

Thurrock Register Office

Example marriage ceremony

The Thameside

To the whole wedding party:

Good morning / afternoon, ladies and gentlemen. My name is _____ the Superintendent Registrar who will be conducting your wedding ceremony today and with me is _____ the Registrar.

The place in which you are now met has been duly sanctioned, according to law, for the celebration of marriage.

On behalf of _____ and _____, I would like to welcome you all here to _____. It means a lot to them that you can be here to share with them in their happiness and to witness their marriage vows.

However, if any person here present knows of any lawful impediment to this marriage then he or she should declare it now.

Marriage requires devotion, the ability to listen, the wisdom to know when we are wrong and the humility to be able to put things right. Above all it requires unquestioning love.

Marriage is a fluid relationship that assumes many different forms throughout the years, a relationship that is always growing or changing. If you are growing as individuals, different today from yesterday, and if you can communicate this growth emotionally, philosophically and physically, your marriage over the years will remain vital and creative.

As well as the strong love and respect that _____ and _____ have for each other, they share similar principles and priorities. Their relationship enables them to face life positively and constructively, and they now wish to live with the commitment and understanding that marriage represents.

Before you are joined in matrimony it is my duty to remind you of the solemn and binding character of the vows you are about to make. Marriage in this country means the union of two people, voluntarily entered into for life, to the exclusion of all others.

I am now going to ask each of you to declare that you know of no lawful reason why you may not be joined in matrimony to each other.

To party one:

Please repeat after me:

**I do solemnly declare
that I know not
of any lawful impediment
why I _____
may not be joined in matrimony
to _____.**

To party two:

Please repeat after me:

**I do solemnly declare
that I know not
of any lawful impediment
why I, _____
may not be joined in matrimony
to _____.**

Poetry or prose here, to be read by family member or friend

To the couple:

Marriage is a personal, intimate decision, but a large part of its importance comes from its recognition by those who are close to the couple. So, I ask you now, in the presence of this company...

To party one:

_____ will you take _____ to be your wife/husband, and will you remain true to her/him for the rest of your life together?

Answer: I will

_____ will you take _____ to be your husband/wife, and will you remain true to him/her for the rest of your life together

Answer: I will

To the whole wedding party:

Ladies and Gentlemen, we have now reached the moment where _____ and _____ will exchange their marriage vows with each other, so will you all please stand.

To party one:

Please repeat after me:

**I give you this ring,
as a symbol of my love and commitment
and I call upon these persons here present
to witness that I, _____,
do take thee, _____,
to be my lawful wedded wife/husband**

To party two:

Please repeat after me:

**I give you this ring,
as a symbol of my love and commitment
and I call upon these persons here present
to witness that I, _____,
do take thee, _____,
to be my lawful wedded husband/wife**

To the couple:

_____ and _____, you have both now made the declarations required by law, and you have also made your own solemn promise to one another in the presence of your witnesses and guests gathered here today. If you remain as committed and loving to each other as you are today, then you will live full and rich lives together.

Poetry or prose here, to be read by family member or friend

Now ladies and gentlemen please be seated while the register is completed. As you have witnessed a civil marriage is a brief, simple ceremony but you are legally and solemnly joined together in matrimony and I would like to be the first to congratulate you both.