, marry a woman of lineage of your forefathers. Do not marry a stranger who is not of your father’s tribe, because we are sons of the prophets. My boy, keep in mind Noah, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, our fathers from of old; all of them took wives from among their own kinsmen and were blessed in their children. Remember that their posterity shall inherit the land. Therefore, my son, love your kinsmen. Do not be so proud-hearted toward your kinsmen, the sons and daughters of your people, as to refuse to take a wife for yourself from among them. For in such arrogance there is ruin and great disorder. Likewise, in worthlessness there is decay and dire poverty, for worthlessness is the mother of famine. (4: 12-13).

ALL: Praise be to the Lord, our God.

CEL: Good Lord, we praise your providence through your forefathers. Make Us grow respecting our elders. Let your providence guide us as you had guided our forefathers. May the Lord who has been faithful in his covenant, fill the hearts of these young people and their families with His eternal law of love.

ALL: Lord, we are your people and you are our God. Please hear our prayers.

KARUZUTHA

SER: Let us all stand with devotion and attentiveness and pray to God to have mercy on us.

ALL: Lord, have mercy on us.

SER: Bless these young people (---- and -----) who have come to make the promise and others who are present here to witness this happy event.

SER: We pray that the providence of God be with these young people always to fulfill the promise that they make here today.

SER: We pray that the two families that establish a relationship today grow in love and unity.

SER: We pray that you bless those who are present here to pray for these young people.

SER: Jesus, bless abundantly our Holy Father Mar Benedict; the head and Father of our Church Major Archbishop Mar Varkey; Our Bishop Mar Jacob, Archbishop Mar Mathew, Bishops Mar Joseph and all other bishops, who lead us in the path of prayer; we pray:

CEL: All powerful God who strengthens the weak, bless these people with the mind, willingness and favorable circumstances to fulfill the wedding promises that they make today. May they be able to prepare well for the sacrament of wedding that will unite them according to

your providence. Bless us to grow in mutual love and unity, and to live a life proper to your followers.

ALL: Amen

MARRIAGE PROMISE

CEL: *(To the bridegroom) (Name) do you promise to accept (Name) as your wife according to the law of Christ and according to the custom of the holy Church?*

Bridegroom: Yes, I promise.

CEL: *(To the bridegroom) (Name) do you promise to accept (Name) as your wife according to the law of Christ and according to the custom of the holy Church?*

Bride: Yes, I promise.

BLESSING OF RING (IF ANY)

CEL: O Lord, Our God, bless + this ring, which this couple exchange as a symbol of their mutual promise for a married life in love and fidelity. In the name of the Father and of the Son (+), and of the Holy Spirit.

CON: Amen.

(Exchange of ring)

CEL: God who is faithful in his promise, your parents and who are present here are witnesses to this wedding promise. May God bless + you to fulfill the promise you have made.

ALL: Amen.

CEL: *(To the uncles) As a symbol of this marriage promise, hold your right hands mutually.*

(While they do so, the celebrant blesses them).

CEL: God who makes contract with his people, who keeps his covenant, and who helps to keep it, please confirm the promise that your servants have made here. Bless ... *(names of bridegroom and bride)*, their families, and relatives to keep up the promise that they made in your presence. May your love and providence be with them and who are present here. In the name of the Father (+) and of the Son *(the celebrant blesses the couple and sprinkles holy water over them)* and of the Holy Spirit forever.

ALL: Amen.