Illuminating Ceremonies

Christopher Shelley, CPWO

Celebrant | Speaker | Emcee | Author

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Fees: Cincinnati & Northern Kentucky

My fees depend on distance I'll need to travel, day of the week, and on how many hats I'll be wearing for you: am I only your officiant, getting the job done in as simple a way possible? Am I your Celebrant, writing and performing a great love story about you? Am I also your vow coach? Am I also your non-wedding day rehearsal director? Am I also the Master of Ceremonies for your reception?

Here are some options:

Level 1: Chris is your Wedding Officiant $400-600

You get me to do all the basic things a wedding officiant needs to do to conduct a ceremony and make you married, but I do so in my own totally fun, unique, and improvisational style. Your ceremony won't have any pre-prepared love story and it won't have the extraordinary personal touches that the Wedding Celebrant package has, but you'll still have me officiating your wedding in a professional, dignified, joyous way.

This Level 1 option is available only from Clifton to Mt. Adams to Covington/Newport

- Non-obligatory in-person meeting or phone call
- Performing your ceremony on your wedding day – but *you will <u>not</u> see the ceremony beforehand*
- Advisement on rituals and ideas
- My assistance with rehearsal (same day within 2 hours of the ceremony)
- Coordination with photographers, video team, musicians, DJ, planner
- My travel to your venue and back
- My signature on your license (included with all options)

Level 2: Chris is Your Wedding Celebrant $600-1000

This is the package most couples choose, and this is the one people write 5-star reviews about.

I apply my full arsenal of skills - speaking, performing, writing, hosting, theatricality, undeniable comedic charm. Your guests will say it's the best ceremony they've ever seen, they'll be entertained, they'll be thrilled for you, and they'll know you better than they did before the ceremony.

Many couples feel like the only way they can have a personal ceremony is to have a friend or family member officiate –not true! Celebrants, like me, are trained to learn all we need to learn about you in order to write and perform a wedding that is so personal, your guests will feel as if I must be some friend of yours. It's a magic trick. You fill out my couples' questionnaire, I write a ceremony for you, and then the three of us edit it together as needed, for as many drafts as it takes. (Usually 1 revision to the original draft is all we need.) You are involved in the creation of the ceremony, and you will know what I will say at your wedding. These ceremonies usually last 18-22 mins.

- Full ceremony featuring an engaging, hilarious, meaningful Love Story
- You see the ceremony weeks before the wedding and help me edit it to your liking
- Non-obligatory in-person meeting or phone call
- Advisement on rituals and ideas
- Advisement on processional/recessional order
- My assistance with rehearsal (same day within 2 hours of the ceremony)
- Coordination with photographers, video team, musicians, DJ, planner
- My travel to your venue and back
- My signature on your license (included with all packages)

Level 3: Chris is your Wedding Celebrant and your Personal Vow Coach $900-1,300

- Full ceremony featuring an engaging, hilarious, meaningful Love Story
- You see the ceremony weeks before the wedding and help me edit it to your liking
- Non-obligatory in-person meeting or phone call
- Advisement on rituals and ideas
- Editing and delivery coaching for your personal vows
- Advisement on processional/recessional order
- My assistance with rehearsal (same day within 2 hours of the ceremony)
- Coordination with photographers, video team, musicians, DJ, planner
- My travel to your venue and back
- My signature on your license (included with all packages)

Add-ons:

Chris is also your Personal Vow Coach

+$300 to coach both of you, +$200 to coach only one of you

All the above plus my expert editorial guidance for your personal vows. I work with couples on their vows all the time – I guide you on length, shape, tone, extensively and intensively helping craft your vows. You can also have me coach you on your delivery – most people are new to public speaking – if you're going to take the time to write these vows, you may as well also take the time to make sure people (especially your partner) can hear the vows when you say them out loud.

Chris is your Non-wedding Day Rehearsal Director

I am the rare wedding vendor who loves rehearsals. They're a great opportunity for me to get to know everyone in your wedding party, to iron out the details, make everyone comfortable with what's expected of them, and plan special surprises for the ceremony to make it extraordinary. Same-day rehearsals held within two hours of the ceremony start time are included in my fee.

My availability to run a rehearsal on a *non-wedding day* depends largely on whether I have another wedding or am likely to have a wedding at the time of your rehearsal. For example, if you have a Friday night or Saturday night rehearsal, I will not likely be available because I will probably be officiating another wedding. If you absolutely want to hire me to run a Friday or Saturday night rehearsal, and I have not yet booked another wedding for that night, you will need to pay my full fee again because your rehearsal will prevent me from booking any other wedding. If you are having a Thursday night rehearsal, or a rehearsal *at any other time when I will be available,* I charge half my fee again.

Chris is the Master of Ceremonies for your Reception +$700 (& a meal, please!)

Why have the personalization end at the ceremony? No other vendor will know you as well as I will - I can command any room with any number of people, plus I have a good sense of timing in terms of keeping an event on schedule. By the time the ceremony is half-way through, your guests will love me and trust me – why not keep me around for the entire event?