

Good Evening:

We are gathered here to join GROOM and BRIDE in marriage. It is fitting and appropriate that you, the family and friends, be here to witness and participate in their wedding, because the ideals, the understanding, and the mutual respect that they bring to their marriage have their roots in the love, friendship, and guidance that you have given them.

Despite whatever trials and tribulations lie ahead, may they trust each other wholly, may they understand forgiveness and may they truly love each other, for without love, marriage is only an empty promise.

Rose Ceremony:

Bride & Groom will present roses to their Mothers

Marriage is a coming together of two lives, and a celebration of the love of two people. But it is more. The love that you feel for one another is the flowering of a seed your mothers planted in your hearts many years ago. When you were first born, you were a bundle of diapers and tears, and your mothers lost sleep caring for you. Their love for you has brought them great happiness and great challenges, and their love did not diminish as they met these challenges. That is the great lesson you can bring into your marriage. As you embrace one another in your love, so too do you embrace the families which have been brought together on this happy occasion. As a token of your gratitude for your families, I would like to ask you to offer these symbols of eternal love, these roses, to your mothers.

And so, in the presence of God and your family and friends, I ask you to state your intentions:

GROOM and BRIDE, have you come here freely and without reservation to give yourself to each other in marriage?

Response

Will you love, honor, and respect each other as husband and wife for the rest of your life?

Response

It is at this time that I ask, should anyone have reason why GROOM and BRIDE should not be joined in matrimony, let them speak now, or forever hold their peace.

Being assured that your love and your choice of each other as life long companions are in God's will, and that you have your family's blessing, I now ask:

Who gives this woman to be married to this man?

(Father of the Bride Stands)

Please stand:

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Mark:

From the beginning of creation, God made them male and female. This is why a man must leave his father and mother and the two become one body. They are no longer two, therefore, but one body. So then what God has united, man must not divide. This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Sermon: GROOM and BRIDE

You are about to make vows and promises to each other. These vows are beautiful words representing even more beautiful intentions. My prayer for you both, is that you live these vows over the years, offering freely your time, and love for one another. The meaning to these words will deepen and the happy times of your life will be twice as joyous because you will be sharing them with someone you love. And, when life gets tough it will only be half as difficult because there will be someone by your side to carry half the burden.

Since it is your intention to enter into marriage, join your right hands and declare your consent before God and this company:

GROOM repeat after me:

I, GROOM, take you BRIDE to be my wife. I promise to be true in good times and bad, in sickness and health. I will support your hopes and dreams and strive to provide comfort and peace in our life together.

BRIDE repeat after me:

I, BRIDE, take you GROOM to be my husband. I promise to be true in good times and bad, in sickness and health. I will support your hopes and dreams and strive to provide comfort and peace in our life together.

You have declared your love before God and your family and friends. May the Lord in his goodness strengthen your consent and fill you both with his blessings. What God has joined men must not divide.

RING CEREMONY:

May I have the rings please:

These rings in their unbroken wholeness are tokens of your union and of your love. They are symbols of the enduring trust and affection that you bring to one another. May they ever remind you that your lives are to be bound together by devotion and faithfulness.

GROOM, repeat after me:

With this ring I join my life with yours. I am by beloveds and my beloved is mine.

BRIDE, repeat after me:

With this ring I join my life with yours. I am my beloveds, and my beloved is mine.

Unity Candle:
BRIDE & GROOM

GROOM and BRIDE are going to light their unity candle, as a symbol of their marriage. The candles from which they light it represent each of them and the fullness of their personhood. They come into their marriage relationship as individuals and they do not lose their identity, rather they create through their commitment of marriage. Therefore, three candles remain lit, one for each of them and one for their marriage as symbols of their commitment to each other and to a lasting and loving marriage.

GROOM and BRIDE, your family members and friends, many of whom are here with you today, have all been a part of your individual lives. They have shared your hopes, your dreams, your triumphs, and your sufferings. But, at some point the two of you met one another and something started to spark between you that was not just GROOM and not just BRIDE. There is a special way you are together that is unlike the way you have ever been before. The special love you felt with one another continued to grow, bringing you to this moment when you are committing your love to one another and building a life together as a symbol of the spirit of love that has grown between you.

Please stand and let us pray in the words our father has taught us
Our Father who art in heaven....

By the power vested in me by God and by the State of New York, I
now pronounce you husband and wife.

Ladies and gentlemen, it gives me great pleasure to present to you,
Mr. and Mrs. GROOM and BRIDE SURNAME.