

## **Non Denominational with Handblessing**

Officiant: Who gives this bride to this man?

Your father replies: Her mother and I do

Officiant:

Good afternoon family and friends It is my pleasure to have the honor of presiding over the ceremony that will unite (Bride & Groom) as husband and wife. Today is a very special day that is filled with love and celebration.

### **OPENING PRAYER**

Almighty God, hear our prayers for (Groom & Bride) who have come here to be united in the holy estate of matrimony. Give them your blessing, and strengthen their love for each other. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

**Bride & Groom: Amen.**

**Officiant:**

### **Reading**

Now is a time of joining (Groom & Bride) in unconditional faith, trust and love. The Apostle Paul gives us the best description of love in **Corinthians**

Love is always patient and kind; love is never jealous; love is not boastful or conceited, it is never rude and never seeks its own advantage, it does not take offence or store up grievances. Love does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but finds its joy in the truth. It is always ready to make allowances, to trust, to hope and to endure whatever comes. Love never comes to an end.

Despite the, the love you share together without your spiritual relationship with our lord Jesus Christ there would be no real love. Our Lord is the essence of love, the center of any marital relationship.

**Officiant:**

### **HOMILY (Address)**

(Groom & Bride), I don't need to tell you that today marks a complete new beginning in the lives of both of you. Your wedding lasts only today, but your marriage is for the rest of your lives. Today you both go back to school again, the school of marriage. Today you begin to learn again, to learn to love each other in a deeper way. You are joining yourselves to each other today to become one, without, of course, losing your individuality. Becoming one doesn't happen overnight. It is something that you will learn and become better at as you share your married life together. Becoming one means loving each other, sharing your lives with each other, taking each other into consideration always. Becoming one means getting rid of all selfishness out of your lives because there is no room for selfishness in marriage. If selfishness is not rooted out or creeps in later on, it's sure to cause problems. Marriage is a school of love.

**Officiant:**

### **(Hands Blessing Ceremony)**

(Groom & Bride), please face each other and place your palms together so you may feel the gift that you are to one another.”

“These are the hands of your best friend, young and strong and full of love for you, that are holding yours on your wedding day, as you promise to love each other today, tomorrow, and forever.”

“These are the hands that will work alongside yours, as together you build your future.”

“These are the hands that will passionately love you and cherish you through the years and with the slightest touch will comfort you like no other.”

“These are the hands that will hold you when fear or grief wracks your mind.”

“These are the hands that will tenderly hold your children and support your grandchildren

“These are the hands that will help you to hold your family as one.”

“These are the hands that will give you strength when you need it.”

“And lastly, these are the hands that – even when wrinkled and aged – will still be reaching for yours, still giving you the same unspoken tenderness with just a touch.”

“Bless these hands that you see before you this day. May they always be held by one another. Give them the strength to hold on during the storms of stress and the dark of disillusionment. Keep them tender and gentle as they nurture each other in their wondrous love. Help these hands to continue building this relationship, rich in caring and devoted to reaching for perfection. May (Groom & Bride) see their four hands as healer, protector, shelter and guide. May these hands and this relationship be blessed for all time.”

## **CONSENT**

(Groom & Bride) have you come here freely and without reservation to give yourselves to each other in marriage?

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

Together you say :( I do)

## **Officiant:**

### **Repeat after Vows**

Groom, repeat after me:

I, Groom, take you (Bride), to be my wedded wife, To have and to hold from this day forward, For better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, In sickness and in health, to love and to cherish as long as we both shall live.

(Bride), repeat after me:

I, (Bride), take you (Groom), to be my wedded husband, To have and to hold from this day forward, For better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, In sickness and in health, To love and to cherish as long as we both shall live.

## **CONFIRMATION OF VOWS**

You have declared your consent before this community of your family and friends. May the Lord in his goodness strengthen your consent and fill you with his blessings. What God has joined together, let no put asunder

You both say: .Amen.

## **BLESSING AND EXCHANGE OF RINGS**

May I have the Rings Please?

### **Ring Blessing**

As God is a circle whose center is everywhere and whose circumference is nowhere, so let the seamless circle of these rings become a symbol of the timeless dimension of unconditional Love.

May the presence of these rings continue to remind you of the eternal love and devotion you are to share with one another from this moment on.

May the beauty and perfection of these rings remind you of the beauty of your togetherness and the perfection of this union you are sanctifying in this perfect moment.

Lord, bless these rings which we bless in your name. Grant that those who wear them may always do you will and live together in peace and compassion

Groom -- Please repeat these words after me: "I give you this ring, (Bride), as a symbol of my love, and with it pledge my loyalty and devotion as long as we both shall live." With this ring I thee wed

Bride -- Please repeat these words after me: "I give you this ring, (Groom), as a symbol of my love, and with it pledge my loyalty and devotion as long as we both shall live." With this ring I thee wed

### **Blessing Closing**

#### **"Prayer of Love"**

Author Unknown

"Our prayer for you is this:

That you will always remember the qualities that attracted you to each other when you first met and how you felt as your feelings of attraction turned into respect, admiration and finally love. That you will work hard to turn your feelings of love into acts of love so that nothing and no one can divide you. That you will always have kind and loving hearts that are quick to ask for forgiveness when you are wrong as well as to forgive when your partner is wrong. That your love might grow to hear all things, believe all things, and hope for all things, endure all things. we pray you place your marriage in God's hands and that your love increases and overflows, beyond anything you can yet imagine."

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER (optional)**

Family & Friends Please stand: Let us pray together in the words Jesus gave us.

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. Amen.

### **Pronouncement**

(Bride) and (Groom) always give each other a safe place to cry, but never a reason to.

It has been my pleasure to preside over your wedding here today, you have made the decision to live your lives with Jesus Christ as the center of your marriage, you have publically stated your vows to each other and exchanged your rings; by the authority vested in me by the state of Florida I now pronounce you husband and wife.

**(Groom) you may kiss your Bride.**

**Introduction**

*face your guests:*

It is my pleasure to present to you for the first time as husband and wife Mr. & Mrs. \_\_\_\_\_