



Marriage of

H.R.H. THE PRINCESS ELIZABETH

with

Lieutenant PHILIP MOUNTBATTEN
ROYAL NAVY

in Westminster Abbey

on

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20th, 1947

at

11.30 a.m.

THE
FORM OF SOLEMNIZATION
OF
MATRIMONY

MARRIAGE
of
H.R.H. THE PRINCESS ELIZABETH
with
Lieutenant PHILIP MOUNTBATTEN
in
WESTMINSTER ABBEY
On November 20th, 1947
AT 11.30 A.M.

The following Music will be played on the Organ :—

1. SONATA IN G MAJOR (1st Movement) *Elgar*
2. ANDANTE CANTABILE *Widor*
3. FUGUE ALLA GIGA *Bach*
4. JESU, JOY OF MAN'S DESIRING *Bach*
5. SELECTIONS FROM THE WATER MUSIC *Handel*
6. BRIDAL MARCH AND FINALE *Parry*



THE PROCESSION OF THE BRIDE.

On the arrival of the Bride a Fanfare shall be sounded and the hymn following shall be sung

PRAISE, my soul, the King of Heaven,
To His feet thy tribute bring ;
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
Who like me His praise should sing ?
Praise Him ! Praise Him ! Praise Him ! Praise Him !
Praise the everlasting King.

Praise Him for His grace and favour
To our fathers in distress ;
Praise Him, still the same for ever,
Slow to chide, and swift to bless.
Praise Him ! Praise Him ! Praise Him ! Praise Him !
Glorious in His faithfulness.

Father-like, He tends and spares us ;
Well our feeble frame He knows ;
In His hands He gently bears us,
Rescues us from all our foes.
Praise Him ! Praise Him ! Praise Him ! Praise Him !
Widely as his mercy flows.

Angels, help us to adore Him ;
Ye behold Him face to face ;
Sun and Moon, bow down before Him ;
Dwellers all in time and space,
Praise Him ! Praise Him ! Praise Him ! Praise Him !
Praise with us the God of grace.

THE FORM OF

SOLEMNIZATION OF MATRIMONY

¶ *At the day and time appointed for solemnization of Matrimony, the persons to be married shall come into the body of the Church with their friends and neighbours: and there standing together, the Man on the right hand and the Woman on the left, THE DEAN shall say*

DEARLY beloved, we are gathered together here in the sight of God, and in the face of this congregation, to join together this Man and this Woman in holy Matrimony; which is an honourable estate, instituted of God himself, signifying unto us the mystical union that is betwixt Christ and his Church; which holy estate Christ adorned and beautified with his presence, and first miracle that he wrought, in Cana of Galilee; and is commended in Holy Writ to be honourable among all men; and therefore is not by any to be enterprised, nor taken in hand, unadvisedly, lightly, or wantonly; but reverently, discreetly, soberly, and in the fear of God, duly considering the causes for which Matrimony was ordained.

First, It was ordained for the increase of mankind according to the will of God and that children might be brought up in the fear and nurture of the Lord, and to the praise of his holy Name.

Secondly, It was ordained in order that the natural affections implanted by God should be hallowed and controlled; that those who are called of God to this holy estate should live chastely in matrimony, and thus in holiness and pureness of living mankind should dwell together in families.

Thirdly, It was ordained for the mutual society, help, and comfort, that the one ought to have of the other, both in prosperity and adversity.

Into which holy estate these two persons present come now to be joined. Therefore if any man can shew any just cause, why they may not lawfully be joined together let him now speak, or else hereafter for ever hold his peace.

¶ *Then speaking unto the persons that shall be married, THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY shall say*

I REQUIRE and charge you both, as ye will answer at the dreadful day of judgment when the secrets of all hearts shall be disclosed, that if either of you know any impediment, why ye may not be lawfully joined together in Matrimony, ye do now confess it. For be ye well assured, that so many as are coupled together otherwise than God's word doth allow are not joined together by God ; neither is their Matrimony lawful.

¶ *If no impediment be alleged, then shall the Archbishop say unto the Man*
PHILIP, wilt thou have this Woman to thy wedded wife, to live together after God's ordinance in the holy estate of Matrimony ? Wilt thou love her, comfort her, honour, and keep her in sickness and in health ; and, forsaking all other, keep thee only unto her, so long as ye both shall live ?

¶ *The Man shall answer*
I will.

¶ *Then shall the Archbishop say unto the Woman*

ELIZABETH ALEXANDRA MARY, wilt thou have this Man to thy wedded husband, to live together after God's ordinance in the holy estate of Matrimony ? Wilt thou obey him, and serve him, love, honour, and keep him in sickness and in health ; and, forsaking all other, keep thee only unto him, so long as ye both shall live ?

¶ *The Woman shall answer*
I will.

¶ *Then shall the Archbishop say*

Who giveth this Woman to be married to this Man ?

¶ *Then shall they give their troth to each other in this manner*

The Archbishop, receiving the Woman at her father's hands, shall cause the Man with his right hand to take the Woman by her right hand, and to say after him as followeth

I PHILIP take thee ELIZABETH ALEXANDRA MARY to my wedded wife, 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, till death us do part, according to God's holy ordinance; and thereto I plight thee my troth.

¶ *Then shall they loose their hands; and the Woman with her right hand taking the Man by his right hand, shall likewise say after the Archbishop*

I ELIZABETH ALEXANDRA MARY take thee PHILIP to my wedded 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, cherish, and to obey, till death us do part, according to God's holy ordinance; and thereto I give thee my troth.

¶ *Then shall they again loose their hands; and the Man shall give unto the Woman a Ring, laying the same upon the book. And the Archbishop, taking the Ring, shall deliver it unto the Man to put it upon the fourth finger of the Woman's left hand. And the Man holding the Ring there, and taught by the Archbishop, shalt say*

WITH this Ring I thee wed, with my body I thee worship, and with all my worldly goods I thee endow: In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

¶ *Then the Man leaving the Ring upon the fourth finger of the Woman's left hand, they shall both kneel down ; THE CONGREGATION SHALL REMAIN STANDING, and the Archbishop shall say*

Let us pray.

O ETERNAL God, Creator and Preserver of all mankind, Giver of all spiritual grace, the Author of everlasting life ; Send thy blessing upon these thy servants, this man and this woman, whom we bless in thy Name ; that these persons may surely perform and keep the vow and covenant betwixt them made (whereof this Ring given and received is a token and pledge), and may ever remain in perfect love and peace together, and live according to thy laws ; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

¶ *Then shall the Archbishop join their right hands together, and say*

Those whom God hath joined together let no man put asunder.

Then shall the Archbishop speak unto the people

FORASMUCH as PHILIP and ELIZABETH ALEXANDRA MARY have consented together in holy wedlock, and have witnessed the same before God and this company, and thereto have given and pledged their troth either to other, and have declared the same by giving and receiving of a Ring, and by joining of hands ; I pronounce that they be Man and Wife together, In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. *Amen.*

¶ *And the Archbishop shall add this Blessing*

GOD the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Ghost, bless, preserve, and keep you ; the Lord mercifully with his favour look upon you ; and so fill you with all spiritual benediction and grace, that ye may so live together in this life, that in the world to come ye may have life everlasting. *Amen.*

¶ *Then shall the Archbishop, followed by the Man and the Woman, go to the Lord's Table ; this Psalm being sung*

Psalm lxxvii *E. C. Bairstow*

GOD be merciful unto us, and bless us : and shew us the light of his countenance, and be merciful unto us.

That thy way may be known upon earth : thy saving health among all nations.

Let the people praise thee, O God : yea, let all the people praise thee.

O let the nations rejoice and be glad : for thou shalt judge the folk righteously, and govern the nations upon earth.

Let the people praise thee, O God : yea, let all the people praise thee.

Then shall the earth bring forth her increase : and God, even our own God, shall give us his blessing.

God shall bless us : and all the ends of the world shall fear him.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son : and to the Holy Ghost ;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be : world without end. Amen.

¶ *The Psalm ended, the people shall kneel, and the Man and the Woman kneeling before the Lord's Table, THE PRECENTOR standing at the Table, and turning his face towards them shall say*

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Answer. Christ have mercy upon us.

Precentor. Lord, have mercy upon us.

OUR Father, which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, in earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation ; But deliver us from evil. Amen.

Precentor. O Lord, save thy servant, and thy handmaid ;

Answer. Who put their trust in thee.

Precentor. O Lord, send them help from thy holy place ;

Answer. And evermore defend them.

Precentor. Be unto them a tower of strength,

Answer. From the face of their enemy.

Precentor. O Lord, hear our prayer.

Answer. And let our cry come unto thee.

O GOD of Abraham, God of Isaac, God of Jacob, bless these thy servants, and sow the seed of eternal life in their hearts ; that whatsoever in thy holy Word they shall profitably learn, they may in deed fulfil the same. Look, O Lord, mercifully upon them from heaven, and bless them. That they obeying thy will, and alway being in safety under thy protection, may abide in thy love unto their lives' end ; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

¶ *Then shall THE DEAN say*

O MERCIFUL Lord and heavenly Father, by whose gracious gift mankind is increased ; bestow, we beseech thee, upon these two persons the heritage and gift of children ; and grant that they may live together so long in godly love and honesty, that they may see their children christianly and virtuously brought up, to thy praise and honour ; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

O GOD, who by thy mighty power hast made all things of nothing; who also (after other things set in order) didst appoint, that out of man (created after thine own image and similitude) woman should take her beginning; and, knitting them together, didst teach that it should never be lawful to put asunder those whom thou by Matrimony hadst made one: O God, who has consecrated the state of Matrimony to such an excellent mystery, that in it is signified and represented the spiritual marriage and unity betwixt Christ and his Church; Look mercifully upon these thy servants, that both this man may love his wife, according to thy Word (as Christ did love his spouse the Church, who gave himself for it, loving and cherishing it even as his own flesh), and also that this woman may be loving and amiable, faithful and obedient to her husband; and in all quietness, sobriety, and peace, be a follower of holy and godly matrons. O Lord, bless them both, and grant them to inherit thy everlasting kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

ALMIGHTY God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Pour upon you the riches of his grace, sanctify and bless you, that ye may please him both in body and soul, and live together in holy love unto your lives' end. *Amen.*

¶ *Then shall be sung the following*

Motet *William McKie*

WE wait for thy loving kindness, O God: in the midst of thy Temple,

O God, according to thy Name, so is thy praise unto the world's end; thy right hand is full of righteousness.

Alleluya. Alleluya.

We wait for thy loving kindness, O God; in the midst of thy Temple,

O Lord, send us now prosperity. *Amen.*

ADDRESS BY THE ARCHBISHOP OF YORK.

¶ *Then shall be sung the following Hymn*

THE Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want,
He makes me down to lie
In pastures green : He leadeth me
The quiet waters by.

My soul He doth restore again ;
And me to walk doth make
Within the paths of righteousness,
Ev'n for His own name's sake.

Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale,
Yet will I fear none ill ;
For thou art with me ; and thy rod
And staff me comfort still.

My table thou hast furnished
In presence of my foes ;
My head thou dost with oil anoint,
And my cup overflows.

Goodness and mercy all my life
Shall surely follow me.
And in God's house for evermore
My dwelling-place shall be.

¶ *Then shall THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY dismiss those that are gathered together saying*

Let us pray.

O ALMIGHTY Lord and everlasting God, vouchsafe we beseech thee, to direct, sanctify and govern, both our hearts and bodies, in the ways of thy laws, and in the works of thy commandments; that through thy most mighty protection, both here and ever, we may be preserved in body and soul; through our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

THE Blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you and remain with you always.

AMEN

Orlando Gibbons

¶ *A Fanfare shall be sounded and there shall be sung*

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM.

GOD save our gracious King,
Long live our noble King,
God save the King :
Send him victorious,
Happy and glorious,
Long to reign over us :
God save the King.

¶ *During the signing of the Register the following will be sung*

ANTHEM

Samuel Sebastian Wesley

BLESSED be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
Which, according to His abundant mercy, hath begotten us
again unto a lively hope, by the Resurrection of Jesus Christ
from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled
that fadeth not away, reserved in Heaven for you, who are
kept by the power of God, through faith unto salvation, ready
to be revealed in the last time.

But as He Which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all
manner of conversation.

Pass the time of your sojourning here in fear.

See that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently.

Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible,
by the word of God.

For all flesh is as grass, and the glory of man as the flower of
grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth
away ;

But the word of the Lord endureth for evermore. *Amen.*

¶ *After the signing of the Register a Fanfare shall be sounded and there shall be played The Wedding March by Mendelssohn.*

The Processions of the Bride and Bridegroom, the Clergy,
The King and Queen, and the Royal Family.

Members of the Congregation are requested to remain in their places until directed by the Ushers to leave the Abbey.