



# NOTTINGHAMSHIRE REGISTRATION SERVICE STANDARD MARRIAGE CEREMONY

## Pre-ceremony Announcements

Before the ceremony begins, we will ask your guests to make sure their phones are on silent.

You may choose for us to announce that either your guests are welcome to take photos / video, or they are welcome to take photos / video but not to post on social media without your permission, or to request that they do not take photos / video during the ceremony.

You may choose how we refer to your guests throughout the ceremony; Ladies and Gentlemen, Family and Friends, Honoured Guests, Wedding Guests or One and All.

## Your Entrance

To begin the ceremony, you may choose to make a grand entrance into the ceremony room or to informally begin the ceremony without fanfare. Registration Office music will be played.

If you choose to make an entrance, you may do this as a couple, or with one of you waiting in the ceremony room and the other making an entrance (with or without an escort), or with each of you making a separate entrance (with or without escorts).

## Celebrant Registrar's Welcome to Your Venue

*"A very good morning / afternoon to you all and on behalf of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, may I welcome you to (venue) and thank you for being here today, to witness their marriage and to share in their happiness.*

*My name is \_\_\_\_\_ and it is my pleasure to conduct their ceremony today, with the support of my colleague \_\_\_\_\_, who will complete the schedule, which is the legal record of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_'s marriage."*

## Confirming Your Names and Calling for Objections

The Celebrant Registrar will ask each of you in turn, *“is your full name \_\_\_\_\_?”*

*“We are here to witness the joining in marriage of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. If anyone present knows of any legal reason why \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ should not be joined in marriage, they must speak now....”*

## All About Marriage

*“From today, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_’s lives will change, because they have chosen to become a married couple. No longer will they simply be two people in love, but instead, two people joined together in the trust, respect, and loving commitment of marriage.”*

## Introducing the Legal Declaration

*“This place has been approved for the celebration of marriages and I will now ask \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ to confirm that there is no legal reason why they should not be married to each other, and that they are each choosing to marry of their own free will.*

*\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, before you are joined in marriage, I must remind you that the vows you are about to make will join you together in law, sincerely and forever.*

*Marriage in this country means the union of two people, voluntarily entered into for life, to the exclusion of all others.”*

## The Legal Declaration

The Celebrant Registrar will say to each of you in turn, *“by replying ‘I am’ to the question. Are you \_\_\_\_\_ free lawfully to marry \_\_\_\_\_?”*

You must each respond, *“I am”*.

## **The 'I Do's'**

The Celebrant Registrar will then say to each of you in turn, *"by replying 'I do' to the question. Do you \_\_\_\_\_ freely consent to be joined in marriage to \_\_\_\_\_?"*

You should each respond, "I do".

## **(Optional) Presentation and Exchange of Wedding Ring(s)**

*"\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ have chosen to exchange (wedding rings / a wedding ring) to seal their marriage vows. The wedding ring is an unbroken circle, symbolising everlasting love.*

*I would like to invite \_\_\_\_\_ (your ring-bearer) to come forward, to present the wedding ring(s)."*

The Celebrant Registrar will guide you through the exchange of rings / a ring and say to each of you in turn, *"Please repeat after me. \_\_\_\_\_ I give you (or I accept) this ring, as a symbol of my love, and a sign of our marriage."*

The Celebrant Registrar will guide you through these words, a few at a time.

## **Introducing the Legal Contract**

*"I will now guide \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ through the words which will join them together in marriage. Please stand, if able, to show your support."*

## **The Legal Contract**

The Celebrant Registrar will say to each of you in turn, *"please repeat after me, looking at \_\_\_\_\_. I \_\_\_\_\_ take you \_\_\_\_\_ to be my wedded wife / husband."*

The Celebrant Registrar will guide you through these legal words, a few at a time.

## **Celebrant Registrar's Pronouncement of Marriage**

*" \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, this is the start of a new chapter in your lives together.*

*We hope that the feelings of love you share, will grow ever deeper and stronger, throughout the years to come.*

*In the presence of your witnesses, you have confirmed your commitment to each other and made vows which have joined you together sincerely and forever.*

*It is with great pleasure that I now confirm you are legally joined together in marriage!"*

You may choose for the Celebrant Registrar to invite you both to share a kiss, or not, as you wish.

The Celebrant Registrar will invite your guests to take a seat and will facilitate the signing of the marriage schedule by you and your witnesses, followed by an opportunity for photos. Registration Office music will be played.

## **Celebrant Registrar's Closing Words**

You may choose how we announce you upon exit; Mr/Mrs and Mr/Mrs + new married name, first names only, the happy couple, newly-weds etc.