

## Naming Ceremony Examples

A naming ceremony is symbolic of friends and family making a spiritual and emotional commitment to the child and his or her upbringing. The new parents will make a vow to love, protect and honour the child and raise him or her to the best of their abilities.

Generally include:

- welcome baby
- introduce them formally to friends and family
- state your thoughts and wishes for baby's future and the kind of person we want them to become
- commit, in front of friends and family, to be the best parents we can
- acknowledge we will need the support of friends and family to do this

Example Ceremonies:

Ceremony One

### *Name Giving Ceremony of Emily Joan and Faye Yvonne Smith*

#### **WELCOME**

Welcome to Emily Joan and Faye Yvonne's naming day. My name is Susan Glasson and I am a civil celebrant authorised to conduct today's ceremony. Today is a special day for Emily and Faye, John and Karen, and family and friends as we acknowledge and formally welcome these two little girls into our community.

Friends and family have already welcomed Faye and Emily into their hearts - from the moment they were born these two little girls have been loved and treasured by many.

Emily and Faye are blessed to have the love of their Grandparents. They are also surrounded by love from many Aunts, Uncles and Cousins who they are fortunate to be close to.

Today we honour and acknowledge their family as we formally celebrate their naming day. The celebration of rites of passage and rituals is an important component of our society. They mark a person's transition through life stages and highlight the values and beliefs important to us. As a traditional naming day, today's celebration offers the ritual of formally naming, acknowledging and welcoming these two little girls into our community. However, our celebration today is also a time for John and Karen to celebrate their family, make promises to their little girls and identify special people outside the family who will always be there for each of the girls and act as godparents to Emily and Faye.

As many of you present would be aware, both Faye and Emily took some time and patience to come to John and Karen. Anyone who was around during that time knows that both of these girls were dearly wished for, longed for, prayed for and wanted - and what a beautiful way to come into the world.

After two years of hope, Emily Joan Kerr was born on 12th March 2009. John played a large role in choosing Emily's name which means MEANING. Another four and a bit years

later on 15th July 2013 Faye Yvonne Kerr joined the family. From when Karen and John first told Emily that mummy was pregnant and they would have a new baby, Emily was adamant that she would have a little sister. Emily played the lead naming role this time choosing Faye's name from a list compiled by Karen and John.

Since Faye's birth Emily has been the doting big sister. Since Faye was brought home from hospital, Emily has whispered into Faye's ear every night. When Karen asked Emily what she was whispering, Emily told her it was something special between sisters. Karen talked Emily into telling us for today. Emily can you tell us all what you say to Faye each night? {Each night Emily whispers to Faye 'I love you and I will always be there to hug and kiss you'}.

## READING

### Why I Love My Sister, The Importance Of A Sister

By Shiv Sharma

A sister is someone who loves you from the heart,  
No matter how much you argue you cannot be drawn apart.  
She is a joy that cannot be taken away,  
Once she enters your life, she is there to stay

A friend who helps you through difficult times,  
Her comforting words are worth much more than dimes.  
A partner who fills your life with laughs and smile,  
These memories last for miles and miles.

When she is by your side, the world is filled with life,  
When she is not around, your days are full of strife.  
A sister is a blessing, who fills your heart with love,  
She flies with you in life with the beauty of a dove.

A companion to whom you can express your feelings,  
She doesn't let you get bored at family dealings.  
Whether you are having your ups or downs,  
She always helps you with a smile and never frowns.

With a sister you cannot have a grudge,  
She is as sweet as chocolate and as smooth as fudge.  
Having a sister is not just a trend,  
It is knowing you can always turn to her, your best friend.

Emily and Faye, we wish this for you as sisters throughout your lives.

## CELEBRANT ~ Acknowledgement of Parents

Families are an integral and important structure within our society. The role of parenthood is held in high regard and is one of utmost importance. From the moment Emily and Faye were

born, John and Karen's lives changed forever. The responsibility of parenthood overcoming all others. In the words of Elizabeth Stone 'Making the decision to have a child is momentous. It is to decide forever to have your heart go walking around outside your body'.

John and Karen have chosen to present their wishes and promises to Emily and Faye in the form of a poem today. John and Karen will also shower their children with petals whilst making their promises. The various colours of petals represent different qualities and aspirations: innocence, friendships to come, tender love, compassion, happiness and fulfilment in life.

## **PARENTS WISHES ~ John & Karen**

### Parents Wish

We wish you a childhood full of fun and games,  
And we wish you memories that have little pain.  
We wish you to learn by making mistakes,  
We wish you to love and never to hate.

We wish you the strength to make up you own mind,  
But we wish that your heart will be gentle and kind.  
We wish you to reach out when a friend needs a hand,  
And we wish you help him to face life's demand.

We wish you what life brings you, some ups and some downs,  
But we wish you will smile much more than you'll frown.  
We wish you will taste life's "sweet smell of success"  
Only to find no replacement for true love and happiness.

We wish life will teach you to stand on your own,  
But we wish you to know that you're never alone.  
We wish you success in all that you do,  
And we hope that all of your dreams will come true

But the one thing above and beyond all of this,  
Is the love that is felt by "This Parents Wish".

## **ANNOUNCEMENT OF GODPARENTS ~ John & Karen Kerr**

It is also our wish for you both that you have people outside the family who are special and important to each of you. We wish for you someone who will always be there for you, who will listen to you, for you to look up to, to trust, and to talk to as you grow up. So we have asked Simon White and Sarah Grey to be godparents to you Emily, and Fred and Susan Black to be godparents to you Faye. Unfortunately Simon is unable to be here today however Sarah represents both herself and Simon as Emily's godparents today. Sarah, Susan and Fred we ask you now to make promises to Faye and Emily as their godparents.

## **GODPARENTS PROMISES ~ Sarah Grey, Fred & Susan Glasson**

From Godparents "I am always here" adapted by Renee Womble

We are always here  
To understand you,  
To laugh with you,  
To cry with you.

We are always here  
To talk with you,  
To think with you,  
To plan with you.

Even though we might not always be together,  
Please know that we are always here to love you.

## **BUTTERFLY RELEASE**

Butterflies are a symbol of freedom, love and new beginning. We release butterflies today in each of your names. Whilst we are doing this champagne will be distributed for the blessing and a toast to follow.

## **BLESSING**

May God Bless and Keep You Always, May Your wishes All Come True (Forever Young) -  
by Bob Dylan

May God bless and keep you always,  
May your wishes all come true,  
May you always do for others  
And let others do for you.  
May you build a ladder to the stars  
And climb on every rung,  
May you stay forever young,  
Forever young, forever young.

May you grow up to be righteous,  
May you grow up to be true,  
May you always know the truth  
And see the lights surrounding you.  
May you always be courageous,  
Stand upright and be strong,  
May you stay forever young,  
Forever young, forever young.

May your hands always be busy,

May your feet always be swift,  
May you have a strong foundation  
When the winds of changes shift.  
May your heart always be joyful,  
May your song always be sung,  
May you stay forever young,  
Forever young, forever young.

## CLOSING & TOAST

This brings us to the end of today's ceremony. On behalf of John and Karen I thank each of you for being part of Emily and Faye's special day and invite you to sign in the message book for the girls.

**~ John & Karen**

We would like to close with a toast to Emily and Faye.

If everyone has a glass and can raise their champagne, to Emily Joan and Faye Yvonne Smith.

Ceremony Two

## *Name Giving Ceremony of Lachlann John White*

### CELEBRANT ~ WELCOME

Hello, On behalf of Kylie and Chris I am very happy to welcome you all to Lachlann's naming ceremony. My name is Sally Glasson and I am a civil celebrant authorised to conduct today's ceremony. We will be keeping today's ceremony short - to suit the boy of the hour and his guests - but it is important that we take a little time to celebrate the ritual of welcoming Lachlann into our community and family and celebrating the great little man that he is.

Today we are celebrating a very special little boy. Born three years ago on 20th August, 2011 Lachlann John White made the family of Kylie, Chris and Ava a family of four.

Chris chose Lachlann's name - whilst Kylie and Chris knew they were having a boy, no name had been agreed upon when Kylie went into labour. Once he was born Kylie decided to let Chris name his son, and what a great name he chose as Lachlann loves his name, and nickname Loggie.

Lachlann, as most little boys do, has grown to be daddy's little man. He proudly told me when

I met him that dad works on diggers, and you don't get much cooler in the eyes of a three-year-old than that.

Lachlann whilst a little shy, is a real little gentleman and always uses his manners. Such great qualities that can only reflect the values of the loving environment and family he is part of. Kylie and Chris share similar values and what is important to them is replicated in their children - being a good person, respectful, responsible, and caring for yourself and others. Lachlann has also developed a love of superheros - in particular batman and Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles, gets dirty, has a little cheeky side and all round is a happy and cheerful little boy.

Kylie and Chris have chosen a poem entitled 'If I was a Superhero' to reflect the great things we are sure Lachlann is going to bring to this world

## READING

### If I was a Superhero by Sally Gray

If I was a superhero  
I'd definitely fly  
Arms outstretched, racing birds in the sky.

If I was a superhero  
I'd have special powers  
Like extra strong legs, for jumping across towers

If I was a superhero  
I'd save all the oceans  
With my secret and magical cleaning up potions

If I was a superhero  
I'd save all the trees  
And the mountains and rivers; the birds and the trees

If I was a superhero  
I'd help all the poor  
Give them food and make them hungry no more

If I was a superhero  
I'm sure you'll agree  
The world would be  
Better because of me!

## CELEBRANT ~ ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF PARENTS

A beautiful surprise for the family, Lachlann has been loved and adored by his big sister Ava, and Kylie and Chris have been amazed at how the love they had for Ava could be replicated again. The role of parenthood is one of utmost importance in society and Kylie and Chris have

provided for Lachlann and Ava a warm and loving environment for them to thrive. Kylie and Chris have some special promises that they wish to make to their little boy.

### **PARENTS WISHES ~ Kylie and Chris White**

Lachlann, you turned one so fast, your bald little head grew hair, your gums sprouted teeth, and your feet touched the ground and started to carry you wherever you wanted to go, your hands could blow kisses.

And then you turned two! Your hair needed to be trimmed, your teeth were big and strong and could crunch! Your feet could run, climb, and jump and maybe stumble, and your hands could pick you back up and play cars, and paint and pick up the strangest things off the ground.

And now you are three, a real little boy. You climb like spiderman, protect like batman, and fly like superman. You're changing and growing so much, two things haven't changed and I don't think ever will, are your enchanting, happy eyes and your amazing hugs you give your mummy and daddy.

You give me so much love, and encouragement and support in your hugs, way beyond your years. I know whatever size you grow to, you and I will always need our hugs, and I will try my best to pick you up.

Our wish for you, is that this life, becomes all that you want it to. Your dreams stay big, and your worries stay small. You never need to carry more than you can hold, and while you're out there getting where you're getting to, We hope you know somebody loves you, and wants the same things too, This is our wish.

### **ANNOUNCEMENT OF GODPARENTS ~ Kylie White**

Chris and I have asked our amazing friends, Tom and Kristy, to be a special part of our and Lachlann's life by being his godparents. Our boys are going to have a fantastic life and adventure together and I'm so happy you both can be a special part of ours.

### **GODPARENTS PROMISES ~ Tom & Kristy**

As godparents to Lachlann, Kylie and Chris ask that you will be special people in Lachlann's life, people who are there to support and love him and provide him guidance and encouragement from outside the family.

As Lachlann is into superheroes we have created a superhero poem to reflect the role of godparents to Lachlann. Tom and Kristy, as his superheroes, Kylie and Chris ask that you will always be

someone   Special and supportive;  
someone   Understanding and unique;

someone Patient and kind;  
someone Encouraging and welcoming;  
a Role model for Lachlann to look up to;  
someone Happy to listen to Lachlann and provide him guidance;  
someone External to the family that Lachlann can count on;  
someone Responsible to help in his upbringing; and  
someone Outstanding that Kylie and Chris have picked just for Lachlann.

Tom and Kristy are you willing to accept this responsibility to be godparents to Lachlann?

Response: 'We are'

### **CELEBRANT ~ CLOSING & BLESSING**

We are closing today's ceremony with a blessing by Bob Dylan and then welcome you all to join Kylie and Chris in cutting a cake for Lachlann and celebrating his third birthday as well as this occasion today. I also ask you each to make a contribution to Lachlann's keepsake memory box after the ceremony.

I am told Bob Dylan is a great love of Kylie's family, in particular of her father, Greg. It is actually quite fitting to honour Greg in a small way today as Lachlann inherited his blue beautiful eyes from his grandfather.

### **BLESSING**

May God Bless and Keep You Always, May Your wishes All Come True (Forever Young) - by Bob Dylan

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May your wishes all come true,  
May you always do for others  
And let others do for you.  
May you build a ladder to the stars  
And climb on every rung,  
May you stay forever young,  
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May you always know the truth  
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