

# *Civil Partnership Standard Ceremony*

Once you and your guests are seated, the Celebrant will say a few words of welcome, and begin the ceremony as follows:

**The purpose of Civil Partnership is that you may always love, care for, and support each other through all the joys and sorrows of life, and that love may be fulfilled in a relationship of permanent and continuing commitment. We trust this may come true for you both. If there is any person here who knows of any legal reason why these two people should not be joined in partnership, then you should declare it now.**

You will now be asked to repeat the declaration of your freedom to enter into partnership.

**I do solemnly declare that I know not of any lawful impediment why I .....(name) may not be joined in partnership to .....(name).**

We now come to the contract of partnership, and you will be asked to repeat the following:

**I call upon these persons here present to witness that I .....(name) do take thee .....(name) to be my lawful civil partner. I understand that on signing this document we will be forming a civil partnership with each other.**

The ring or rings are now given, and you will be asked to say:

**I give you this ring as a symbol of partnership and a token of my love for you**

The Celebrant will now pronounce you lawful partners with the words:

**This day is the start of a new life for you 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. Let the world now recognise that you are civil partners. May you treasure this trust and responsibility, may no failure or misfortune ever part you, and may you live full and rich lives together.**

**I now pronounce you lawful partners!**