

Name-giving ceremony example

Welcome - by Celebrant on behalf of the parents. Reference would be made to special people, like the 'god-parents', and in general to the family and friends gathered for the occasion. It is probably appropriate to mention the location, as often that has special significance. Likewise, the timing of the event may have some important reason behind it, and this could be mentioned. It is a happy occasion!

The next stage of a Ceremony is normally where the reasons behind the Name giving ceremony are given, with the parents' aspirations being one the most important. Perhaps it could be mentioned that the Name giving does not preclude any other social or religious celebration, but that it is rather a public celebration of the birth of the child.

You might like to include some reference to your child's birth date, place of birth and, most significantly, the reason for choosing the names. These personal pieces of information are interesting to your friends, and make the ceremony more individualistic. The Celebrant, or any one else, including the parents, can be involved at any time.

Readings are a good way of having someone else's words speak for you! Perhaps ask a friend, or one of the 'god-parents', to read, and include readings that are easily listened to!

Introduction of the 'god-parents' could occur next, adding reasons for having them as part of your child's life. Your expectations of what a "god-parent" is for, of what you hope they will do in the event of help and support being needed, is a good place to start. "God-parents" don't have to be only waiting around for something to go wrong! They can be invited to be a part of your child's life because they have something special to offer.

An Authorised Civil Marriage Celebrant will prepare a special Name giving Certificate, the information for which will be gained before the Ceremony, and the signing of which will occur at the end of the Ceremony.

There, is space for the parents and the "god-parents" to sign, as well as the Celebrant.