

Who has the honour of presenting this woman to be married to this man?

Introduction:

We come together, not to mark the start of a relationship, but to recognize a truly special bond that already exists. This marriage is but one expression of the many, many ways that GROOM and BRIDE love one another.

It is one of life's richest surprises when the meeting of two people lead them to proceed together along a common path as husband and wife. It is one of life's finest experiences when a casual relationship grows into a permanent bond of love. This meeting and this growth bring us together today.

You are mature people who have established individual patterns of living. Yet you have found not only a need for companionship, but the satisfaction of that need in each other's company. It is this love, based upon a responsible understanding, that will aid you in creating out of your two lives, a marriage and a happiness you will share together

We remind you that you are performing an act of complete faith, each in the other; that the heart of your marriage will be the relationship you have created. In a world where faith often falls short of expectation, it is a tribute to these two who now join hands and hearts in perfect faith.

GROOM and BRIDE have come here to enter into the state holy matrimony. They have complied with Civil Law and are duly prepared to enter into this marriage. They will give their consent to each other, they will exchange solemn vows, and in token of this, they will each give and receive a ring.

If anyone present knows a reason why GROOM and BRIDE may not lawfully marry, you must declare it now or forever hold your peace.

GROOM and BRIDE, if either of you knows a reason why you may not lawfully marry, you must declare it now.

Reading – 1, *Corinthians 13*

If I speak well, if I have absolute faith, and if I dispose of all I possess, but have not love, I achieve precisely nothing.

This love of which I speak is slow to lose patience; it looks for a way of being constructive.

It is not possessive: it is neither anxious to impress nor does it cherish inflated ideas of

its own importance.

Love has good manners and does not pursue selfish advantage.

It is not overly sensitive. It does not keep an account of the wrongs of others but is glad when good happens to anyone.

Love knows no limit to its endurance, no end to its trust, no fading of its hope; it can outlast anything.

It is, in fact, the one thing that still stands when all else has fallen.

In this life we have three great lasting qualities - faith, hope and love.

And the greatest of these is love.

Minister:

GROOM, do you take BRIDE

to be your lawful wedded wife, to live together in the holy relationship of marriage? Do you promise to love her, comfort her, respect and cherish her, to care for her in all circumstances, and be faithful and loyal to her as long as both of you live?

GROOM: I do

Minister:

BRIDE, do you take GROOM

to be your lawful wedded husband, to live together in the holy relationship of marriage? Do you promise to love him, comfort him, respect and cherish him, to care for him in all circumstances, and be faithful and loyal to him as long as both of you live?

BRIDE: I do

(Optional) GROOM reads his wedding vows to BRIDE

(Optional) BRIDE reads her wedding vows to GROOM

GROOM:

I, GROOM, take you BRIDE to be my lawful wedded wife, to have and to hold, from this day forward, for better or for worse, for richer or for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to honour, for the rest of our lives. This is my solemn vow.

BRIDE:

I, BRIDE, take you GROOM to be my lawful wedded husband, to have and to hold, from this day forward, for better or for worse, for richer or for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to honour, for the rest of our lives. This is my solemn vow.

Rings

Minister:

LORD, Bless these rings for they are a circle and are a symbol of eternity. They are a symbol of union. A symbol of holiness and of perfection. GROOM AND BRIDE, the rings you exchange and which you will wear are a symbol of a shared love which you are entering now, as husband and wife.

GROOM:

I give you this ring as a symbol of my love, my faith in our strength together, and my covenant to learn and grow with you.

BRIDE:

I give you this ring as a symbol of my love, my faith in our strength together, and my covenant to learn and grow with you.

Minister:

GROOM and BRIDE, you have joined yourselves to each other by solemn vows, signified by the joining of hands, and the giving and receiving of rings. By the authority vested in me under the Marriage Act of the Province of Ontario and the Grace of God, I declare that from this day until the end of all days, you are now husband and wife.

GROOM, you may kiss your Bride.

Signing of the Marriage Register

Minister: Ladies and gentlemen, let me present to you for the very first time, MR. & MRS. GROOM and BRIDE (Last Name)