

4. Renewal of Vows Ceremony

N and N, today we celebrate the love that has brought you together, and the bond that has given you such joy and meaning since your original vows.

Even as Love has called you together, weaving your lives into one, we honour the journeys that have brought you to this point. We recognize the separate paths, memories, traditions, hopes and loves that have brought you through lessons and triumphs to this place of choice. Today, you choose each other again with a sacred and profound intention.

As you have learned, marriage is not intended to be a unity where differences cease to exist. Rather, it is a relationship where you can be fully and honestly yourself, sharing at the deepest level all that life is and all that you are. It is not always an easy road, but it is a place where Love flourishes at its deepest root.

As you renew your vows and your commitment to one another, may you be blessed, strengthened and affirmed in your journey and may the love you share continue to blossom and grow.

Optional Reading or other reading can be included here:

I'd Marry You Again

With tiny tears that glistened,
My eyes were fixed on you;
and thinking of the life we'd share,
we softly said, "I do."

Our hearts were knit together
from the time that we first met;
and memories were gathered
that we never will forget.

While daily living life with you,
you saw the real in me;
and still you chose acceptance,
a loving mystery.

With many happy times gone by,
and other when we cried;
some days we'd share so endlessly,
while other days we'd hide.
With all the ups and downs we've had

in learning to be friends;
I know that in this heart of mine
I'd marry you again.
-- Author unknown

The Declaration

N, will you take *N* to be your wife? Will you continue to stand by her no matter what happens, respecting her as a person, understanding her needs and enjoying her love from this day forth?

***N*: I will.**

N, will you take *N* to be your husband? Will you stand by him no matter what happens, respecting him as a person, understanding his needs and enjoying his love from this day forth?

***N*: I will.**

The Renewal of Vows –

Option 1

(The couple faces each other and repeats after the officiant)

N: In the light of our love and in thanksgiving for all our years together, I, *N*, take you, *N*, to be my wife/husband/lifepartner, to laugh with you in joy, to grieve with you in sorrow, to continue grow with you in love, to cherish you with my whole being, and to be faithful only to you.

I offer you my strength and support; I offer you my friendship. *N*, I offer you my love for as long as we both shall live.

Option 2

N: From this moment, I, *N*, continue to take you *N* as my husband/wife/lifepartner. I promise to love, honour, encourage, and support you through our life together. I promise to continue to stand by you and uplift you in mind and spirit, so that through our union, we can accomplish more than we would alone. This is my vow to you.

Option 3 – Traditional Vows:

With joy and gratitude, I reaffirm that I *N*, take you *N*, to be my husband/wife/lifepartner

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
for the rest of our lives.
This is my solemn vow.

Ring Ceremony

The rings are given to the officiant.

These rings given and received are tokens of the renewal of the covenant made this day between N&N. Just as the circle of the ring has no beginning and no end, so too their love is unending. Just as the metal is pure and strong, so too the bond between them is certain and steadfast. Let these rings say to all that your commitment is deep and life-long.

N: N, this ring is a token of my faithfulness and love, and a symbol that all I have I will always I share with you.

Here a sand ceremony, Unity candle, rose petal ceremony or other element can be included.

The Blessing

As you have recommitted to one another in these sacred vows as partners for life, remember that your bond together is upheld and supported at all times by Love in whom we live and move and have our being.

May you be blessed in your work and in your companionship, in your sleeping and in your waking, in your joy and in your challenges. May you be given all that you need to live out the vows and the promises you have reaffirmed this day and may harmony, serenity and blessing be the hallmark of your life together.

Pronouncement

N and N, you have upheld your love for each other and your hopes for the future. You have renewed your solemn covenant with each other and have symbolized it by joining hands, renewing vows and exchanging rings.

I now pronounce that you have today reaffirmed your life commitment to one another and that you are husband and wife (lifepartners, etc.) .

Go forth in love and friendship and may you be blessed for the rest of the days of your lives. You may seal your vows with a kiss.

©Deborah Vaughan 2019 Used with Permission