

Thurrock Register Office

Example civil partnership ceremony

Traditional

To the whole party:

Good morning / afternoon, ladies and gentlemen

Welcome to _____ (*venue name*) on this special day for _____ and _____.

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

We are here this afternoon to witness the joining in partnership of _____ and _____, if anyone here knows of any lawful impediment to this civil partnership, they should declare it now.

To the couple:

I shall now ask both of you, in turn, to declare that you do not know of any lawful reason as to why you should not be civil partners.

To party one:

Please repeat after me:

**I do solemnly declare
that I know not
of any lawful impediment
why I, _____ (full name)
may not form a civil partnership
with _____ (full name).**

To party two:

Please repeat after me:

**I do solemnly declare
that I know not
of any lawful impediment
why I, _____ (full name)
may not form a civil partnership
with _____ (full name).**

A family member or friend may now read poetry or prose.

To the whole party:

Could the witnesses and the guests please stand.

Civil partnership rings are presented at this point.

To party one:

Please repeat after me:

**I give you this ring on the occasion of our civil partnership
as a token of my love and affection.
I promise to be loving, faithful and loyal to you
in living our life together.**

To party two:

Please repeat after me:

**(as above or) I accept this ring
as a token of my love and all the commitments we have made to each other.
I promise to be loving, faithful and loyal to you
in living our life together.**

To the couple:

You have both just made promises to each other in the presence of your witnesses, family and friends assembled here today and from this moment on I am delighted to record that you will now become civil partners.

A family member or friend may now read poetry or prose.

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