

## Mark Schubert & Hallie Fitzsimmons

**March 16th was the day Mark and Hallie met each other. A later March 16th was the day Mark proposed to Hallie. This March 16th is their wedding day, and future March 16ths will forever be their anniversary. As the earth revolves around the sun each year, it invites us to commemorate certain days that shine with special significance above others. This will forever be one of those.**

**Time has a sacred property. The impulse we feel to honor anniversaries shows the spiritual quality of time.**

**People of faith believe God created time, just as we believe God created space. According to the Bible's Book of Genesis, after God created the heavens and the earth in all their array, he created a man and a woman to enter the play of the universe. He wanted the first couple to multiply and fill the earth, which they did with greatest pleasure. Then he commanded the first humans to use their gifts to subdue the earth, to have dominion over other living beings, bringing order and delight to the world.**

**Both Mark and Hallie have used their gifts to make the world a better place. Aeronautical engineers improve our dominion over the skies. And Hallie has spent much of her career assisting children, out of her study of health and human services. Even as they use their gifts for the sake of humanity, today they pledge their lives to each other. Their love entwines their gifts and flourishes upon the foundation of their many shared values.**

**The Catholic wedding ceremony expresses a belief that God made the world out of love, and remains active in the world out of love. We believe God expects us to extend the nobleness of what he has made, and that he stands ready to aid us in that endeavor. We believe God made each person with a purpose, with specific gifts not just for our own enjoyment, but for the enjoyment and service of others.**

**Mark and Hallie, you have devoted much of your lives to furthering your education in your field, applying that knowledge to your work, and coming to know each other better. You have come to a better awareness of your own gifts, beliefs and values. You have supported each other with sincere respect.**

**You begin married life with a realistic hope for a long, happy and fruitful future, in which you develop the order and delight you bring to the world. As each March 16th comes by, may your gifts increase, and your love ever grow.**