The dignity of the Marriage covenant

V. The Lord be with you.  
R. And with your spirit.

V. Lift up your hearts.  
R. We lift them up to the Lord.

V. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
R. It is right and just.

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks, Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God. For you have forged the covenant of marriage as a sweet yoke of harmony and an unbreakable bond of peace, so that the chaste and fruitful love of holy Matrimony may serve to increase the children you adopted as your own. By your providence and grace, O Lord, you accomplish the wonder of this two-fold design: that, while the birth of children brings beauty to the world,
their rebirth in Baptism gives increase to the Church, through Christ our Lord. Through him, with the Angels and all the Saints, we sing the hymn of your praise, as without end we ac-claim: