

Intro 8

Marriage is for the companionship, help, consideration and love with which husband and wife ought to have for each other.

Within its framework of commitment and loyalty, marriage enables the establishment of a home where, through tolerance, patience and courage, the love and affection of tow spouse may develop into a deep and lasting relationship.

__bride__ and __groom__ have honoured us by inviting us to be present with them during this time.

What they mean to each other is obvious. Their commitment to each has developed over some time. They are adults, they have chosen to live together. Their choice is responsible, free, independent and happy.

Of all the people they know, they have chosen each other to journey through live together.

I am Lise Chamberland and I am a Humanist Officiant, duly licensed by the Province of Ontario and the Humanist Association of Canada to solemnize marriages.

"Humanism is a non religious life stance based on rational thought, a strong moral sense, compassion, fairness and respect for all."

There are no objections to anyone taking pictures as pictures will be the fond memories that will remind both Michael and Katie for many years to come of the solemn vows taken today.

Opening 5

This is the time you have chosen to become husband and wife. We are here, not only to witness your commitment to each other, but also to wish you every happiness in your future life together. Within its framework of commitment and loyalty, marriage enables the establishment of a home, where through trust, patience and respect, the love and affection which you have for each other may develop into a deep and lasting relationship.

We, who are witnessing your marriage, hope that despite the stresses inevitable in any life your Love and Respect for each other, your trust and understanding of each other will increase your contentment and heighten your joy in living.

Statement Of Intention 1

__bride__ and __groom__, you have invited us to witness the happiness that you have found in each other. Did you come here freely and are you ready to make the pledges to which you commit yourselves to each other in love?

(Answer: "Yes")

2. Are both of you able to affirm that there are no impediments against you getting legally married?

I do.

Are both of you prepared to accept one another as your legally wedded spouse?

To the guests:

4. As our sons and daughters find partners and found homes for the next generation, each family is enriched and enlarged. Do you, who have nurtured these two, support their union and their family?

(Answer: "I do" or "We do")

Reading 2

We are gathered together in front of family and friends, to join you __bride__ and you __groom__ in marriage. You shall give to each other a vow, lovingly and with love, you will testify before us the blending of your ways and the wedding of your hearts. You have come before us to enter into that estate of marriage, which is a

time-honoured tradition. People must enter into it freely, sincerely, and soberly, and in the joy that comes to those who truly love.

Reading 10

THE PROPHET "On Marriage" Kahlil Gibran

Love one another, but make not a bond of love: let it rather be a moving sea between the shores of your souls. Fill each other's cup but drink not from one cup. Give one another of your bread but eat not from the same loaf. Sing and dance together and be joyous, but let each one of you be alone, even as the strings of a lute are alone though they quiver with the same music.

Give your hearts, but not into each other's keeping. For only the hand of Life can contain your hearts. Stand together, yet not too near together: For the pillars of the temple stand apart, and the oak tree and the cypress grow not in each other's shadow.

Vow 10 This vow actually includes the presenting of the rings.

__bride__,

I give you this ring,

Wear it with love and joy.

I choose you to be my wife:

To have and to hold from this day forward,

For better and for worse,

For richer and for poorer;

In sickness and in health

To love and to cherish,

As long as we both shall live.

__groom__,

I give you this ring,

Wear it with love and joy.

I choose you to be my husband

To have and to hold from this day forward,

For better and for worse,

For richer and for poorer;

In sickness and in health
 To love and to cherish,
 As long as we both shall live.

For as much as __groom__ and __bride__ have grown in knowledge and love of one another, and because they have agreed in their desire to go forward in life together, seeking an even richer, deepening relationship, and because they have pledged to meet sorrow and joy as one family, I, Lise Chamberland, by the power vested in me by the Marriage Act of Ontario, pronounce them husband and wife

2.
 Please seal your vows with a kiss.

3. __Bride__ and __groom__, marriage is the joining of two people- the union of two hearts. It lives on the love you give each other and never grows old, but thrives on the joy of each new day...Marriage is love. May you always be enriched in your hearts with the wonder of this special day. May you always be able to talk things over, to confide in each other, to laugh with each other, to enjoy life together, and to share moments of quiet and peace, when the day is finished. May you enter into a lifetime of happiness.

Signing of the Register

Now, I invite __bride__, __groom__ and their __witnesses__ as witnesses to sign the register.

Words of Closure

And now, may the confidence, trust, and affection you have for each other on this day, sustain you as you go forth upon your journey of life together with its joy, its laughter, its sorrow and its pain. May you find together the loftiest that is in the universe. May you dwell together in peace, love and joy. May you create for your children a peaceful, stable home of love as a foundation on which they can build their lives. May your house be a place of happiness for all who enter it, a place where the old and the young are renewed in each other's company, a place for growing, a place for music, a place for laughter. And, when shadows and darkness fall within its rooms, may it still be a place of hope and strength for all who enter it, especially for those who may be entrusted to your care. May no person be alien to your compassion. May your larger family be the family of all humankind. And may those who are nearest to you and dearest to you constantly be enriched by the beauty and the bounty of your love for each other.

Please help congratulate the newlyweds!