



Adrian Downey  
NSW Celebrant

## *Blessing of the Hands Ceremony*

*No. 1*

(Hands on top of each other, palms touching)

Celebrant:

These are the hands of your best friend, young and strong and vibrant with love that are holding yours on your wedding day, as you promise to love each other all the days of your life.

These are the hands that will passionately love you and cherish you through the years, for a lifetime of happiness.

These are the hands that will countless times wipe the tears from your eyes; tears of sorrow and tears of joy.

These are the hands that will comfort you in illness, and hold you when fear or grief wreck your mind.

These are the hands that will tenderly lift your chin and brush your cheek, letting you see eyes that are filled completely with an overwhelming love and desire for you.

May these hands be blessed that we see before us this day.

May they always be held by one another.

May they have the strength to hold on during the storms of stress and the dark of disillusionment.

May they remain tender and gentle as they nurture each other in their wondrous love.

May these hands continue building a relationship founded in love, rich in caring, and devoted in reaching for perfection.

May (Groom) and (Bride) see their four hands as healer, protector, shelter and guide.

## **BLESSING OF THE HANDS CEREMONY**

*No. 2*

Celebrant:

(Bride) please face (Groom), and hold his hands, palms up, so you may see the gift that they are to you.

These are the hands of your best friend, young and strong and vibrant with love, that are holding yours on your wedding day, as he promises to love you all the days of his life.

These are the hands that will work along side yours, as together you build your future, as you laugh and cry, as you share your innermost secrets and dreams.

These are the hands you will place with expectant joy against your stomach, until he too, feels his child stir within you.

These are the hands that look so large and strong, yet will be so gentle as he holds your baby for the first time.

These are the hands that will work long hours for you and your new family."

These are that hands that will passionately love you and cherish you through the years, for a lifetime of happiness.

These are the hands that will countless times wipe the tears from your eyes: tears of sorrow and tears of joy.

These are the hands that will comfort you in illness, and hold you when fear or grief wreck your mind.

These are the hands that will tenderly lift your chin and brush your cheek as they raise your face to look into his eyes: eyes that are filled completely with his overwhelming love and desire for you.

Celebrant:

(Groom), please hold (Bride's) hands, palms up, where you may see the gift that they are to you. These are the hands of your best friend, smooth, young and carefree, that are holding yours on your wedding day, as she pledges her love and commitment to you all the days of her life.

## BLESSING OF THE HANDS CEREMONY

These are the hands that will hold each child in tender love, soothing them through illness and hurt, supporting and encouraging them along the way, and knowing when it is time to let go.

These are the hands that will massage tension from your neck and back in the evenings after you've both had a long hard day.

These are the hands that will hold you tight as you struggle through difficult times.

These are the hands that will comfort you when you are sick, or console you when you are grieving.

They are the hands that will passionately love you and cherish you through the years, for a lifetime of happiness.

These are the hands that will hold you in joy and excitement and hope, each time she tells you that you are to have another child, that together you have created a new life.

These are the hands that will give you support as she encourages you to chase down your dreams. Together as a team, everything you wish for can be realized.

Celebrant:

God, 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 disappointment. Keep them tender and gentle as they nurture each other in their wondrous love

Help these hands to continue building a relationship founded in your grace, rich in caring, and devoted in reaching for your perfection. May (Groom) and (Bride) see their four hands as healer, protector, shelter and guide.