

## **YOUR WEDDING OFFICIANT**

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### **WEDDING OFFICIANT: How to choose your wedding officiant?**

The wedding officiant (marriage officiant/reverend) plays a very important role in a wedding ceremony. What he does and how he speaks can have great impact. To look for an able marriage officiant, it pays to focus on the following three basic qualities.

First and foremost, the marriage officiant must have good linguistic ability. If accent is heavy, fluency is lacking, and talks are wooden, for example, reading from notes and cards, the wedding ceremony will be dull and bland.

Secondly, the style of the marriage officiant cannot be overlooked. He has to be able to blend celebration and solemnity naturally. To do that, eye contacts with the bride, the groom, and their guests are essential. In addition, his ability to conduct himself in a respectful way, the effective use of his voice and tone, and his leadership in working through the complete program of the wedding ceremony are of utmost importance.

Thirdly, the marriage officiant must be resourceful and informative. After he confirms with the bride and groom to be their marriage officiant, he should be able to provide necessary assistance and information to guide them in their planning and preparation, and be available for consultation.

Having an able marriage officiant is crucial if the bride and groom desire a beautiful, elegant, and respectful wedding ceremony. It is important to note that before all the relatives, friends, and colleagues, the wedding ceremony is a reflection and an expression of the bride and groom and their parents!