

Jenny & Patrick – July 20, 2007

I. Processional

Circle of Salt

Creating sacred space

Wedding party/groom enter

II. Opening Words

Enter poem #1 here. See choices.

Today, Patrick and Jenny are here to plant the seeds for their future together. We are here to acknowledge this bond and bless this couple through the ritual of marriage. This ceremony binds the couple in spirit, handfasting them as one. Jenny and Patrick's love for family, friends and most of all each other brings us here today. We are honoured to celebrate with them on this joyous day.

The connection between Patrick and Jenny is solid like a stone. Their love for one another – and the way they respect the earth, other people, and each other -- unites them spiritually. They

share many interests together such as music, art, motorcycles, Guinness beer, cats and camping and these connect them in the physical world.

May they enjoy all of these things and more in their new life together.

Your presence here today is very much appreciated, and we are thankful that you are here offering your energy and your blessings, which the couple will carry with them into their future.

III. Stone/pebble blessing

You each received a small pebble . We ask that you hold this stone in your hand during the ceremony – filling it with love and warmth -- and then place it on your way out into the bowl of water with your good wishes for Jenny and Patrick.

IV. Honouring the elements

So let us begin by honouring the elementals. <Ring bell.>

We face the West to greet the elements of water, may they guide you to always deeply share your feelings and emotions. <Ring bell.>

We face the North to face the elements of earth, may they give Patrick and Jenny a strong foundation on which to stand. <Ring bell.>

We face the East to greet the elements of air, may they bless them with open communication and to remember the lightness of being. <Ring bell.>

We face the South to greet the elements of fire, may they give to you an eternal flame.<Ring bell.>

V. Poem #2

VI. Vows:

It is time to put into words what holds you together. These words that you recite to one another will express your deepest feelings and your love for one another.

I wish to join my life with yours.

To share your joys and support your dreams.

To love you tender, love you sweet.

To live as a family.

I vow to love, cherish and respect you.

To hold you to my heart.

But not bind you to my will.

I promise to listen carefully and to speak the truth.

To stay with you through struggles and pleasures,
and to be faithful to you all the days of my life.

I make this solemn vow to you before those that I love dearest.

Do you accept me and all that I am?

I do.

VII. Blessing and exchange of rings

The ring is a symbol of never ending love, like wheels turning and moving with grace through the cycles of life, so shall these two while wearing them.

Patrick puts ring on Jenny's finger.

The ring is an unbroken circle, having neither a beginning nor an end, but a continuous cycle of which we are all an element. The ring is a gift, representing your promise to each other.

Jenny puts ring on Patrick's finger.

XI. Handfasting

Renee wraps hands together with handfasting cloth.

Above you are the stars, below you are the stones, as you go through life, remember: Like a star should your love be constant, like a stone should your love be strong. With this cloth we wrap your hands together to connect two strong and individual spirits who will walk side-by-side, through life, hand-in-hand.

XIII. Final blessing

Here now lies hidden all the future of their lives together. May that future be blessed with deepening love; may they trust each other fully as they trust themselves. May they provide strength and support for each other. May they be at home wherever they dwell and gather wisdom from life and from each other.

Blessed be, Patrick and Jenny, as you walk the path of life together.

Always remember, and never forget, everything is unfolding perfectly.

You have stepped upon the first stone on the path of a great adventure. May it be fruitful and full of love. Blessed be your life together, Jenny and Patrick. We now pronounce you husband and wife; now seal this union with a kiss.

<Ring bells joyfully.>

Poems:

Love lit a fire
In my chest

And anything that wasn't love,
Left.

Sometimes I call you wine,
Or cup,
Sunlight ricocheting off those,
Or fainting immersed in silver.

You dance inside my chest
Where no one sees you
But sometimes I do,
And that sight
Becomes art.

-- Rumi

This is what I vow:
He/she shall have my heart to keep
Sweetly will we stir and sleep
All the years, as now
Swift the measures sands may run
Love like this is never done
He/she and I are welded one.
This is what I vow.

-- Dorothy Parker

Oh life is a glorious cycle of song
And love is thing that can never go wrong.

-- Dorothy P.

Lovers gather and give each other shade
Relief from the direct sun
Stay close by that community
Be shade with them
Until you yourself
Are full of light like the moon,
Then like the sun.

--Rumi

i carry your heart with me (i carry it in
my heart) i am never without it (anywhere
i go you go, my dear; and whatever is done
by only me is your doing, my darling)

i fear
no fate (for you are my fate, my sweet) i want

no world(for beautiful you are my world, my true)
and it's you are whatever a moon has always meant
and whatever a sun will always sing is you

here is the deepest secret nobody knows
(here is the root of the root and the bud of the bud
and the sky of the sky of a tree called life; which grows
higher than soul can hope or mind can hide)
and this is the wonder that's keeping the stars apart

i carry your heart (i carry it in my heart)

--ee cummings