

1. A Celebration of Love (Most popular Ceremony)

Today we gather together with N & N to celebrate this transformational moment in their lives as they join hearts and hands in love to become one, together in marriage.

Your separate journeys have brought you to this intersecting place in time, a place of great happiness and fulfillment. You have found your heart's desire in one another. You have discovered that one person within whom you recognize love most completely. It is that beautiful connection that we honour today as you come to be married.

The marriage covenant is a mystical exchange of promise and intention that offers you both continued joy, affirmation, respect and support for the rest of your lives.

The promises you make today, these cherished words that speak of the deep and abiding love that you share, will see you through every storm and celebration to come.

Today *N & N*, by joining hands, exchanging vows and rings and expressing your intention to build a future together, your lives are transformed and now merge into one.

May the love that has called you together grow ever brighter and more brilliant with each sunrise, and may these vows offered today bring you joy and great delight in one another for all the days to come.

(If readings are to be incorporated, they are included here.)

The Declarations

N, will you take N to be your wife/lifepartner? Will you stand by her/him no matter what happens, respecting her/him as a person, understanding her/his needs and enjoying her/his love for the rest of your life?

N: I will.

N, will you take N to be your husband/lifepartner? Will you stand by her/him no matter what happens, respecting her/him as a person, understanding her/his needs and enjoying her/his love for the rest of your life? N: I will.

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

Option 1

N: From this moment, I, N, take you N as my best friend for life. I promise to be your faithful partner and give you my unconditional love. I pledge to honour, encourage and support you

through our walk together. I promise to work at our love and always make you a priority in my life. With every beat of my heart I will love you. This is my solemn vow.

Option 2

N: From this day forward, I, N, take you N as my best friend for life, the one I will live with, dream with, and love forever. I look with joy down the path of our tomorrows, knowing we will walk it together side by side, hand in hand, and heart to heart. Before us lies an open road, filled with adventure and love. I choose to spend today, and all of my tomorrows, with you as my friend, my wife/husband and my love. This is my solemn vow.

Option 3 - Traditional

I, N, take you, N, to be my wife/husband/lifepartner/spouse
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.

Option 4

N: I, N, take you N, to be my wife/husband/lifepartner/spouse
To laugh with you in joy
To grieve with you in sorrow
To grow with you in love,
To be faithful to you alone for as long as we both shall live.
This is my vow to you.

Option 5

N: I, N, take you N, to be no other than yourself- loving what I know of you, trusting what I do not yet know, with respect for your integrity, and faith in your love for me, through all our years, and in all that life may bring us.

I promise to try to be ever open to you, and to do everything in my power to support you in becoming the person you are yet to be. I promise to love you, to respect you, to laugh with you and to soothe your tears.

I promise to share my life openly and honestly with you; to bring to you the best in me, and to dedicate my time and my energy to you, and to the unfolding of who we are becoming.

I promise to place our relationship at the heart of my life, and not to let the flurry of the everyday eclipse our sacred commitment to one another. This is my solemn vow.

Option 6 – Your own vows

Ring Ceremony

(The rings are given to the Officiant. The couple joins left hands and repeat after the Officiant)

These rings given and received are tokens 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 share with you.

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

(If additional elements are to be included, they usually are included here.)

The Blessing

As you are joined together 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.

Option 1

May your love together be a true expression of healing and grace. May you always know joy and delight in each other and a deepening of your connection that grows more beautiful every day. May you know with every sunrise and sunset the richness of the love you are called to share.

May you be blessed in your work and in your companionship, in your sleeping and in your waking, in the good times and in the challenges and may harmony, serenity and blessing be the hallmark of your life together.

Option 2

Now you will feel no rain for each of you will be shelter for the other. Now you will feel no cold for each of you will be warmth for the other. Now there is no loneliness for you, because though you are two persons there is only one life before you. As you now enter your life as married partners, may your days together be happy and long.

Pronouncement

N & N, you have declared your love for each other and your hopes for the future. You have made a solemn covenant with each other and have symbolized it by joining hands, by declaring your vows, and by exchanging rings. I now pronounce that you are now husband and wife/lifepartners. *Or, in the case of same-sex couples:* I now pronounce that you are wives/husbands to one another and married partners for life.

May your love continue to unite you so that you may be faithful to the vows that you have made this day, and may you live together in joy and peace till your lives end.

You may kiss the bride./You may seal your vows with a kiss.

Signing of the Register

Announce the Couple

Recessional

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2. A Celebration of Love - Christian/Catholic Religious Ceremony

Today we come together with N and N to celebrate this transformational moment in their lives as they express their intention to join hearts and hands to become one in the holy sacrament of marriage.

You have each walked a sacred path and by the grace of God you have been brought you to this intersecting place in time, a place of great happiness and fulfillment.

You have found your heart's desire in one another. You have discovered that one person within whom you recognize love most completely. It is that beautiful connection that we honor today as you come to be married.

As we gather in the loving presence of the Holy Spirit we give thanks for the gift that is love in all its fullness. Together, as one family in Christ, we begin this celebration.

May the grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: And also with you.

Let us pray:

Gracious God, you have made the bond of marriage a holy mystery, a symbol of Christ's love. Hear our prayer for **N and N**. With faith in you, and each other, they pledge their love today. May their lives always bear witness to the reality of that love. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever. **Amen.**

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Corinthians

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil, but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

The Marriage Covenant

N and N, through the Holy Spirit, Christ is present among us and abundantly blesses your love. As you take hands and offer to one another the vows of the marriage covenant, your lives will be profoundly linked in a new way

The promises you make within this covenant need constant, daily nurturing and attention. By joining hands, exchanging vows and rings and expressing your intention to build a future together, your lives are transformed and now merge into one.

The Declarations

N will you take N to be your husband/wife? Will you stand by him/her no matter what happens, respecting him/her as a person, understanding his/her needs and enjoying his/her love until death parts you?

N: I will.

N will you take N to be your husband/wife? Will you stand by him/her no matter what happens, respecting him/her as a person, understanding his/her needs and enjoying his/her love until death parts you?

N: I will.

N and N Since it is your intention to enter into marriage, join your right hands, and declare your consent before God. *(Please look at each other and repeat after me):*

The Vows –

(The couple faces each other and repeats)

Option 1

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

Option 2

N: From this day forward, I, N, take you N as my best friend for life, the one I will live with, dream with, and love forever. I look with joy down the path of our tomorrows, knowing we will walk it together side by side, hand in hand, and heart to heart. Before us lies an open road, filled with adventure and love. I choose to spend today, and all of my tomorrows, with you as my friend and my love. This is my solemn vow.

Option 3 - Traditional Vows:

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, according to God's Holy Law.
This is my solemn vow.

Option 4 - Your own vows

Ring Ceremony

(The rings are given to the Officiant. The couple joins left hands and repeat after the Officiant)

These rings given and received are tokens of the covenant made this day between N and 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.

Loving God, bless + these rings given and received that they would be a sign and symbol to all of the deep love that shines forth from within.

N: N, this ring is a token of my faithfulness and love, and a symbol that all I have I share with you in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

N: N, this ring is a token of my faithfulness and love, and a symbol that all I have I share with you in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

N and N in love, you have pledged to make your connection flourish, emotionally and spiritually. May that love be a blessing to you both and an inspiration to all those you meet throughout your lives.

The Blessing

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

May your love together be a true expression of healing and grace in this broken world. May you always know joy and delight in each other and a deepening of your connection that grows more beautiful every day. May you know with every sunrise and sunset the richness of the love you are called to share.

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 with joy the vows and the promises made this day and may harmony, serenity and blessing be the hallmark of your life together.

Pronouncement

N and **N**, you have chosen each other in love and freedom. You have declared your promises before God and those here gathered and you have offered sacred vows to one another. I now pronounce that you are now husband and wife/ lifepartners.

What God has joined together, human beings must not divide.

You may kiss each other.

Signing of the Register

Announce the Couple

Recessional

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3. Celebration of Love- Commitment Ceremony

Today we gather together with N & N to witness this transformational moment in their lives as they join hearts and hands to become one in love forever.

You have found your heart's desire in one another. You have discovered that one person within whom you recognize love most completely. It is that beautiful connection that we honor today.

Love is perhaps the most profound experience we know on this earth and the union of two souls is cause to celebrate. Today, N & N, we stand as witnesses to the promises you will offer to one another, as you express your intention to stand by each other and to build a future together.

May the love that has called you together grow ever brighter and brilliant with each sunrise, and may your promises offered today bring you joy and great delight in one another for all the days to come.

Here a reading or two may be offered

The Declarations

The minister asks:

N, will you take N to be your lifepartner? Will you stand by him/her no matter what happens, respecting him/her as a person, understanding his/her needs and enjoying his/her love for the rest of your life?

N: I will.

N, will you take N to be your lifepartner? Will you stand by him/her no matter what happens, respecting him/her as a person, understanding his/her needs and enjoying his/her love for the rest of your life?

N: I will.

The Promises

The couple turns and faces each other. They join hands and take turns saying:

Promise Option 1

N: From this moment, I, N, take you N as my best friend and partner for life. I promise to laugh with you in joy, support you in the challenges and grow with you in love. I promise to be faithful to you alone and give you my unconditional love. With every beat of my heart I love you. This is my promise to you.

or

Promise Option 2

I, N, take you, N, as my partner for life.

I pledge to share my life openly with you,
to speak the truth to you in love.

I promise to honor and tenderly care for you,
to cherish and encourage your own fulfillment as an individual
for the rest of my life. This is my promise to you.

or the couple can write their own promises.

Exchange of Rings (if applicable)

The minister says:

These rings given and received are tokens of the covenant made this day between N&N this day.
Let these rings say to all that your commitment is deep and life-long.

Each person repeats after the minister:

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

The Final Blessing

The minister says:

N&N, your love has united you this day. May it continue to strengthen you and lead you
forward on a journey of blessing and happy adventures. May you continue to dream together, to
hope together, and always to follow your hearts.

May your lives together be joyful and content. May your love be bright as the stars and serve as a
beacon for all. May your love be as warm as the sun, as wild as the oceans, and enduring as the
mountains.

Conclusion

N&N, you have declared your love for each other and your hopes for the future. You have
expressed your intention to live in a loving, committed relationship and have exchanged
intentions and rings as tokens of your promises.

It is my pleasure to pronounce that you are united by Love as partners for life. You may seal
your promises with a kiss.

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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.

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