

All stand for the Bride's entrance

Introduction by Celebrant:

Good afternoon and welcome,
My name is John Hodson and as an authorised celebrant,
I have the honour of leading you
in this marriage ceremony today.

I call upon everyone here present to be a fellow witness
with me in this union between **Peter** and **Mary**.

We are here, not only to witness their commitment to each
other, but also to wish them every happiness for their life
together.

Peter and **Mary** believe this union is founded
on that, sort of sincerity and understanding that leads to
tolerance, confidence and trust.

They feel it involves respect for each other's individuality,
and a difficult task, the acceptance of each other's
weaknesses and faults.

They believe too,
that those qualities that have attracted each to the other can
be best developed during a life spent together.

READING:

By the Celebrant:

Real love in marriage
is something beyond the warmth and glow,
the excitement and romance, of being deeply in love.

It is caring as much about the welfare and happiness
of your marriage partner as about your own.

But real love is not being totally absorbed in each other.
It means looking outward in the same direction, together.

Love makes.... burdens lighter because you divide them,
It makes joys..... more intense because you share them.
It makes you stronger,
so you can reach out and become involved with life
in ways you would never dare risk alone.

The beautiful thing about love, is that,
it is an experience we share with all people throughout the
world. Yet to everyone who falls in love
it is the most unique and precious thing in the world.

A really happy marriage is founded on love.
Love is, of its nature, unselfish, understanding and kind.
True love too, is a commitment of heart and a commitment of
mind.

There can be no stronger bond
to ensure and secure a happy married life.

Harmonious wedded life is a precious gain, to both a man and a woman,..... because, even though marriage increases the scope of responsibility, it does add that dimension of love to life giving it new meaning and purpose.

By Celebrant:

Peter and Mary,
have chosen a reading that has been inspired by
Walter Rinder's - *Love Is an Attitude.*

It is titled - **Learn How to Love**
and will be read by their Friend **Janice Peters**

READING:

Reader Janice peters to the couple:

Every day you live, learn how to love.

Take time with each other,
Restore each other's soul with loving words.

Receive love with as much understanding as you give it.

Find that which is within yourselves
Then you can share it with each other.

Do not fear this love,
And do not fear this marriage,
But keep open hearts and sincere minds.

Be sincerely interested in each other's happiness;
Be too, constant and consistent in your love,
and in your actions.

From this, as you know, comes security and strength.

All that we love deeply becomes a part of us,
So, even though you retain your individuality,
Today in real sense you also become
One in a true unity,
One in hope,
One in believing in life, and
One in sharing the coming years.

Celebrant face the Bride and Groom

MONITUM FROM THE MARRIAGE ACT

Must be read by the celebrant:

As a civil celebrant,
I am duly authorised by the law
To solemnise this, your marriage,
According to the laws of Australia.

Before you, **Peter** and you **Mary**,
are joined together in marriage
in my presence, and in the presence
of your family and friends,
I am bound, as you know, to remind you publicly of
the solemn, the serious,
and the binding nature of the relationship
into which you are now about to enter.

Marriage, as most of us understand it,
is the voluntary and full commitment
of a man to a woman, and a woman to a man.
It is made in the deepest sense
to the exclusion of all others,
and is entered into with the desire,
the hope and the firm intention
that it will last for life.

(The bride and groom looking at the celebrant)

THE ASKING: *Celebrant to the groom*

Peter,

Will you take **Mary** to be your lawful wife?
Will you love her, comfort her,
Honour and keep her, in sickness and in health, and,
forsaking all others,
keep only unto her, so long as you both shall live?

Groom: I will

Celebrant to the bride:

Gladys,

Will you take **Peter** to be your lawful husband?
Will you love him, comfort him,
Honour and keep him, in sickness and in health, and,
forsaking all others,
keep only unto him, so long as you both shall live?

Bride: I will

VOWS:

*The couple face and look at each other,
hold both hands, and repeat the vows,
phrase by phrase, after the celebrant.*

Groom:

I, **Peter**, take you, **Mary**,
to be my lawful wife,
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 my life.

Bride:

I, **Mary**, take you, **Peter**,
to be my lawful husband,
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 my life.

RING CEREMONY (the celebrant indicates the correct finger).

The couple stay in the same position.

The celebrant takes the bride's ring from the bestman and gives it to the groom, who holds it over the tip of the appropriate finger, and repeats the words, phrase by phrase, after the celebrant.

The groom then slides the ring onto the bride's finger, this procedure is repeated by the bride.

Groom:

Mary, this ring I give you,
It is my personal gift,
My personal promise of love and trust,
and pride that you are my wife.

Bride:

Peter, this ring I give you,
It is my personal gift,
My personal promise of love and trust,
and pride that you are my husband.

READING *By Celebrant: Sharing*

There is no greater happiness
than that of sharing life,
With all its joys, and all its cares,
as a loving husband and wife.

For love gives life new meaning,
and has a special way
of growing stronger, and deeper,
with every passing day.

Yes, life is so much happier and brighter
when you're sharing the very special joys
that come with loving and giving and caring.

DECLARATION OF MARRIAGE:

Celebrant to the guests:

Ladies and Gentlemen,
Peter and **Mary** have declared before all of us
that they will live together in marriage.
They have made special promises to each other.
They have symbolised it by joining hands, taking vows,
and by exchanging rings.

So, therefore, on your behalf
I now declare them to be husband and wife.

Peter, you may now kiss your bride.

(Hold pose for photograph)

Celebrant: Ladies and gentlemen we will be busy signing the register for the next 5 minutes. So could you please remain as you are and listen to some beautiful music that **Peter** and **Mary** have selected.

Music to be played:

Song 1: Songbird

Song 2: True Companion

THE SIGNING

The register and the marriage certificate are signed.

Photographs taken

The music stops

Ladies and Gentlemen,
I have pleasure in presenting to you,

Mr and Mrs **Peter and Mary Adamson**

The celebrant presents the certificate to bride and groom.

Photographs taken

Only the parents of the bride and groom are asked to come up to congratulate the bride and groom.

Celebrant: Ladies and Gentlemen, could you be upstanding please.

The Recession: Music starts:

The bride and groom walk out of the room followed by the bridal party, the parents and the guests.

This concludes the ceremony, and all the proceedings for the celebrant.