

Enhanced Civil Partnership Ceremony (Example)

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

Civil Partnership is a desire by two people to share themselves and their experiences with each other, and a willingness to accept each other for who they are. It is a promise made to each other that says you have chosen each other above all others, to share your life with. That you will honour this pledge as long as you live. That you will give the best of yourself, asking no more of your partner than that which they can give. To share your time and attention, and to bring joy, strength and imagination to your relationship. It is a promise to grow old together, to be loving, caring and to be the most important person in each other's life. It is in this spirit that you are now before us. In each other's company you have found happiness, fulfilment and love.

(A reading can be included here)

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

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

Partnership is a personal and intimate decision and a large part of its importance comes from its recognition by those close to the couple. Therefore, I ask you in the presence of this company,.....(name) do you take.....(name) to be your civil partner and do you promise to remain true to her/him for the rest of your lives together?

Response 'I do'

(A reading can be included here)

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.

(A reading can be included here)

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

I give you this ring as a symbol of my commitment to our partnership and a token of my love for you. I promise to love, cherish, honour and respect you from this day forward, for better for worse, in joy and in sorrow for as long as we both shall live.

(A reading can be included here)

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 civil partners.