

Renewal Ceremony

Raymond & Lisa

Welcome family and friends! We are assembled here to today because Lisa & Ray chose you to celebrate their wedding anniversary with them. We are here to witness to support them as they continue their journey together.

Lisa & Ray it is a pleasure to share today's very special occasion with you.

Many people believe that entering into marriage is the final step in a romantic relationship. As they see it, a couple meets, gets to know each other, falls in love, decides they want to go through life together, and then take the final step—marriage.

But marriage is not meant to be the final step in a couple's relationship—it is really just the beginning of a grand adventure that hopefully, will be long and fruitful for each couple.

You have shared the joys, blessings, and yes, the challenges, of married life for _____ years. And, today you wish to reconfirm your commitment to working together to make your marriage grow and blossom in the years to come. May this ceremony, renewing the vows you took to become husband and wife on your wedding day, remind you that despite the stresses inevitable in every life, your love, respect, trust and understanding of each other will continue to increase your contentment and heighten your joy in living.

Reading:

We have a very special reading today that Lisa shared with me and I am now going to share with you. This reading is so special because it was taken from a card that was given to Lisa by Raymond that she had tucked away. Family & Friends this will say it all.... The reason we are gathered here today!

We say "I Love You" everyday. Sometimes the words are whispered as we fall asleep at night; sometimes they're spoken at the end of a phone conversation or accompanied by a quick kiss as we rush out the door. The words are always there, but sometimes we forget to think about how much they really mean.

Every time you hear me say those three little words, I want you to remember that they're coming from the bottom of my heart. I want you to remember that I love you for everything you are and for everything I am with you. I want you to remember that you're the best person I've ever known and I feel so lucky to have you in my life.

I want you to remember that true love is forever and there is no love truer than the love I feel for you. I want you to remember that you're the most wonderful thing that has ever happened to me, my happy ending, my dream come true, my friend and my love all wrapped up in one. I love You.

Lisa & Raymond

Please join hands.

Raymond, will you continue to have Lisa as your wife and continue to live in this marriage? (I WILL)

Raymond Please repeat after me:

I Raymond will continue to love honor and cherish you Lisa for better or worse, for richer or poorer in sickness and in health forsaking all others and to be faithful as long as we both shall live.

Lisa, will you continue to have Raymond as your husband and continue to live in this marriage? (I WILL)

Lisa Please repeat after me: I Lisa will continue to love , honor and cherish you Raymond for better or worse, for richer or poorer in sickness and in health forsaking all others and to be faithful as long as we both shall live.

Rings:

On your wedding day you exchanged rings as a symbol of the never-ending circle of love. Rings serve as a reminder of your wedding vows to each other, and your commitment to live in unity, love and happiness. At this time, it is appropriate to reconfirm the meaning of the rings you wear.

Please join your left hands together so that Lisa's hand is on top. Lisa please repeat after me

Raymond, I wear this ring you placed on my hand ___ years ago as a symbol of my love and commitment to you.

Now, with Raymond's hand on top, Raymond please repeat after me:

Lisa, I wear this ring you placed on my hand ___ years ago as a symbol of my love and commitment to you.

THE MARRIAGE Vase AND THE ROSE CEREMONY

Marriage is a commitment to learning to care for one another in mutually fulfilling ways. It is not an act but a life-long relationship always in the making.

To symbolize today's reaffirmation of that commitment, Raymond and Lisa, you will now share two symbolic gifts, a marriage vase and a rose.

(THE MARRIAGE VASE AND THE ROSE SHALL BE PLACED ON A TABLE OR STAND)

THE MEANING OF THE GIFTS

The Vase and the rose are symbols for God as Creator and Sustainer of Life – the One who invites us to overcome separateness and find fulfillment in the sharing of one life with another.

THE Vase

(THE OFFICIANT PICKS UP THE VASE AND HANDS IT TO BRIDE)

This vase of clay, lovingly shaped, is a symbol of love's strength and endurance. The miracle of the vase is that it not only protects but is enriched by that which it holds.

THE ROSE

THE OFFICIANT PICKS UP THE ROSE & HANDS IT TO GROOM:

RAYMOND REPEAT AFTER ME AND GIVE THE ROSE TO LISA

Lisa, May this gift represent my Gratitude / for the person you are / And the person I am becoming.

(Bride takes the rose.)

LISA REPEAT AFTER ME AND HAND THE VASE TO GROOM

Raymond, May this gift represent my Gratitude / for all you have given me / And all we will share together. (Groom takes the vase.)

THE SHARING

BRIDE PLACES HER ROSE IN THE VASE, WHICH GROOM & BRIDE BOTH HOLD. THE OFFICIANT READS THE FOLLOWING:

As your gifts bring beauty and purpose to each other, / May your lives continue / to enrich and strengthen one another.

COUPLE HANDS VASE AND ROSE TO OFFICIANT.

GROWING TOGETHER

Raymond and Lisa Let the marriage vase and the rose continue to be a symbol of the beauty and strength you bring to each other. And, on your wedding anniversaries, may you add an additional rose to this marriage vase in affirmation and renewal of your ever-growing love for one another.

Pronouncement & Kiss

I ask that you each remember to continue to cherish each other as special and unique individuals and that you each respect the thoughts and ideas of one another. And most of all to be able to forgive each other, and not hold grudges against one another. Live each day in love with each other, always being there to give love, comfort, and refuge to each other, in good times and bad.

Raymond and Lisa, today you have renewed the promises and vows you made to each other on your wedding day. You have symbolized the renewal of the marriage union by the joining of hands, the taking of vows, and by the wearing of your wedding rings.

It is with pleasure that I conclude the ceremony of renewing the vows of marriage that joined you and binds you as husband and wife. Please celebrate this renewal of vows with a kiss!