

A Celebration of Christian/Catholic Love - Religious Ceremony

By Mary Hughes, Bayfield Weddings and Elope Guelph

Welcome to everyone

Today we gather together to celebrate the union of N and N in honor of this 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 blessed path and by the grace of God you have been brought you to this interconnecting place in time, a place of great joy and happiness.

You have found your heart's desire in one another.

You have found that one person within whom you understand and love most completely.

It is that magical connection that we honor today as you two come to be married.

As we gather in the loving presence of the Lord we give thanks for the love that is shared in all its fullness.

Together, as one family in God's presence, we commence this celebration.

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

Let us pray: Gracious God, you have made the bond of marriage a holy mystery, in the light of Christ's love.

Hear our prayers for N and N.

With faith in you, and as they commit their love to each other today. May their lives always honor and be faithful 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 your vows need constant, nurturing and attention everyday.

By joining hands, exchanging vows and rings and saying 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 for the rest of your life?

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 for the rest of your life?

N: I will.

The Vows

N and N Since it is your intention to become married, join your right hands, and declare your vows before God. (Please look at each other and repeat after officiant)

Option 1

N: From this day forward, I, N, take you N as my best friend for life.

I promise to be your loyal partner and give you my unconditional love.

I pledge in front of God to respect, encourage and support you through our journey together.

I promise to work tirelessly 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 promise to you

Option 2

N: From this day forward, I, N, take you N as my companion for life, the one I will cherish, dream with, and love forever.

I look forward to all of our tomorrows, knowing we will be together, side by side, hand in hand, and our hearts joined. Before us lies a future together, 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 promise to you.

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 – Your own vows

Ring Ceremony

(The rings are held up by the couple for everyone to see.
The couple joins left hands and repeat after the Officiant)

These rings given and received are symbols of the promise made this day between N and N.

Just as the circle of the ring has no beginning and no end, it represents their unending love. Just as the ring is pure and strong, so too the bond between them is sure and dedicated.

Let these rings say to all that your promises today are profound and everlasting.
Loving God, bless these rings given and received that they are a symbol to all of the deep love that shines forth from within.

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

N: N, this ring is a token of my true love, and a symbol that I share with you today and forever 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 joining of hearts and lives grow and soar to new heights. May your love be a blessing to you both and an example to all those you meet throughout your lives.

The Blessing

(Please join hands)

As you are joined together in these holy vows as spouses for life, remember that your bond together is supported at all times by God in whom we live and breath.

May your life together be filled with happiness and an everlasting dedication and respect for each other.

Pray your connection that brought you together grows more brilliant every day. We ask with every sunrise and sunset the richness of the love you are called to share. We ask you both be blessed in your in all that you do in your joy and in your challenges.

May you be given all that you need to live out your lives with joy and with the vows and the promises made this day. May the abundance of love, tranquillity and blessing be the hallmark of your life together.

Pronouncement

N and N, you have chosen each other in love and liberty.

You have declared your promises before God and those gathered here today and you have offered blessed vows to one another.

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

I now pronounce that you are now husband and wife/ lifepartners..

You may seal your vows with a kiss!

Signing of the Register

Announce the Couple Recessional