



# Melissa Haley

## Civil Celebrant

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## Baby Naming Information Kit

### Let's Celebrate!

I'm so excited that you have chosen me to be a part of your special event! I am looking forward to helping you plan the most amazing, exciting and memorable ceremony that will truly represent this celebration of your Child's Naming Day.

As your celebrant I am committed to providing you with a unique, creative and enjoyable Naming Day experience for your child. This ceremony should reflect the innate personal qualities and values of the family who are making a commitment to their child. To achieve this, I work closely with you to understand your goals, values and aspirations to craft a ceremony that will reflect the family, their beliefs and wishes for their special day.

As a member of your team what do I bring to the event? I have a great sense of fun and adventure; and I love opportunity to meet, greet, and get to know new and different people. I utilise differing perspectives so that I can create something totally unique for you... that suits you to a tee! As a teacher, tertiary educator and life coach I am well equipped to in public speaking and communication to connect with people of all ages to ensure your ceremony is both well planned, scripted and executed.

### The purpose of the ceremony...

A child's naming ceremony give the parents an opportunity to welcome and celebrate with family and friends their child into the family. The ceremony provides opportunities for the parents to state their love and commitment to the child, acknowledge the role of family and friends in the child's growth and development and to declare hopes and aspirations for the child's future. The naming ceremony when performed by a celebrant in a non-religious ceremony.

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### The Basic structure of the ceremony

The basic structure of a naming ceremony can be used as a is as follows (alterations to suit needs are actively encouraged):

- Welcome/Introduction
- Poem/Reading
- Acknowledgment of siblings (if applicable)
- The naming of the baby
- Parent promises to the child
- Symbolic Rituals
- Acknowledgement of special adults for child
- Welcoming child to family and friends
- Declaration of love and support
- Poem/Blessing
- Signing of the ceremonial certificate
- Presentation of certificate and closing words

### Some examples of songs, quotes, rituals and poems that can be used for a Baby Naming as your starting point:

<b>Rituals</b>	
Sand ceremony	
Wishing cards	
Signature bear	
Treasure box	
Video recording time capsule	
Prayer flags	
<b>Music</b>	
<b>Smile – Uncle Kracker</b>	The Climb - Hannah Montana (Miley Cyrus)
<b>Ray of Sunshine -</b>	Love my life - Robbie Williams
<b>How far I'll go - Alessia Cara</b>	Circle of life - Elton John
<b>Let it Grow – Ester Dean</b>	Greatest Love - Whitney Houston

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### Poems

#### A Child's Blessing

may your life be blessed  
with joy and love

may angels guide you  
from above

may your heart be kind  
your spirit strong

to see the good  
and right some wrong

may the world  
be a better place

because you came  
and shared some space

#### A Child learns what he lives

If a child lives with criticism  
he learns to condemn.

If a child lives with hostility  
he learns to fight.

If a child lives with ridicule  
he learns to be shy.

If a child lives with shame  
he learns to feel guilt.

BUT,

If a child lives with tolerance  
he learns to be patient.

If a child lives with encouragement  
he learns confidence.

If a child lives with fairness  
he learns justice.

If a child lives with security  
he learns to have faith.

If a child lives with approval  
he learns to like himself.

If a child lives with acceptance and friendship  
he learns to find love in the world.

#### Celtic Blessing

May the strength of the wind and the light of  
the sun,  
The softness of the rain and the mystery of  
the moon  
Reach you and fill you.  
May beauty delight you and happiness uplift  
you,  
May wonder fulfil you and love surround you.  
May your step be steady and your arm be  
strong,  
May your heart be peaceful and your word  
be true.  
May you seek to learn, may you learn to live,  
May you live to love, and may you love -  
always

#### You are the Poem - Author unknown

You are the poem  
I dreamed of writing,  
The masterpiece  
I longed to paint.  
You are the shining star  
I reached for in my ever-hopeful quest  
For life fulfilled...  
You are my child.  
Now with all things  
I am blessed.

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### Poems (cont.)

#### **I loved you from the very start,**

You stole my breath, embraced my heart.  
Our life together has just begun  
You're part of me my little one.  
As mother with child, each day I grew,  
My mind was filled with thoughts of you.

I'd daydream of the things we'd share,  
Like late-night bottles and Teddy bears.  
Like first steps and skinned knees,  
Like bedtime stories and ABC's.  
I thought of things you'd want to know,  
Like how birds fly and flowers grow.

I thought of lessons I'd need to share,  
Like standing tall and playing fair.  
When I first saw your precious face,  
I prayed your life be touched with grace.  
I thanked the angels from above,  
And promised you unending love.

Each night I lay you down to sleep,  
I gently kiss your head and cheek.  
I count your little fingers and toes;  
I memorize your eyes and nose.  
I linger at your nursery door,  
Awed each day I love you more.

Through misty eyes, I dim the light,  
I whisper, "I love you" every night.  
I loved you from the very start,  
You stole my breath, embraced my heart.  
As mother and child our journeys begin,  
My heart's yours forever little one.