

# Forever Yours Weddings



Marriage is a supreme sharing of experience, and an adventure in the most intimate of human relationships. It is the joyous union of two people whose comradeship and mutual understanding have flowered in romance. Today **Groom** and **Bride** proclaim their love and commitment to the world, and we gather here to rejoice, with and for them, in the new life they now undertake together.

## Magnificent Mural

Marriage requires "love," a word we often use with vagueness and sentimentality. We may assume that love is some rare and mystical event, when in fact it is our natural state of being.

When we love, we see things other people do not see. We see beneath the surface, to the qualities which make our beloved special and unique. One who loves us, gives us a unique gift: a piece of ourselves, but a piece that only they could give us.

Those who love, can look at each other's life and say, "I touched his life," or, "I touched her life," just as an artist might say, "I touched this canvas." "Those brushstrokes in the corner of this magnificent mural, those are mine. I was a part of this life, and it is a part of me." Marriage is to belong to each other through a unique and diverse collaboration, like two threads crossing in different directions, yet weaving one tapestry together.

The secret of love and marriage is the emergence of the larger self. It is the finding of one's life by losing it. Such is the privilege of husband and wife, to be each himself, herself and yet another; to face the world strong, with the courage of two.

The true art of married life is in this an inner spiritual journey. It is a mutual enrichment, a give and take between two personalities, a mingling of two endowments which diminishes neither, but enhances both.

## Vows

**Groom** please repeat after me:

I **Groom** take you **Bride** to be my wife. I promise above all else to live in truth with you. I give you my hand and my heart as a sanctuary of warmth and peace, and pledge my love, devotion, faith and honor as I join my life to yours.

**Bride** please repeat after me:

I **Bride** take you **Groom** to be my wife. I promise above all else to live in truth with you. I give you my hand and my heart as a sanctuary of warmth and peace, and pledge my love, devotion, faith and honor as I join my life to yours.

## Ring Exchange

**Groom** take **Bride's** ring, place it on her finger, and repeat after me:

Just as this circle is without end, my love for you is eternal. With this ring I take you to be my partner for life.

**Bride** take **Groom's** ring, place it on her finger, and repeat after me:

Just as this circle is without end, my love for you is eternal. With this ring I take you to be my partner for life.

For thousands of years lovers have exchanged rings as a token of their vows. These simple bands are not of great value in themselves, but are made precious by our wearing of them. Let these rings be a sign that love has substance as well as soul, a present as well as a past, and that, despite its occasional sorrows, love is a circle of happiness, wonder, and delight.

### Pronouncement

In the presence of your family and friends who have joined you to share this moment of joy, you have declared your deep love and affection for each other. You have stated your wish to live together, always open to a deeper, richer friendship and partnership. You have formed your own union, based on respect and honor. Therefore, it is my joyful pleasure to officially acknowledge your union as “Husband and Wife.”

***GROOM, YOU MAY NOW KISS YOUR BRIDE!***

*May I introduce for the first time...*

*Mr. and Mrs. \_\_\_\_\_*