

## Wedding Announcement before the Buddha

We reverently offer this announcement before the Eternal Buddha Shakyamuni.

Today, on the [*ordinal number*] day of [*month*], in the year [*year*], we celebrate the wedding of this fine couple as the time for marriage has ripened thanks to the Buddha's assistance in bringing them together.

Reflecting on the meaning of marriage, we acknowledge that it serves as one of the ethics fundamental to human beings and has, for ages, brought about successive lives that will continue for eternity. The bride and groom, with their hearts and minds united as one, take firm refuge in the Three Treasures and diligently practice the bodhisattva way as lay Buddhists under the guidance of Founder Niwano.

Here, we pray that this celebration may encourage the couple to walk the path of the One Vehicle by deepening a sense of compassion for each other, sharing joy and suffering together, thereby cultivating their hearts and minds. We also pray that they dedicate themselves to bring peace to their families of origin, community, country, and the world. Thus, their families will prosper without fail, and the merits they accumulate through good deeds will certainly be transferred to their ancestors and their descendants.

Now, together with those people with whom they are connected through the Dharma, the couple [*or bride and groom*] have renewed their vows to share the teachings with others and establish the Land of Eternally Tranquil Light in this world.

We earnestly pray that all buddhas, all bodhisattvas, and all the countless heavenly spirits bestow their sagely guidance and boundless protection upon the newlyweds and both their families of origin.

Namu Myoho Renge Kyo (*Strike the gong once.*)