

REDEDICATION OF WEDDING PROMISES:

(The couple should come to the front, preferably holding hands and face the Minister, at an appropriate part of the church service. Other members of the close family [e.g. their children] may also wish to stand around them in a semicircular shape as supporters. While the occasion has a special significance it should not be overly solemn, but still have a reverence within the overall service.)

MINISTER:

This morning we have gathered together in the presence of God to worship Him. As part of our service, "Jack & Jill Smith" who are already married to each other, wish to reaffirm the promises (vows) and the commitment they made to each other on their wedding day, and to ask God for His continued blessing on their marriage.

We know that according to the teaching of Christ, marriage is the lifelong union, in spirit, mind and body between a man and woman. It is His will that, in marriage, the love of a man and a woman should be fulfilled throughout the whole of their lives together, in mutual companionship, helpfulness and care. With God's help, this love grows and deepens with the years, as is evidenced in this couple's marriage.

Marriage is the foundation of true family life and, when blessed with the gift of children, as theirs has been*, is God's chosen way for the continuance of mankind. The union of husband and wife is compared, in Scripture, to the union of Christ and His Church, and therefore within our marriage relationships, we too should seek to model our love for each other like Christ by demonstrating a giving sacrificial love.

** This can be adopted to your given situation*

(The couple should now turn and face each other, holding each other's hands as the promises are retaken)

MINISTER:

"Jack", you took "Jill" to be your wife on *(date of wedding)*, and today you wish to acknowledge before God, and *this congregation/your family and friends*, your commitment to her and the promises (vows) you made, and to reaffirm your marriage covenant. I ask you, therefore, will you continue to love her, honour and keep her, and be faithful to her as long as you both shall live?

"Jack" With God's Help I will.

MINISTER: "Jill" you also took "Jack" to be your husband on *(date of wedding)*, and today you wish to acknowledge before God, and *this congregation/your family and friends*, your commitment to him and the promises [vows] you made, and to reaffirm your marriage covenant. I ask you, therefore, will you continue to love him, honour and keep him, being faithful to him, as long as you both shall live?

"Jill": With God's help I will

MINISTER: Having reaffirmed your love and commitment to each other, will you continue to have and to hold each other, for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, till death do you part, according to God's holy law?

"Jack & Jill" (together): With God's help we will

MINISTER:

Let us pray

Father God, we pray for "Jack & Jill" who have reaffirmed their love for each other today, which was symbolised on their wedding day when they exchanged rings as a sign of their commitment towards each other, and that they would be ever-faithful one to the other. Lord we thank you for your presence in their relationship and we praise you that your love for us was embodied in the person of your Son.

God of love, we recognise that You are the author and giver of all good gifts and in You is fullness of joy found. We pray that You will continue to send down your blessing on "Jack & BP" and surround them with your good gifts. Watch over them, guide and protect them, and give them faith and patience; that all their days they draw strength from Your love towards them. May their promises [vows] reaffirmed today, be strengthened and confirmed by your power, so that all their hopes may be fulfilled in accordance with Your will.

We also thank you for the gift of their children and pray that they too will be blessed and a blessing. We ask as "Jack & Jill" live out their lives that your love will draw them even closer than they have been, and that their example will enable others to catch a glimpse of Your goodness, grace and love.

So, Lord, pour out your Holy Spirit upon this couple, bless them as a family and help them to experience afresh your sustaining grace. May they continue to live in Your love and joy and peace. These prayers we ask in the name of Jesus Christ Our Lord. Amen.

(At this point, the couple, followed by their family and friends may wish to receive communion depending on the context of the service. Indeed if there is to be communion in the overall service they may be the first people, as a family, to receive communion together and certainly it would enable the wider community of faith to identify them. It is purely a personal preference.)