

Vow Renewal Ceremony
Spiritual
Rev Joe Miles

Optional - Conch shell low here and at end of your ceremony

Oli Aloha

Optional - Goes nicely with conch blow.

Onaona I ka hala me ka lehua
 Fragrant with the breath of hala and lehua

He hale lehua no'ia na ka noe
 This is the sight I long to see

O ka'u no'ia e'ano'i nei
 Of this, my present desire

E li'a nei ho'i o ka hiki mai
 Your coming fills me with eagerness

A hiki mai no'oe oukou
 Now that you have come

A hiki pū no me ke aloha
 Love comes with you

Aloha e, Aloha e, Aloha e
 Greetings, greetings, greetings

(Translation)

The Oli Aloha is a chant, which offers a word of greeting.
 It says in part: This is the sight for which you have longed.
 Now that you have come, love has come with you.

Today we meet by the sea as the two of you renew your vows and celebrate your love for one another.

Here where the earth meets this constant and unlimited force. And as are these waters, may the love you share continue to be limitless, flowing and ever changing.

LEI EXCHANGE

Optional (must purchase from coordinator or provide lei)

Here in Hawaii we exchange flower leis, signifying our open hearts and love for one another.

The beautiful lei with all of its hand-picked flowers, are twined and carefully bonded together with love.

A reflection of the many years of your love and Aloha for each other.

As you exchange these leis you now will continue to weave your own lei of life.

And now, with loving Aloha please present your leis to one another.

“E honi aku” (give her/him a kiss)

Let this be a day of gladness, thanksgiving, possibility, and good fortune for all of us, but especially for _____ and _____, who are here to renew and celebrate their love.

Good relationships never stop growing. Like fine wine, they get better with age.

_____ and _____, [date] marks the ___ anniversary of your marriage and through all the years of your journey together, you have now [come/returned} to Maui, to this beautiful setting, so that you could renew your vow and commitment of love for each other.

If it were possible to begin this ceremony by gathering together all the wishes of happiness for _____ and _____ from all present here.

If we could gather those precious wishes of affection and our very fondest hopes and turn them into music, we would be listening now to a most inspiring anthem, where it would be composed of the most harmonious notes possible to produce.

Even though this is not possible, just speaking of it should assure _____ and _____ that our hearts are attuned to theirs in these moments so meaningful to all of us for “what greater thing is there for two human souls than to feel they are joined together to strengthen each other in all labor, to comfort each other in all sorrow and to share with each other in all gladness”

Marriage has been described as the best and most important relationship that can exist between two human beings; the construction of their love and trust into a single growing energy of spiritual life.

Marriage should be a lifelong consecration to the ideal of loving kindness backed by the will to make it last.

Optional - We read in “The Prophet”:

True love gives nothing but itself
And takes nothing but from itself
Love does not possess, nor would it be possessed

For love is sufficient unto love.
 Love has no other desire but to fulfill itself,
 To awake at dawn with a winged heart and
 Give thanks for another day of loving.
 To rest at noon and meditate love's ecstasy;
 To return home at eventide with gratitude,
 And then to sleep with a prayer for the beloved in your heart
 And a song of praise upon your lips.

Marriage is more than a contract. It is a commitment to take your joy deeper than happiness, deeper into the discovery of who you really are.

It is a journey to a life of becoming.

Marriage is even deeper than commitment.

It is a covenant...a covenant that says: I love you. I trust you.
 I will be here for you when you are hurting.
 And when I am hurting, I will not leave. . .

Marriage is intended to provide a sanctuary safe enough to risk loving, to risk fully living and risk sharing from the center of yourself

Just as spring blossoms anew after a harsh winter, so must spouses renew their love for each other in their daily lives.

Today you renew your vows and your love as [husband and wife, wife and wife, husband and husband].

This moment begins the new spring of your love for one another. So may it be renewed each day in your hearts.

_____ and _____, we are here today to remember and rejoice with you and to recount with one another that it is love that guides us on our path; and to celebrate as you continue this journey together.

It is in this spirit that you have come here today to exchange these vows.

VOWS

_____ and _____, have you come here freely and with the intention of a renewal of your marriage vows?
 (Both answer "We have.")

Will you continue to love and honor each other as husband and wife every day as you have promised to do?

(Both answer "We do.")

Will you love, comfort and cherish, keeping each other forever more?

(Both answer "We will.")

_____ please repeat this renewal vow to _____ saying after me:

I again take you to continue to be my [wife, husband]... my partner in life,
I give you my unending love and devotion.
I promise to be true to you and to cherish you
And to share my thoughts, hopes and dreams with you.
I thank you for the time we've had together,
And it is with hope, faith and joy that I look forward to continuing our journey.
And with this renewal of vows, our love and commitment will grow even stronger.

_____ please repeat this renewal vow to _____ saying after me:

I again take you to continue to be my [husband, wife]... my partner in life,
I give you my unending love and devotion.
I promise to be true to you and to cherish you
And to share my thoughts, hopes and dreams with you.
I thank you for the time we've had together,
And it is with hope, faith and joy that I look forward to continuing our journey.
And with this renewal of vows, our love and commitment will grow even stronger.

RINGS

May these rings be blessed as a symbol of this affectionate recommitting of your lives.

The wedding ring is the outward and visible sign of an inward and spiritual bond, which unites two loyal hearts in endless love.

Your rings say that even in your uniqueness you have chosen to be bound together.

Let these rings also be a sign that love has substance as well as soul, a past, a present and a future, and that, despite its occasional sorrows, love is a circle of happiness, wonder, and delight.

_____, repeat after me....

_____, with this ring, I continue to take you to be my trusted confidante and partner for life.

_____, repeat after me....

_____, with this ring I continue to take you to be my trusted confidante and partner for life.

May this shining hour be an open door through which _____ and _____ will go forth to continue to build that dearest of all relationships, a happy marriage.

May the years deal gently with you; walking together may you continue find far more in life than either would have found alone.

PRONOUNCEMENT

Although I am officiating here today to sanctify and bless your relationship the two of you have already done so in your own hearts.

By joining hands right now and looking into each other's eyes, let it be known that you are recommitted, body and soul in this lifetime, and that bond is sacred and eternal.

Now that you have stood before me and have exchanged these renewal vows and these rings it gives me great pleasure to pronounce that you have reaffirmed your life's commitment to one another.

Go forth in love and friendship for the rest of the days of your lives.

_____ you may kiss your [wife, husband]!