

Thurrock Register Office

Example civil partnership ceremony

Will you?

To the whole party:

Good morning / afternoon, ladies and gentlemen. May I extend a very warm welcome to you all. My name is _____ and I am a Civil Partnership Registrar for Thurrock.

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

We are here today to witness the partnership of _____ and _____, and on their behalf I would like to thank you for joining them to witness the start of their new life together. I know it means a great deal to them that you can be here to share in their happiness on this occasion.

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

Through their vows they are making a commitment to each other for the rest of their lives. Partnership is not an easy path. It requires devotion, the ability to listen, the wisdom to know when we are wrong, and the strength to put things right.

For _____ and _____, registering as partners today is a proud confirmation of the love, the respect and the true friendship that they have for each other. Together they will be stronger to meet whatever life holds for them.

_____ and _____, today you will exchange vows which will unite you as lifelong partners. You will also make a formal and public pledge of your love, and a promise of lifelong dedication to each other.

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 partnership 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 form a civil partnership
with _____.**

To party two:

_____, please repeat after me:

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

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

Ladies and gentlemen, the moment has come for _____ and _____ to make their promises to each other in the presence of you their witnesses and guests.

Would you all please stand.

To party one:

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

I will.

To party two:

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

I will.

To the whole party:

_____ and _____ have chosen to seal their commitment with the giving and receiving of rings. A ring is an unbroken circle; it has no beginning and no end. It symbolises unending and everlasting love and is an outward sign of the lifelong promises that you are about to make each other.

To party one:

_____, please repeat after me but saying these words to _____:

**_____, I give you this ring
as a symbol of my love and affection.
I call upon our family and friends
assembled here today
to witness that I _____,
take you, _____,
to be my lifelong partner
to love, respect, and cherish,
as long as we both shall live.**

To party two:

_____, please repeat after me but saying these words to _____:

**_____, I give you this ring
as a symbol of my love and affection.
I call upon our family and friends
assembled here today
to witness that I _____,
take you, _____,
to be my lifelong partner
to love, respect, and cherish,
as long as we both shall live.**

To the couple:

_____ and _____, you have both now made promises to one another in the presence of your family and friends gathered here today.

This day will form a milestone in your lives. You will look back upon it with love and happiness, and as the start of a new phase in your life together. We hope that the feelings of love that you have for each other will deepen and grow ever stronger throughout the years to come.

Congratulations, to you both.

It gives me great pleasure to declare that you are now lifelong partners together.

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

Now ladies and gentlemen, please be seated while the schedule is signed.