

MARRIAGE CEREMONY 2

Ladies and gentlemen, we are here today to solemnise marriage in accordance with the Marriage Act between **<Party 1 full name>** and **<Party 2 full name>**.

I say to you in the presence of these witnesses that I am duly authorised to solemnise marriages according to law.

This is the time you have chosen to **<be married>** or **<become husband and wife>** or **<words to that effect>**. We are here, not only to witness your commitment to each other, but also to wish you every happiness in your life together.

Within its framework of commitment and loyalty marriage enables the establishment of a home where, through tolerance, patience and respect, the love and affection which you both have for each other, may develop into a deep and lasting relationship.

We, who are witnessing your marriage, hope that despite the stresses inevitable in any life, your love and support for each other will increase your contentment and heighten your joy in living.

Before you are joined in marriage in my presence and in the presence of these witnesses, I am to remind you of the solemn and binding nature of the relationship into which you are about to enter. Marriage according to law in Australia, is the union of two people to the exclusion of all others, voluntarily entered into for life.

<Insert reading – optional>

I shall now ask you to make your wedding vows. Please hold each other's right hand.

<Party 1 first name> **<have you the wedding ring>?** Please repeat after me.

I call upon all present to witness that I **<Party 1 first name>** take you **<Party 2 first name>** to be my lawful wedded **<husband>** **<wife>** **<spouse>** to have and to hold, from his day forward, for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health while we both shall live. With this ring, a token and pledge of the vow made between us, I thee wed.

<Party 2 first name> **<have you the wedding ring>?** Please repeat after me.

I call upon all present to witness that I **<Party 2 first name>** take you **<Party 1 first name>** to be my lawful wedded **<husband>** **<wife>** **<spouse>** to have and to hold, from his day forward, for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health while we both shall live. With this ring, a token and pledge of the vow made between us, I thee wed.

You have declared before all of us that you will live together in marriage. You have made special promises to each other, which have been symbolised by the joining of hands, taking of vows and the giving and receiving of a ring.

By the authority vested in me I now pronounce you **<husband>** or **<wife>** or **<spouse>** and **<husband>** or **<wife>** or **<spouse>** OR **<words to that effect>**. We will now proceed to sign the Marriage Register.