

Vow Renewal Ceremony

An Invitation To Renewal of Vows

We are gathered together to witness the reaffirmation of the wedding vows of _____ and _____. After _____ years of marriage they have learned that happiness is not something that just happens. A good marriage is created collaboratively. In the art of marriage the little things are the big things... It's never being too old to hold hands. It's remembering to say "I love you" at least once each day. It's never going to sleep angry with one another. It's at no time taking the other for granted. It's having a mutual sense of values and common objectives. It's standing together and facing the world. It's forming a circle of love that gathers the whole family. It's doing things for each other, not in the attitude of duty or sacrifice, but in the spirit of joy. It's speaking words of appreciation and demonstrating gratitude in thoughtful ways. It's not looking for perfection in each other. It's cultivating flexibility, patience, understanding, and a sense of humor. It's establishing a relationship in which independence is equal, dependence is mutual; and the obligation is reciprocal.

The poet Meryl Fishman has said,

"You know me as I really am, and I know you truly. Not even as we know ourselves and would present ourselves. But to the very core of our beings. And we see the good and bad, accepting it all with joy, And from this time on our souls are locked in harmony. I have become you, you have become me, and we call each other love."

What greater thing is there for two people than to feel that they are joined together for life, to strengthen each other in all their labor, to rest on each other in all their sorrow, to minister to each other in all their pain, to be one with each other in silent, unspeakable memories?

With this reaffirmation ceremony we pray that your lives together will continue to be blessed with health, peace, and happiness for you, your children, and your family.

PRAYER

Heavenly Father, may you rain down upon this celebration of love and outpouring of your richest blessings! May the love that these two share with each other continue to be a pattern for others to follow. May they together embrace this moment of reaffirmation and find great peace in knowing that you will continue to walk with

them in the journey of life. Direct each step they take and may they find with the dawning of each new day an even greater love and appreciation for each other. Amen

A RENEWAL OF VOWS

(Please face each other and with joined hands speak these words from your heart) _____, I love and support you for all that you are, and all that you are becoming with each passing day. From the day we

met, I have loved you, adored you, and cherished you. I will continue to love you all the days of my life.
[Optional: you may exchange rings]

A SPECIAL BLESSING

Be together in harmony and let the winds of heaven dance between you. Empower each other and allow your relationship to evolve to its highest purpose. Nourish each other's possibilities, and lift up each other's spirits. Care for one another, share your love openly, and let it be a moving sea between the shores of your soul. Sing and dance together, and be joyful! Share your lives with each other, and unite your love with our Creator. May your union last through all your moments together, so that in the triumphs and trials that lie ahead, you will feel just as you do now, happy to be in love and married to one another. Go now in peace and live more and more in the present, which is beautiful, and stretches always beyond the limits of the past toward the horizon of the future.

Lord, inspire this man and this woman who bear the titles "husband and wife." Help them to look to You, to themselves and to one another to rediscover the fullness and mystery of the love they have for each other. Let them be honest enough to ask, "where have we been together and where are we going?" Help them to examine their commitment in the light of Your love, willingly, openly and compassionately. Help them, together, to believe how fragile, yet powerful, how weak, yet attainable their love can be. Give this husband and wife the courage to be for each other a person rather than a title.

Having heard the promises which the two of you have made to each other, it gives me great pleasure to wish you both a continued long, happy, and wonderful life together.

Please kiss as you pledge your lives together.