

## *The Rose Ceremony*

**Explanation:** A symbolic ceremony, the Rose Ceremony is based on the ancient language of flowers. The red rose has always symbolized love. In this ceremony the couple exchange their first gifts as husband and wife. In the Rose Ceremony, the Bride and Groom give each other a Rose. Two roses are all that is necessary. The Rose Ceremony is placed at the end of the ceremony just before or after the couple are pronounced husband and wife.

While the celebrant can present the roses, the roses are often presented by the couples' parents, their children, the chief attendants, or valued friends. Other ways of using flowers is to exchange a flower lei immediately after the wedding vows.

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### *No. 1*

**Celebrant:**

It is now a special privilege for (parents/attendants/friends of the bride and groom) to present you with your first gift as Husband and Wife (one rose each to Groom and Bride)

In the language of flowers, the red rose is the symbol of love and their gift to you is the gift of love. Will you please exchange your red roses?

In this exchange you have given to each other your first gift as Husband and Wife - the gift of love. In every marriage it is sometimes difficult to find words to resolve certain issues, which may arise. If and when such issues come to your marriage, if either of you will remember to bring into home a red rose, the other will see it and understand it as a statement of love and accept it, because love makes everything all right.

It would be our prayer that wherever you make your home, there is a special place for red roses. And on each succeeding anniversary of this holy occasion you celebrate it, at least in part, by exchanging a red rose, as a memento of your love and recommitment to the promises you have made this day before you loved ones, friends and God.

### *No. 2*

**Groom:** I promise to honour and cherish you above all others from this day forward. I bring to you this flower, a symbol of the love that is consecrated today. Just as this flower needs to be nurtured to make it flower and grow, so will we nourish the flower of our love.

## ROSE CEREMONY

Bride: I promise to honour and cherish you above all others from this day forward. I bring to you this flower, a symbol of the love that is consecrated today. Just as this flower needs to be nurtured to make it flower and grow, so will we nourish the flower of our love.

### *No. 3*

Groom: I bring to you this flower. It is a symbol of the love that is consecrated today. Let us always remember that it must be nurtured and given care to grow and thrive. We will nourish the flower of our love and give it all the care it requires. Do this with me and watch us grow.

Bride: I bring to you this flower. It is a symbol of the love that is consecrated today. Let us always remember that it must be nurtured and given care to grow and thrive. We will nourish the flower of our love and give it all the care it requires. Do this with me and watch us grow.

### *No. 4*

Celebrant: Your gift to each other for your wedding today has been your wedding rings - which shall always be an outward demonstration of your vows of love and respect; and a public showing of your commitment to each other.

You now have what remains the most honorable title which may exist between a man and a woman - the title of "husband" and "wife."  
For your first gift as husband and wife, that gift will be a single rose. In the past, the rose was considered a symbol of love and a single rose always meant only one thing - it meant the words "I love you." So it is appropriate that for your first gift - as husband and wife - that gift would be a single rose.

Please exchange your first gift as husband and wife. (partner's exchange roses) In some ways it seems like you have not done anything at all. Just a moment ago you were holding one small rose - and now you are holding one small rose. In some ways, a marriage ceremony is like this. In some ways, tomorrow is going to seem no different than yesterday. But in fact today, just now, you both have given and received one of the most valuable and precious gifts of life - the gift of true and abiding love within the devotion of marriage.

## ROSE CEREMONY

(Groom) and (Bride), I would ask that where ever you make your home in the future that you both pick one very special location for roses; so that on each anniversary of your wedding day you both may take a rose to that spot both as a recommitment to your marriage - and a recommitment that THIS will be a marriage based upon love.

In every marriage there are times where it is difficult to find the right words. It is easiest to hurt who we most love. It is easiest to be most hurt by who we most love. It might be difficult some time to say, "I am sorry" or "I forgive you"; "I need you" or "I am hurting". If this should happen, if you simply can not find these words, leave a rose at that spot which both of you have selected - for that rose than says what matters most of all and should overpower all other things and all other words.

That rose says the words: "I still love you." The other should accept this rose for the words which can not be found, and remember the love and hope that you both share today.

(Groom) and (Bride), if there is anything you remember of this marriage ceremony, it is that it was love that brought you here today, it is only love which can make it a glorious union, and it is by love which your marriage shall endure.

### *No. 5*

#### Lei Exchange

Groom: Please wear my love, like a beautiful Lei.

Celebrant: Please place the Lei around the neck of your beloved and give her a kiss on each cheek.

Bride: Please wear my love, like a beautiful Lei.

Celebrant: Please place the Lei around the neck of your beloved and give him a kiss on each cheek.

May these leis embrace your thoughts, your senses and your hearts.

### *No. 6*

Celebrant: This is a day steeped in tradition, a time when we are surrounded by symbols of: something old, something new, something borrowed, something blue. Today, (Bride) and (Groom) will begin a new tradition, a custom which now becomes uniquely their own.