



# *Blessing for a Wedding Anniversary*

## **Symbol**

Wedding rings

## **Gathering Prayer**

God of Time and Memories, we come together today to celebrate the strength and love of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ who have been together for \_\_\_ years. Thank you for letting them walk with us. May our prayer today strengthen them in their commitment and fidelity. Blessed be the feast of married life.

## **Two Candles**

For all who have been faithful to marriage and life.

*Light one candle. Be silent.*

For all who will marry in the future.

*Light second candle. Be silent.*

For \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ who today celebrate their anniversary.

*Pause.*

## **Reading**

Saint Catherine of Siena writes: [God says “I] ask you to love me with the same love with which I love you. But for me you cannot do this, for I loved you without being loved. This is why I have put you among your neighbors: so that you can do for them what you cannot do for me: that is love them without any concern for thanks and without looking for any profit for yourself. And whatever you do for them I will consider done for me.[”]

## **Questions for Reflection**

What do you value most about marriage?

What do you enjoy most about the married couple celebrating today?

## **Responsorial**

In all our relationships...

*Strengthen us, O God.*

In the hands we hold in our families...

*Strengthen us, O God.*

In giving thanks for the lighthearted times of laughter, affection, success and happiness...

*Strengthen us, O God.*

In accepting the dark times of misunderstanding, sorrow, injuries and struggles...

*Strengthen us, O God.*

## **Sending Prayer**

Fill us with the strength of this marriage, O God of Holy Love, and let us never be afraid to laugh, cry and trust one another with our deepest feelings and fears. Like these rings, continue to encircle us with your love. Amen.

*Extend hands in blessing and say:*

Bless this marriage. Bless these lives. Bless these hearts.

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