



AFSI WORKSHOP TESTAMONIALS

It is my joyous pleasure to take this time to write of the absolutely incredibly “great time” I had in taking an elective course at All Faiths Seminary entitled “Wedding Intensive” with the Reverend Susanna Stefanachi Macomb this past summer semester...

I am an Interfaith Minister, ordained by The New Seminary in NYC in 2009, and I have performed in and above some 120 ceremonies.

Over the course of the three sessions Rev Susanna gave us so many tools to work with in interviewing perspective couples and in getting to the bottom of knowing just what the couple desired to have included in the ceremony of their special day. She is a connoisseur of ritual “par excellence”. There were also so many ways in which Rev Susanna imparted unto us professional advice on how to handle delicately sticky family situations, especially in interfaith settings of different religious denominations, profound advice on “how to avoid” all the ego drama.

Her book is a marvel of research on multitudinous rituals that come from so many different ethnicities and religious and cultural traditions in our world and shall be the most wonderful reference for me to have in my wedding work forthcoming. Rev Susanna will be teaching an elective course in Baby Blessings from All Faiths Seminary in October, as this is another very active part of her loving service to community. Trust and know I plan to be present in this Baby Blessing class as Rev Susanna has personally inspired me beyond belief in the concept of becoming a “pastor without walls”.

If I would say that there be one element I received greater than any other for having had the opportunity to work with Rev. Susanna...I would say that it was this quote of hers—that she had “fallen in love” with every couple she had opportunity to perform their wedding ceremony, and then Rev Susanna “fell in love” with every family for whom she performed baby blessings, many of whom she officiated their weddings. .

The other aspect I so remember Rev Susanna sharing with us was to “judge not anyone for anything, anywhere.” Just Love and Be...and Seek to join in Love, in Light and lots of Joy.

I am so blessed to have found Rev. Susanna at All Faiths Seminary and I look forward to my continued study and comradery with such a being of Light, Love and Wonder! I am grateful for her presence in my life and my new affiliation with All Faiths. You can just feel the love flowing!”

~ **Rev. Natalia deRezendes**

“Reverend Susanna’s wedding workshop intensive was inspiring, informative, and such a joy! With the love and passion that I imagine she has extended to all her brides and grooms over her many years of officiating interfaith weddings, Rev. Susanna shared with us her wealth of knowledge and wisdom in creating and officiating these personalized ceremonies, and skillfully guided us in creating our own ceremony. This experience was full of love, support and positive energy, and has enhanced my abilities as a celebrant, increasing my confidence in all aspects of officiating interfaith weddings. The zoom format was effective, seamless, and made it possible for me to participate, in no way interfering with Susanna’s personalized connection with her students. I feel so blessed to have had the chance to get to know Susanna, and highly recommend her class!”

~ **Rev. Mary Scott Soo, M.D.**

“Rev. Susanna Macomb is an extraordinary teacher! I learned so much more than I ever anticipated in this course! She packed so much incredible wisdom into these three classes! She gave us so much time, so much of her heart and soul! I have never learned so much in such a short time. I can’t believe I feel so much more confident now to take a wedding in...I know she is there and I can open her book and the answers will be there for me! She told us such beautiful stories...and she helped me to fall in love with marriage and weddings again...I just loved our Thursday nights and I cannot wait to take more of her courses!”

~ **Rev. Christina Sidoti**

“Reverend Susanna’s Baby Blessing Workshop was another great success! This zoom class was inspiring and informative, dynamic and heartwarming. Reverend Susanna is a delightful teacher who draws from her wealth of experience in performing baby blessings to lead her students through the elements of creating and performing a variety of ceremonies. She taught methods of navigating the challenges that develop in interfaith settings, and guided us to create our own ceremonies, giving constructive critiques which were immensely helpful. Susanna’s positive energy and personalized approach made this class a complete joy!”

~ **Rev. Mary Scott Soo, M.D.**