

Wedding Party

Officiant

Father Marko Todorovich

Bride

Philia Rentea

Bride's Parents

Doctors
Andrea & Ross
Rentea

Stari Svat

Boris Stefanovich

Maids of Honor

Jodie Whitworth
Rebecca Rentea

Bridesmaids

Sorina Rentea
Matthea Rentea
Wendy Petty
Nina Kelnhofer
Charlotte Claypoole
Natalie Kelnhofer

Ushers

Kevin Krell
Zachary Lupetin

Groom

Nicholas Kelnhofer

Groom's Parents

Sonja & Ken
Kelnhofer

Kum

Peter Radjenovich

Best Men

Jeremy Mlodik
Craig Krause

Groomsmen

Don Breber
Tyler Green
Armen Saryan
John Palmar
John Kreuser
Brandon Manthey

Ring Bearer

Ilija Stefanovich

Ceremony

Introduction

The Exchange of Rings

The Procession

Declaration of Intent & Lighting of the
Candles

Joining of the Hands

The Crowning

The Common Cup

Walk Around the Table

Removal of the Crown

The Greeting of the Couple

Ceremony Concludes

Please take a moment to greet the new
Mr. & Mrs. Kelnhofer in the receiving line as
you leave the church

~Please no pictures during the ceremony~

Serbian Wedding Traditions

The Trinity

Throughout the service, everything is done in threes in remembrance of the Trinity (the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit).

The Exchange of Rings

The rings are first blessed by the priest, who holds them in his right hand and makes the sign of the cross over the couple's heads. The rings are then placed on the right hand, the hand with which promises and/or oaths are traditionally made and the hand which the presence of God is recognized through the sign of the Cross. The rings are then exchanged between the couple three times.

The Procession

After the Exchange of the Rings the priest leads the couple in procession into the middle of the church. As the couple enters into the midst of the Church, their relationship enters into the new reality of God's Kingdom.

The Candles

Symbolizing the perpetual light of Christ, and remind the couple that from now on they must shine in virtue and purity with good deeds.

The Joining of the Right Hands

The right hand of the bride and groom are joined when the priest reads the prayer that beseeches God to "join these servants, unite them in one mind and one flesh." The hands are kept joined throughout the service to symbolize the "oneness" of the couple.

The Crowning

The rite of the crowning is the apex of the wedding service. The crowns are representative of the glory and honor with which God crowns the couple during the sacrament. The bride and Groom are crowned as queen and king of their own little kingdom, which they will rule with wisdom, justice, and integrity.

The Common Cup

The couple will drink wine from a chalice to symbolize that they will be sharing the happiness and sorrows of life together. They do this three times.

The Walk Around the Table

The priest will lead the bride and groom three times around the table on their first steps as a married couple.

The Greeting of the Couple

The couple returns to their places and the priest, blessing the groom, says, "Be thou magnified, O bridegroom, as Abraham, and blessed as Isaac, and increased as Jacob, walking in peace and working in righteousness the commandments of God." And blessing the bride he says, "And thou, O bride, be thou magnified as Sarah, and glad as Rebecca, and do thou increase like unto Rachael, rejoicing in thine own husband, fulfilling the conditions of the law; for so it is well pleasing unto God."

Role of the Kum

The role of the Kum is that of the witness, a spiritual advisor to that helps to protect your marriage. The Kum enters into a family relationship with the couple a role akin to that of a Godparent.

Role of the Stari Svat

The second witness is called "stari svat" in Serbian; traditionally (as in the case with us), he is the groom's maternal uncle. Nowadays, he is jokingly called a "marriage elder" or "old wise man" and is someone the couple can go to as a source of advise and knowledge.

Just in case...

For your happy tears