Cherished Wedding Traditions

"Blessed may you be who come in the name of the Lord. May He who is might, blessed and great above all, May He send His abounding blessings to the bridegroom and the bride."

The invocation which will begin the wedding blessings for Maureen and Larry in Congregation Sharrey Zedek will be recited under the bridal canopy of flowers known as the Huppah. The Hebrew word literally means "covering" and symbolizes the new home which will be created by the bride and groom.

Shaarey Zedek is a conservative synagogue, and the wedding ceremony there "will be a traditional Jewish ceremony, not that different from the orthodox," said Rabbi Irwin Groner, who will marry the young couple on December 18.

The Bethrothal Benediction, followed by the reading of the Seven Benedictions, are recited over sups of wine for the celebration of life, the celebration of joy, and this followed by the breaking of a glass.

When Larry breaks the glass

by stepping on it on his wedding day, the act will be the most somber part of the entire ceremony, an act intended to temper the joy of the occasion. For it will remind those present of the destruction of the Temples in Jerusalem and of other calamities that befell the Jewish people.

Larry and Maureen have chosen to be married in the synagogue's large chapel, before the peak of stained glass structured to sybmolize Mt. Sinai. The various colors of glass gradually turn to red and orange up near the peak, representing the burning bush which was not consumed according to the Old Testament story.

Metallic configurations of Ten Hebrew letters, representing the Ten Commandments run vertically up the high wall to suggest the Tree of Life.

It is indeed a dramatic setting, fitting for the traditional Jewish ceremony where there is no exchange of vows. The exchange is implicit in the ritual itself.



RABBI IRWIN GRONER chats with Maureen and Larry in the large sanctuary at Congregation Shaarey Zedek. The Rabbi will perform the traditional Jewish wedding ceremony for the young couple in the conservative synagogue on December 18.



The Vows Have Been Repeated... The Rice Thrown... The Last Toast Presented

What remains to eternalize this lovely memory...pictures.

For this reason, Herman Jaffee Photography feels that your wedding pictures should be taken with pride and care only award-winning professional photographers can give.

Herman Jaffee explains to Maureen and Larry that his excellent staff can preserve their wedding with formal pictures and candids in exquisite natural color.

Herman Jaffee Photography

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