

Warranted for use within Ordine Scatere Stellae covens

A Pagan Wedding Rite before the Goddess and the Gods

The Place for the Wedding, which may be either indoors or outdoors, should be prepared and decorated according to the wishes of those who are to be wedded. There should be a broad open space place before or around which the witnesses to the wedding may be gathered. At the centre of the Place, there should be a Table or Altar on which are placed symbols of the Elements of Nature, including Incense and a suitable Wand or Rod in the East for the Element of Air; a bowl or Chalice of water in the South for Water; one or more Candles in the North for the Element of Fire; one or more Stones in the West for the Element of Earth; a crystal or some representation of the Goddess or one of the Gods at the Centre, or some other symbol to represent the element of Spirit from which all the other Elements flow.

After the place of the Wedding is prepared and any speeches of welcome from family elders or friends have been made, two Supporters, preferably the mothers or friends of the wedding couple, shall come forward and stand on the North and South side of the Table, facing West.

The Celebrant shall walk around the Altar several times, while saying:

May the Place for this Rite be consecrated before the Goddess and the Gods, for we gather here in a Ritual of Love, with two who would be wedded.

Standing East of the Table facing West, the Celebrant shall say:

Name and Name

Come forward and stand before us and the Goddess and the Gods.

The two to be wedded shall come forward and stand side by side on the West side of the Table, facing the Celebrant.

The Celebrant shall hold up or point to each of the Elements on the table in turn, saying:

Be with us here, O beings of the air,
with clever fingers

[Air]

Be with us here, O beings of Water,
Pour out upon them the steadfastness of love,
and richness of body and of soul and spirit.

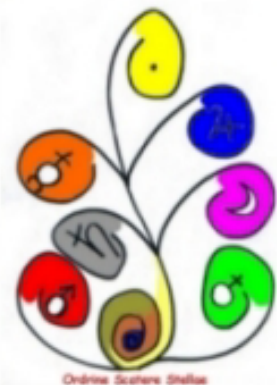
[Water]

Be with us here, O beings of Fire,
Fire them with love and passion
And your all-consuming ardours.

[Fire]

Be with us here, O beings of Earth,
Let your strength and constancy be theirs,
For as long as they desire to remain together.

[Earth]



A Pagan Wedding Rite

Blessèd Goddess and Joyful Gods, *[Spirit]*
Give to these before us, we now ask,
Your protection and your love.

Blessèd be the Goddess and the Gods.

All the witnesses shall respond:

Blessèd be the Goddess and the Gods.

THE INVOCATION OF THE GODDESS AND THE GODS

Those who honour any particular pantheon of Gods may use such Godnames as they choose here; or all or parts of this section can be omitted. These here are the Gods of the Magi

Facing to the South:

Blessèd be the Goddess of the Male and Female Flows,
Anahita, Aphrodite, Lady Moon, Fertile Mother of all Life!

Facing to the North:

Blessèd be Lord Mithras, Companion of the Sun, Lord of Mars, who brings
strength to all who honour him!

Facing to the East:

Blessèd be Ahura Mazda, Most High God of Light!

Facing to the West where the couple is:

Blessèd be this Goddess [name of Bride]
and this God [name of Groom].

THE WEDDING OF THE BRIDE AND GROOM

After a pause of five heart beats, the Celebrant shall say:

To the Bride:

Is it your wish to become one with this man?

She answers:

To the Groom:

Is it your wish to become one with this woman?

He answers:

[If it is a legal wedding, to all present]:

If anyone here knows any just reason or impediment why these two should
not be married according to the law of this land, let them now make it
known; or else forever hereafter hold their peace.]

If no impediment be claimed, the Celebrant shall say to the couple:

I charge you both, as you stand before this altar of the Goddess and the
Gods, if either of you know any reason why the two of you may not be joined
in Holy Union

[and wedded by the law of this land; *if it is a legal wedding*]
you do now confess it.

A Pagan Wedding Rite

If no impediment is confessed, after a space of five heartbeats, the Celebrant shall proceed while garlands are brought by witnesses and hung about the necks and on the heads of the couple.

Blessèd Goddess and Blessèd Gods, strengthen these two who now make solemn vows before your altar, that their vows be not lightly made; and that they might support each other in the keeping of their pledge.

The two principal witnesses shall hold each end of the Wand or Rod on which the Rings shall have been placed, so that the rings are over the Stones on the West side of the Altar. The Celebrant shall say to the Bride and Groom:

Grasp this wand and these rings.

The couple shall together hold the rings, his hand over hers, or hers over his, as they will.

Above you are the Stars, below you the Stones,

As Time does pass, remember this:

Like a Star, your love should constant be;

Like a stone, let your love be firm.

Be close, yet not too close.

Possess one another, yet let your grasp be loose.

Have patience with one another,

For storms will come, but they will quickly go.

Be free in giving your affections and your warmth.

Make love often; be sensuous with one another.

Have no fear,

and let not the words of the unenlightened ever give you pain.

For the Goddess and the Gods are with you on this day and for evermore.

To the Bride:

Will you have this man to be your spouse,

to live together in Communion with each other;

with Compassion for each other;

and in Co-operation with each other?

The Bride answers:

To the Groom:

Will you have this woman to be your spouse,

to live together in Communion with each other;

with Compassion for each other;

and in Co-operation with each other?

The Groom answers:

The Celebrant continues:

Blessèd be the Goddess and the Gods before whose altar you have made these solemn vows

And all the witnesses shall respond:

Blessèd be the Goddess and the Gods;

A Pagan Wedding Rite

Then shall the Bride and Groom each in turn place rings upon the finger of the other, repeating after the Celebrant:

With this Ring I thee wed,	<i>Touching the thumb</i>
With my body I thee worship,	<i>Touching the forefinger</i>
With thee I share my worldly goods.	<i>Touching the middle finger</i>
In the names of the Goddess and the Gods	<i>Placing the ring on the ring finger</i>

Blessèd be the Goddess and the Gods.

And all the Witnesses shall cry:

Blessèd be!

The shall the Bide ands Groom hold each others hands, facing each other.

Forasmuch as [name] and [name] have consented together to be in holy wedlock and have pledge the same each to the other before the Goddess and the Gods and in the presence of Witnesses, and have declared the same by giving and receiving rings; and of joining hands, I declare that they are now husband and wife, in the sight of the Goddess and the Gods, [and according to the law of this land]

Blessèd be the Goddess and the Gods.

The Witnesses shall respond:

Blessèd be the Goddess and the Gods.

Then shall the Bride and Groom exchange kisses and lead principal Witnesses and all the other witnesses in a joyful dancing procession about the Place. During the procession, joyful music may be played; and, if possible, there should be a reading or chanting of the Vigil of Venus, the ancient hymn to the Goddess, and the Company should sing the chorus of the chant after each verse:

Let those now love, who never loved before,
And those who always loved now love the more.

If the preparations for the Wedding Rite included the opening of the Pentagram, it shall be closed when the chant and wedding dance are done.

If a Bridal Feast follow the wedding, the Bride and Groom as Goddess and God of the Feast shall bless the food and drink, and, if possible give one piece of the food or one glass of whatever drink each person enjoys to everyone present.



**This is MEMBERS ONLY ceremony
for persons within the
Ordine Scatere Stellae
having reached 3rd degree status**