

Love is a miraculous gift, and a wedding is a celebration of that gift. We have come here today to celebrate this gift of love, and to add our best wishes and blessings to the words that shall unite (\_\_\_\_\_) and (\_\_\_\_\_) in the bonds of marriage. What you promise to each other today must be renewed again tomorrow and every day that follows. At the end of this ceremony, legally you will be husband and wife. Still, you must decide each and every day to commit yourselves to one another. Make such a decision, and keep on making it, for the most important thing in life is to love and to be loved.

## CONSENT

(\_\_\_\_\_) and (\_\_\_\_\_), do you come here of your own free will, accompanied by your family's blessings, to be united as husband and wife forevermore?

Who presents (\_\_\_\_\_) to be married to (\_\_\_\_\_)?

## ADDRESS AND READINGS

Today you are taking into your care and trust the happiness of the one person in this world whom you love with all your heart. And you are giving yourself, your life, and your love, into the hands of the one who loves you with all their heart. Always remember this, to the whole world, you are but one person, but to one person, you are the whole world.

However, true love goes far beyond the feelings of excitement and romance. It is caring more about the well-being and happiness of your marriage partner than your own needs and your own desires. And true love does not consist of gazing at each other, but in looking outward together in the same direction. You see, love makes burdens lighter because you divide them. Love makes joys more intense because you share them. Love makes you stronger so you can become involved with life in ways you dare not risk alone. True love says the two of you are just better together than when you were apart.

When you enter into marriage, you enter into life's most important relationship. It is a gift given to bring comfort when there is sorrow, peace when there is unrest, laughter when there is happiness, and love when it is shared. But a successful marriage is not something that just happens. It takes work, it takes understanding, and it takes time. Most importantly, it takes a commitment from both of you – a commitment to do whatever it takes to make your relationship thrive and not just simply survive. A good marriage must be nurtured.

## WEDDING VOWS

*(The Officiant shall say):* (g\_\_\_\_\_ ), please repeat after me.

**I, (g\_\_\_\_\_), take you, (b\_\_\_\_\_), / to be my partner in life. / I promise to walk by your side forever, / and to love, help, and encourage you / in all that you do. / I will take time to talk with you, to listen to you, / and to care for you. / I will share your laughter and your tears / as your partner, lover, and best friend. / Everything I am and everything I have is yours / now and forevermore. (Wedding Vow #2a)**

*(The Officiant shall say):* (b\_\_\_\_\_), please repeat after me.

**I, (b\_\_\_\_\_), give myself to you (g\_\_\_\_\_), / on this our wedding day. / I will cherish our friendship, / and love you today, tomorrow, and forever. / I will trust you and honor you. / I will love you faithfully / through the best and the worst, / through the difficult and the easy. / Whatever comes our way, I will be there always. / As I have given you my hand to hold, / so I give you my life to keep. (Wedding Vow #2b)**

## EXPLANATION OF THE RINGS

The wedding ring is a circle that has no end, and symbolizes the never-ending love that exists between you. The ring is made from precious metal purified by the heat of testing, and is a symbol of the purity of your love for one another. The ring also is made of rare gems that radiate a brilliance and a quality unlike other ordinary stones, and represents the riches that reside in each of you. May these rings always reflect the light of your love throughout your life together.

## RING EXCHANGE VOWS

*(The Officiant shall say):* May I have the token of (g\_\_\_\_\_)'s love for b\_\_\_\_\_)?

*(Officiant receives ring from Best Man. Groom places ring on Bride's finger.)*

*(The Officiant shall then say):* (g\_\_\_\_\_), please repeat after me.

**I give you this ring. / Wear it with love and joy. / As this ring has no end, / neither shall my love for you. / I choose you to be my wife / this day and forevermore**

*(The Officiant shall say):* May I have the token of (b\_\_\_\_\_)'s love for (g\_\_\_\_\_)?

*(Officiant receives ring from Maid of Honor. Bride places ring on Groom's finger.)*

*(The Officiant shall then say):* (b \_\_\_\_\_), please repeat after me.

**This ring I give you / in toke of my love and devotion, / and with my heart, / I pledge to you all that I am. / With this ring, I marry you / and join my life to yours.**

## PRONOUNCEMENT

(G\_\_\_\_\_) and (B\_\_\_\_\_), because you have committed yourselves to each other in marriage, and demonstrated this by the exchanging of vows and the giving of rings, I pronounce you husband and wife.

## KISS

*(The Officiant shall say):* (g\_\_\_\_\_), you may kiss your Bride.

*(Bride and Groom kiss.)*

*(Bride receives bouquet from Maid of Honor.)*

## PRESENTATION

*(The Officiant shall say):* Ladies and Gentlemen, it is my privilege to introduce to you for the very first time, Mr. and Mrs. \_\_\_\_\_.