



Filipino Ceremony of Coins, Veil, and Cord

Today we would like to include three Filipino customs into our service...

The first is the gift of Arrhae or coins. It represents the groom's dedication to the welfare of the bride. It signifies the bride and the groom's mutual hope for wealth, prosperity, and security as they build their lives and family together. The metal tinkling of thirteen coins being passed from one pair of hands to the other signifies abundance and success in the couple's joint efforts. May we have the coins please.

(The coins are given to the minister by one of the attendants. He hands them to the groom who drops them in the bride's hands. She then gives them back to the minister who hands them to the attendant.)

The next custom is the draping of the veil on the couple. The veil is a symbol of the faithful and everlasting love the bride and groom have for each other. Through the passing of the years, it will remind them that they belong to each other, and that their love becomes more beautiful in self-surrender that are total and pure. The veil sponsors will pin the veil from the groom's shoulders extending to cover the bride's shoulders. It also symbolizes the unity of the two families into one.

(Attendants place veil on groom's shoulder first, then the bride's.)

The last custom is the draping of the cord. The cord symbolizes the love and friendship that bind the couple together, and the figure eight shape represents the infinite nature of matrimony.

(Attendants place cord over the couple)

These ceremonies we have incorporated into the service today represent the joining of two families, two traditions, and the creation of memories, which are the cornerstones we build a life around and will be cherished for all of *Bride* and *Groom's* marriage. You may now remove the cord and veil.