

Capener Quinlan Ceremony – June 9/2012

Welcome. My name is Melissa Taylor and I have the privilege of performing this ceremony today.

On behalf of Shauna and Chris welcome and thank you for being here. They are delighted that you are here today to share in their joy during this wonderful moment in their lives.

By your presence, you celebrate with them the love they have discovered in each other and you support their decision to commit themselves to one another for the rest of their lives.

As we begin today's celebration I would like to ask who presents this woman to be married to this man?

Address to the Assembly

Today their relationship changes. All of us know it will grow and become stronger and better. Indeed this is a day of hope. A day in which Shauna and Chris demonstrate their commitment, devotion, and mutual respect, as well as their faith and love in one another.

You who are gathered here as witnesses are called to continue your support and encouragement of the life that Shauna and Chris are creating together.

Address to the Couple

We all know that marriage is more than two people standing up here repeating vows. There is an art to any creative activity and there is too in marriage.

Part of the art of marriage is finding room for the things of the spirit. May you both continue in your search for the good and beautiful things in this life.

Part of the art of marriage is being flexible. In your marriage cultivate flexibility, patience, understanding and a sense of humour.

Part of the art of marriage is to comfort each other and strive to be each other's best friend. Most important, develop the capacity to forgive and heal your differences day by day.

Always remember that love can prevail. It can be the miracle that invites you to learn, to blossom and to expand your horizons.

Your marriage can nurture you and provide the strength you need to face the world. Only from this moment on you will face the world in a new way. A new family is being born and our world will be better because of it. For this we all celebrate.

Lord's Prayer

On this special day we can thank God for bringing Shauna and Chris together. May we bow our heads and at this time say our Lord's Prayer:

Our Father which art in heaven

Hallowed be thy Name

Thy Kingdom come

Thy will be done in earth

As it is in heaven

Give us this day our daily bread

And forgive us our trespasses

As we forgive those that trespass against us

And lead us not into temptation

But deliver us from evil

For thine is the kingdom

The power and the glory

For ever and ever

Amen.

Expression of Intent and Consent

Chris, you have chosen Shauna to be your wife. Will you love her, respect her, be honest with her and stand by her through whatever may come? If so, please say "I will."

Shauna, you have chosen Chris to be your husband. Will you love him, respect him, be honest with him and stand by him through whatever may come? If so, please say "I will."

And do you both promise to make the necessary adjustments in your personal lives in order that you may continue to live in a harmonious relationship together? If so, please say "we will."

The Affirmation of Family/Friends

In the spirit of joy and affirmation, I want to ask your family and friends a question: Do you, the families and friends of Shauna and Chris, give them your blessing and support, wishing them a wonderful life together? If so, please answer "we will."

The Exchange of Vows

The promises that you are about to make are the pillars of a wonderful partnership. Be sure to renew these vows each day to one another and silently within your own hearts.

Please turn and face each other and hold hands, looking at one another.

Chris, please repeat after me:

Shauna, today I give myself to you in marriage/I promise to encourage and inspire you/To laugh with you/To comfort you in times of sorrow and struggle/I promise to love you in good times and in bad/When life seems easy and when it seems hard/When our love is simple and when it is an effort/I promise to cherish you/To always hold you in highest regard/These things I give to you today/And all the days of our life.

Shauna, please repeat after me:

Chris, today I give myself to you in marriage/I promise to encourage and inspire you/To laugh with you/To comfort you in times of sorrow and struggle/I promise to love you in good times and in bad/When life seems easy and when it seems hard/When our love is simple and when it is an effort/I promise to cherish you/To always hold you in highest regard/These things I give to you today/And all the days of our life.

Ring exchange

May I have the rings please?

Chris, please repeat after me: Shauna, I give you this ring/ that you may wear it/as a symbol of the vows we have made this day/I pledge you my love and respect/my laughter and my tears/With all that I am I honour you.

Shauna, please repeat after me: Chris, I give you this ring that you may wear it/as a symbol of the vows we have made this day/I pledge you my love and respect/my laughter and my tears/With all that I am I honour you.

May the Lord bless the giving of these rings, that those who wear them live in love all their days.

Declaration

Chris and Shauna, we have heard your promise to share your lives in marriage. We recognize and respect the covenant of marriage you have made here this day before God and each one of us as witnesses. Therefore, in the honesty and sincerity of what you have said and done here today, it is my honour and delight to bless your union and the future that awaits you.

Benediction

May the Lord bless you and keep you. May the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you. May the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace. Amen.

You may seal your vows with a kiss.

Signing of the Mock Register

Introduction of the Couple

It is my personal privilege and joy to be the first one to introduce Chris and Shauna as partners for life. Please greet them warmly.

Recessional