



ARCHDIOCESE OF SAN ANTONIO  
**MARRIAGE PREPARATION PACKET COVER**

Couples' Last Names

Date of Wedding

Church of Wedding

Officiating Witness

Witness # 1

Witness # 2

***Type of Marriage***

Catholic

Mixed

Convalidation (Date of Civil Marriage: \_\_\_\_\_)

Remarriage

Prior marriage certificate obtained

Decree of nullity needed

Divorce Decree Obtained

Decree of Nullity Obtained

***Groom***

Full Name

Date of Birth

Religion

Phone

Email

Date of Baptism

Date of Eucharist

Date of Confirmation

Current Baptism Certificate Obtained

Affidavit of Free Status signed

***Marriage Preparation Process***

Initial Meeting  
Date

Liturgy  
Preparation Date

Prenuptial  
Questionnaire Date

Rehearsal Date

**Formation for Marriage** — Choose all that apply.

*Completed*      *Date(s) Completed*

Inventory

Parish/Deanery/Archdiocesan Retreat

Parish/Deanery/Group Weekly Sessions

Priest/Sponsor Couple Individual Sessions

Kerygma/Evangelization Experience

Referral to Professional Counseling

***Bride***

Full Name

Date of Birth

Religion

Phone

Email

Date of Baptism

Date of Eucharist

Date of Confirmation

Current Baptism Certificate Obtained

Affidavit of Free Status signed

***Permissions / Dispensations***

*Needed?*      *Date Obtained*

Mixed Religion

Disparity of Cult

Canonical Form

Marry Elsewhere

Delegation of Authority

***Notifications***

Date Entered in Parish  
Record

Date Notice Sent to  
Parishes of Baptism

Date Entered in Parish  
Record

***Post-Wedding Mailing Address***



Type or print clearly.

# PRENUPTIAL QUESTIONNAIRE, including convalidations (c. 1067) (Arch) Diocese of \_\_\_\_\_



Groom: \_\_\_\_\_ Bride: \_\_\_\_\_  
Full Legal Name Full Legal Name

Place of Marriage Ceremony: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Ceremony: \_\_\_\_\_  
c. 1118 Church City/State (Include a copy of executed civil marriage license in the file.)

Witnesses: \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

Person(s) providing marriage preparation: \_\_\_\_\_

Priest/Deacon officiating at marriage ceremony: \_\_\_\_\_

Permission granted (if needed) by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Permission: \_\_\_\_\_  
cc. 1115; 1118, §1—If officiating at a marriage of a Catholic who is not a parishioner, secure permission from the Catholic's proper pastor.

Delegation granted (if needed) by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Delegation: \_\_\_\_\_  
c. 1111—If officiating at a marriage outside your assigned parish, secure delegation from that pastor or local ordinary (also cf. c. 137).

**(Priest, deacon or designated lay pastoral assistant is to complete this form. Groom and bride are to be interviewed separately.)**

## GROOM

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date/Place of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address (with Apartment/Unit #) County City/State/Zip Code

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
Home/Work/Cellular: (Area Code) Number

Father's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Religion: \_\_\_\_\_ Rite: \_\_\_\_\_

Mother's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Religion: \_\_\_\_\_ Rite: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Include mother's maiden name.)

Groom's Religion: \_\_\_\_\_ Rite (if other than Latin) \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Baptism: \_\_\_\_\_ Place: \_\_\_\_\_  
Church City/State

- + If not baptized, secure a dispensation from disparity of worship/cult (c. 1086, §2).
- + If baptized non-Catholic, secure a permission for a Catholic to marry a baptized non-Catholic (c. 1124).
- + For baptized Catholic, secure a current annotated baptismal certificate from the parish of baptism. For baptized non-Catholic, secure written proof of baptism, if possible.

### If Catholic:

→ Date of Profession of Faith: \_\_\_\_\_ Place: \_\_\_\_\_  
(If applicable, secure recent POF certificate.) Church City/State

→ Have you received First Eucharist? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Place: \_\_\_\_\_  
Church City/State

→ Have you received Confirmation? ☐ Yes ☐ No (If no, encourage him to be confirmed *if possible* before marriage—c. 1065, §1.)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Place: \_\_\_\_\_  
Church City/State

→ Within what parish do you live? \_\_\_\_\_  
Parish City/State

1. Do you agree to answer all questions truthfully?..... ☐ Yes ☐ No\*
2. How long have you known each other? \_\_\_\_\_ Dated? \_\_\_\_\_ Engaged? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Do you regularly participate in the practice of your faith?..... ☐ Yes ☐ No\*
4. Have you ever been married before (church; civil; common law; etc.)? c. 1085 (If yes, complete box on page 2.)..... ☐ Yes\* ☐ No
5. Are you related to your fiancée by blood (c. 1091), marriage (c. 1092), or legal adoption (c. 1094)?..... ☐ Yes\* ☐ No
6. Are you or your fiancée bound by the impediments of age (c. 1083); sacred orders (c. 1087); public perpetual vow of chastity in a religious institute (c. 1088); abduction (c. 1089); crime (c. 1090); public propriety (c. 1093)?..... ☐ Yes\* ☐ No

Type or print clearly.

7. Have you or your fiancée experienced or been treated for any mental or emotional, alcohol or drug-related difficulties? (cc. 1057; 1095)..... ☐ Yes\* ☐ No  
If yes, are they resolved?..... ☐ Yes ☐ No\*
8. Have you signed a prenuptial agreement? (If yes, attach a copy of agreement. Contact Chancellor/Judicial Vicar.)..... Yes\* No
9. Do you understand and agree without any reservations to the nature and obligation of marriage namely:
- a) To give sacrificially of self for the total well being of each other and the marital partnership? (c. 1055, §1)..... ☐ Yes ☐ No\*
  - b) To share in marital intercourse since marriage involves a sexual relationship? (c. 1061, §1; impotence c. 1084)..... ☐ Yes ☐ No\*
  - c) To give your spouse the right to have children and see to their educational upbringing? (cc. 1055, §1; 1136)..... ☐ Yes ☐ No\*
  - d) To make an unconditional, permanent commitment, lasting until the death of your spouse? (cc. 1056; 1102, §1)... ☐ Yes ☐ No\*
  - e) To be faithful to your spouse? (c. 1056)..... ☐ Yes ☐ No\*
  - f) To give your consent freely and without any force or pressure from any person or circumstance? (cc. 1057; 1103).. ☐ Yes ☐ No\*
10. To be asked if there is suspicion of pressure being exerted—Is your fiancée pregnant? (cc. 1057; 1103)..... ☐ Yes\* ☐ No
11. Are you placing any conditions on (c. 1102) or have you any serious doubts about this marriage?..... ☐ Yes\* ☐ No
12. Does your fiancée, as far as you know, agree to your answers?..... ☐ Yes ☐ No\*
13. Is there any important fact about you which you have not shared with your fiancée?..... ☐ Yes\* ☐ No  
(e.g., addictions, illness, trouble with the law; indebtedness; sterility; sexuality; child(ren) from a prior relationship, etc.)
14. For a groom under age 18, do your parents consent to this marriage? (cc. 1071, §1, 6°; 1072)..... ☐ Yes ☐ No\*
15. Do you have any children from *any* previous relationship?..... ☐ Yes ☐ No  
If yes, have the moral and civil responsibilities to any former spouse(s)/party and any child(ren) been fulfilled?..... ☐ Yes ☐ No\*  
(cc. 1071, §1, 3°; 1136; 1689) If no or there is some question about compliance, contact the Tribunal/Chancery.

\*Explain below any response that included an asterisk (\*). For #9a-f and #11, an asterisked response prevents a couple from marrying.  
For #4-6, see impediments on page 5. Contact the Tribunal/Chancery. Other comments may be added below or on additional paper.

\*\*\*PARISH SEAL\*\*\*

Place signed

Signature of Groom

Date signed

Signature ☐ Priest or ☐ Deacon or ☐ Designated Lay Pastoral Assistant → → → Type/print name

### PREVIOUS MARRIAGE(S) of GROOM

- ❖ If you are presently in a non-Catholic union and seeking to be married in the Catholic Church (convalidation), is your consent to this convalidation an act of the will by which you intend to enter into a valid Catholic marriage? (c. 1157)..... ☐ Yes ☐ No\*
- A Catholic who exchanges marital vows in any non-Catholic ceremony without a dispensation from canonical form is not married validly in the eyes of the Catholic Church and is not able to receive the Sacraments licitly.
  - The Church is not 'blessing' this union. A valid marriage begins with the Catholic marriage ceremony (convalidation).

Date of present non-Catholic union: \_\_\_\_\_ Attach a copy of that civil marriage license.

- ❖ How many times were you married before and it ended in divorce, civil annulment or death of the previous spouse? \_\_\_\_\_  
List name(s) of previous spouse(s); name of church(s) or place(s) of marriage ceremony—city/state; title of officiant(s); date(s).

→ Explain how the groom is free to marry in the Catholic Church. (Without a death certificate and/or decree of nullity/dissolution issued only by the Catholic Church, one cannot marry in the Catholic Church.)

- ☐ Former spouse is deceased. Attach a copy of the death certificate.
- ☐ For every failed marriage: Attach a decree of nullity for: ☐ Formal Case; ☐ Prior Bond; ☐ Lack of Canonical Form or ☐ Other.  
OR attach a decree of dissolution for: ☐ Pauline Privilege; ☐ Privilege of the Faith or ☐ Rátum et non consummátum.

Name of (arch)diocese that issued the decree: \_\_\_\_\_

Protocol number and date of the Catholic decree: \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE:** No provisional date for a marriage ceremony may be set until the final Decree(s) of Nullity/Dissolution is obtained.  
Indicate how compliance with any Tribunal stipulations occurred prior to any marriage ceremony (c. 1684).

## BRIDE

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date/Place of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_  
Include maiden name

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address (with Apartment/Unit #)                      County                      City/State/Zip Code

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
Home/Work/Cellular: (Area Code) Number

Father's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Religion: \_\_\_\_\_ Rite: \_\_\_\_\_

Mother's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Religion: \_\_\_\_\_ Rite: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Include mother's maiden name.)

Bride's Religion: \_\_\_\_\_ Rite (if other than Latin) \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Baptism: \_\_\_\_\_ Place: \_\_\_\_\_  
Church                      City/State

+ If not baptized, secure a dispensation from disparity of worship/cult (c. 1086, §2).

+ If baptized non-Catholic, secure a permission for a Catholic to marry a baptized non-Catholic (c. 1124).

+ For baptized Catholic, secure a current annotated baptismal certificate from the parish of baptism. For baptized non-Catholic, secure written proof of baptism, if possible.

If Catholic:

→ Date of Profession of Faith: \_\_\_\_\_ Place: \_\_\_\_\_  
(If applicable, secure recent POF certificate.)                      Church                      City/State

→ Have you received First Eucharist? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Place: \_\_\_\_\_  
Church                      City/State

→ Have you received Confirmation? ☐ Yes ☐ No (If no, encourage her to be confirmed *if possible* before marriage—c. 1065, §1.)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Place: \_\_\_\_\_  
Church                      City/State

→ Within what parish do you live? \_\_\_\_\_  
Parish                      City/State

1. Do you agree to answer all questions truthfully?..... ☐ Yes ☐ No\*
2. How long have you known each other? \_\_\_\_\_ Dated? \_\_\_\_\_ Engaged? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Do you regularly participate in the practice of your faith?..... ☐ Yes ☐ No\*
4. Have you ever been married before (church; civil; common law; etc.)? c. 1085 (If yes, complete box on page 4.)..... ☐ Yes\* ☐ No
5. Are you related to your fiancé by blood (c. 1091), marriage (c. 1092), or legal adoption (c. 1094)?..... ☐ Yes\* ☐ No
6. Are you or your fiancé bound by the impediments of age (c. 1083); sacred orders (c. 1087); public perpetual vow of chastity in a religious institute (c. 1088); abduction (c. 1089); crime (c. 1090); public propriety (c. 1093)?..... ☐ Yes\* ☐ No
7. Have you or your fiancée experienced or been treated for any mental or emotional, alcohol or drug-related difficulties? (cc. 1057; 1095)..... ☐ Yes\* ☐ No  
If yes, are they resolved?..... ☐ Yes ☐ No\*
8. Have you signed a prenuptial agreement? (If yes, attach a copy of agreement. Contact Chancellor/Judicial Vicar.)..... Yes\* No
9. Do you understand and agree without any reservations to the nature and obligation of marriage namely:
  - a) To give sacrificially of self for the total well being of each other and the marital partnership? (c. 1055, §1)..... ☐ Yes ☐ No\*
  - b) To share in marital intercourse since marriage involves a sexual relationship? (c. 1061, §1; impotence c. 1084)..... ☐ Yes ☐ No\*
  - c) To give your spouse the right to have children and see to their educational upbringing? (cc. 1055, §1; 1136)..... ☐ Yes ☐ No\*
  - d) To make an unconditional, permanent commitment, lasting until the death of your spouse? (cc. 1056; 1102, §1)..... ☐ Yes ☐ No\*
  - e) To be faithful to your spouse? (c. 1056)..... ☐ Yes ☐ No\*
  - f) To give your consent freely and without any force or pressure from any person or circumstance? (cc. 1057; 1103)..... ☐ Yes ☐ No\*
10. To be asked if there is suspicion of pressure being exerted—Are you pregnant? (cc. 1057; 1103)..... ☐ Yes\* ☐ No
11. Are you placing any conditions on (c. 1102) or have you any serious doubts about this marriage?..... ☐ Yes\* ☐ No
12. Does your fiancé, as far as you know, agree to your answers?..... ☐ Yes ☐ No\*

Type or print clearly.

13. Is there any important fact about you which you have not shared with your fiancé?..... ☐ Yes\* ☐ No\*  
(e.g., addictions, illness, trouble with the law; indebtedness; sterility; sexuality; child(ren) from a prior relationship, etc.)
14. For a bride under age 18, do your parents consent to this marriage? (cc. 1071, §1, 6°; 1072)..... ☐ Yes ☐ No\*
15. Do you have any children from *any* previous relationship?..... ☐ Yes ☐ No  
If yes, have the moral and civil responsibilities to any former spouse(s)/party and any child(ren) been fulfilled?..... ☐ Yes ☐ No\*  
(cc. 1071, §1, 3°; 1136; 1689) If no or there is some question about compliance, contact the Tribunal/Chancery.

\*Explain below any response that included an asterisk (\*). For #9a-f and #11, an asterisked response prevents a couple from marrying.  
For #4-6, see impediments on page 5. Contact the Tribunal/Chancery. Other comments may be added below or on additional paper.

\*\*\*PARISH SEAL\*\*\*

Place signed

Signature of Bride

Date signed

Signature ☐ Priest or ☐ Deacon or ☐ Designated Lay Pastoral Assistant → → → Type/print name

### PREVIOUS MARRIAGE(S) of BRIDE

- ❖ If you are presently in a non-Catholic union and seeking to be married in the Catholic Church (convalidation), is your consent to this convalidation an act of the will by which you intend to enter into a valid Catholic marriage? (c. 1157)..... ☐ Yes ☐ No\*
- A Catholic who exchanges marital vows in any non-Catholic ceremony without a dispensation from canonical form is not married validly in the eyes of the Catholic Church and is not able to receive the Sacraments licitly.
  - The Church is not 'blessing' this union. A valid marriage begins with the Catholic marriage ceremony (convalidation).

Date of present non-Catholic union: \_\_\_\_\_ *Attach a copy of that civil marriage license.*

- ❖ How many times were you married before and it ended in divorce, civil annulment or death of the previous spouse? \_\_\_\_\_  
List name(s) of previous spouse(s); name of church(s) or place(s) of marriage ceremony—city/state; title of officiant(s); date(s).

→ Explain how the bride is free to marry in the Catholic Church. (Without a death certificate and/or decree of nullity/dissolution issued only by the Catholic Church, one cannot marry in the Catholic Church.)

- ☐ Former spouse is deceased. *Attach a copy of the death certificate.*  
☐ For every failed marriage: *Attach a decree of nullity for:* ☐ Formal Case; ☐ Prior Bond; ☐ Lack of Canonical Form or ☐ Other.  
*OR attach a decree of dissolution for:* ☐ Pauline Privilege; ☐ Privilege of the Faith or ☐ Rátum et non consummátum.

Name of (arch)diocese that issued the decree: \_\_\_\_\_

Protocol number and date of the *Catholic* decree: \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE:** No provisional date for a marriage ceremony may be set until the final Decree(s) of Nullity/Dissolution is obtained.  
Indicate how compliance with any Tribunal stipulations occurred prior to any marriage ceremony (c. 1684).

- + When a Catholic marries a non-Catholic, either non-baptized or baptized non-Catholic, the Catholic must make the following declaration and promise so that a *dispensation* from disparity of worship/cult (c. 1086, §2) or a *permission* for a Catholic to marry a baptized non-Catholic (c. 1124) will be granted by the local ordinary or his delegate:
- I reaffirm my faith in Jesus Christ and with God's help I intend to continue living that faith in the Catholic Church. (c. 1125, 1°)
  - I promise to do all in my power to share the faith I have received with our children by having them baptized and reared as Catholics. (c. 1125, 1°)

The above declaration and promise is to be completed and signed on the (Arch) Diocesan Petition for a Canonical Dispensation or Permission for a Mixed Marriage.

**REFERENCE GUIDE: Always contact the Tribunal/Chancery with any questions!**

**Brief Definitions of Marriage Impediments (cc. 1083-1094)**

**Divine Natural Law Impediments that no dispensation may be granted by anyone, neither Rome nor a diocesan bishop:**

**Impotence** (c. 1084, §1): Antecedent and perpetual incapacity of groom/bride to perform a complete conjugal act (marital sexual intercourse). Sterility (the inability to impregnate or to conceive) is not an impediment (c. 1084, §3).

**Prior Bond** (*Ligamen* c. 1085): A person with a presumably valid prior bond cannot marry again as long as the first spouse is living. If a Catholic decree of declaration of nullity is granted by a Catholic Tribunal, then one is free to marry. But it is a decree of nullity, not a dispensation.

**Consanguinity** (blood relationships c. 1091): One can never marry in the direct line any ancestor and descendant, both legitimate and natural (grandparent, parent, child, grandchild) or in the second degree of the collateral line (brother and sister) (c. 1078, §3).

**Ecclesiastical Law Impediments that a diocesan bishop or other local ordinary may dispense (c. 1078, §1):**

**Age** (c. 1083)—Males must be 16 years old; females must be 14 years old. The day of birth is not computed in the age.

One completes the 16<sup>th</sup> or 14<sup>th</sup> year at the close of the day (midnight) on one's birthday (c. 203).

**Disparity of Worship/Cult** (c. 1086): A marriage between a Catholic and a non-baptized person.

**Perpetual Vow of Chastity** (c. 1088): Must petition diocesan bishop *if* the person is a member of a *diocesan* right institute.

If it is a *pontifical* right institute, see below for impediments that only Holy See may dispense.

**Abduction** (c. 1089): A marriage between a man and a woman whom he abducts or detains in order to marry.

**Consanguinity** (blood relationships c. 1091): Although a dispensation can be granted for the third degree (uncle/niece; aunt/nephew) and for the fourth degree (first cousins) in the collateral line to marry, they cannot secure legally a marriage license in Texas. But if a couple is in a civilly, recognized marital union and desire to marry (convalidation), a dispensation may be granted.

**Affinity** (relationships from a valid marriage, death or dissolution of bond, c. 1092): One cannot marry in the direct line in any degree (marrying a *deceased/dissolved* spouse's grandparent, parent or spouse's child or grandchild from a different relationship).

**Public Propriety** (c. 1093): If after an invalid marriage or public concubinage (cohabitation), a man cannot marry a woman's mother or her daughter from a different relationship OR a woman cannot marry a man's father or his son from a different relationship.

**Adoption** (c. 1094): An adopted person cannot marry his/her adopted grandparents, parents or siblings.

**Ecclesiastical Law Impediments that only the Holy See may dispense:**

**Sacred Orders** (c. 1087): Must petition Rome for a Dispensation from Obligations Arising from Sacred Order of Presbyterate or Diaconate, including that from Celibacy (c. 1078, §2, 1°).

**Perpetual Vow of Chastity** (c. 1088): Must petition Rome *if* the person is a member of a *pontifical* right institute (c. 1078, §2, 1°).

**Crime** (c. 1090): One kills one's own spouse to marry another person or one kills the spouse of an intended spouse so as to marry that person. OR if two people conspire to bring about the death of the spouse of one of them for any reason, they invalidly attempt marriage together (c. 1078, §2, 2°).

**Other Important Information**

→If the groom and/or bride are a Catholic Rite other than Latin, contact the Tribunal/Chancery.

→Secure any permission/dispensation from the Catholic bishop in whose diocese the Catholic groom/bride lives, regardless of where the marriage ceremony will occur.

- If a Catholic is marrying a non-baptized person, secure a *dispensation* from disparity of worship/cult (c. 1086, §2).
- If a Catholic is marrying a baptized non-Catholic, secure a *permission* for a Catholic to marry a baptized non-Catholic (c.1124).
- If a Catholic will be married by a non-Catholic officiant, secure a *dispensation* from canonical form (c. 1127, §2).

→If officiating at a marriage of a Catholic who is not a parishioner, secure permission from the Catholic's proper pastor (cc.1115; 1118,§1).

→Assigned parish priest/deacon *normally* has the faculty to officiate at any marriage ceremony within one's parish territory.

If officiating at a marriage outside your assigned parish, secure delegation from that pastor or local ordinary (c.1111; also cf. c.137).

→Secure a recent Baptismal or Profession of Faith (POF) certificate (issued within the last 6 months, with any sacramental notations listed on the back) for the Catholic.

→Secure proof of baptism (Baptismal certificate, letter from minister or witness) for a baptized non-Catholic.

→Secure if required Witness Affidavits of Freedom to Marry for the groom and for the bride.

→Importance of reception of all three sacraments of initiation prior to marriage: Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist. c. 842, §2.

- Confirmation prior to marriage highly encouraged if possible, though not required (c. 1065, §1).
- Encouraged to receive Eucharist and Penance regularly (c. 1065, §2).
- A valid marriage is a sacrament when both spouses are baptized validly. A valid marriage between a baptized person and a non-baptized person (or between two non-baptized persons) is not sacrament. (c. 1055, §2)

→Types of marriage ceremonies (cc. 1119; 846, §1) from the Rite of Marriage (©1969):

- Rite of Celebrating Marriage during Mass #8, 19-38 (Normally for 2 Catholics; may occur for a Catholic and a *baptized*, non-Catholic, provided "except that, according to the general law, communion is not given to the non-Catholic." #8; cf. c.844, §§3-4).
- Rite of Celebrating Marriage Outside Mass #8, 39-54 (Normally for a Catholic and a *baptized* non-Catholic).
- Rite of Celebrating Marriage Between a Catholic and an *Unbaptized* Person #8, 55-66 (Only rite to be used for *unbaptized*).

→Marriage file is stored *normally* in the parish where the marriage ceremony with canonical form occurred (c. 1121, §1).

Canonical form=Canon 1108: marrying before a Catholic priest or deacon and two witnesses.

→Marriage file is stored in the parish where the prenuptial investigation and the request for the dispensation from canonical form occurred when a marriage ceremony occurred without canonical form (c. 1121, §3).

→If the marriage ceremony is to occur outside your diocese, this marriage file is to be sent to your Tribunal/Chancery.



ARCHDIOCESE OF SAN ANTONIO

## AFFIDAVIT OF FREE STATUS - BRIDE

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Bride

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Witness

*Witness responds to the following questions:*

- |     |    |  |
|-----|----|--|
| YES | NO | 1. Has the bride been previously married?  |
| YES | NO | 2. Is the bride related to the groom?  |
| YES | NO | 3. Is the bride affected by any impediment to marriage?  |
| YES | NO | 4. Do you affirm that the bride, as far as you know, freely intends a faithful and lifelong marriage open to children? |
| YES | NO | 5. Do you have reservations about this marriage?   |

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Witness

\_\_\_\_\_  
Pastor / Delegate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Relationship to Bride

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parish

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Comments



ARCHDIOCESE OF SAN ANTONIO

## AFFIDAVIT OF FREE STATUS - BRIDE

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Bride

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Witness

*Witness responds to the following questions:*

- |     |    |  |
|-----|----|--|
| YES | NO | 1. Has the bride been previously married?  |
| YES | NO | 2. Is the bride related to the groom?  |
| YES | NO | 3. Is the bride affected by any impediment to marriage?  |
| YES | NO | 4. Do you affirm that the bride, as far as you know, freely intends a faithful and lifelong marriage open to children? |
| YES | NO | 5. Do you have reservations about this marriage?   |

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Witness

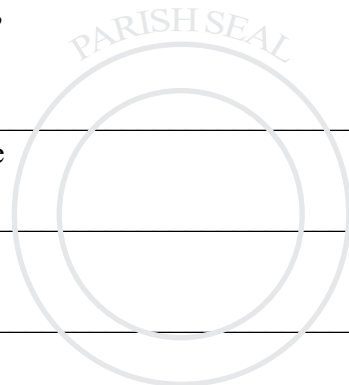
\_\_\_\_\_  
Pastor / Delegate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Relationship to Bride

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parish

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Comments





ARCHDIOCESE OF SAN ANTONIO

## AFFIDAVIT OF FREE STATUS - GROOM

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Groom

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Witness

*Witness responds to the following questions:*

- |     |    |  |
|-----|----|--|
| YES | NO | 1. Has the groom been previously married?  |
| YES | NO | 2. Is the groom related to the bride?  |
| YES | NO | 3. Is the groom affected by any impediment to marriage?  |
| YES | NO | 4. Do you affirm that the groom, as far as you know, freely intends a faithful and lifelong marriage open to children? |
| YES | NO | 5. Do you have reservations about this marriage?   |

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Witness

\_\_\_\_\_  
Pastor / Delegate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Relationship to Groom

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parish

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Comments



ARCHDIOCESE OF SAN ANTONIO

## AFFIDAVIT OF FREE STATUS - GROOM

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Groom

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Witness

*Witness responds to the following questions:*

- |     |    |  |
|-----|----|--|
| YES | NO | 1. Has the groom been previously married?  |
| YES | NO | 2. Is the groom related to the bride?  |
| YES | NO | 3. Is the groom affected by any impediment to marriage?  |
| YES | NO | 4. Do you affirm that the groom, as far as you know, freely intends a faithful and lifelong marriage open to children? |
| YES | NO | 5. Do you have reservations about this marriage?   |

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Witness

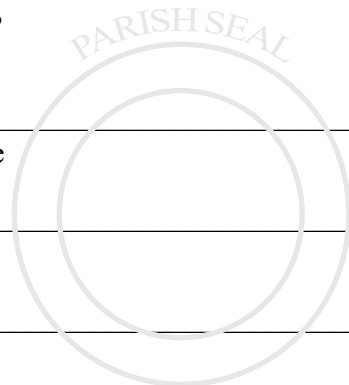
\_\_\_\_\_  
Pastor / Delegate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Relationship to Groom

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parish

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Comments







# DIOCESSES OF TEXAS ARCHDIOCESE OF SAN ANTONIO

(THIS FORM IS NOT TO BE DUPLICATED)

FORM III

## DIOCESSES OF TEXAS ARCHDIOCESE OF SAN ANTONIO

Please type or print. Use names as they will appear on marriage license.

Catholic

Catholic/Non-Catholic; Baptized/Non-Baptized

Parish

Parish (if Catholic) or Religion

City and State

City and State

### Respectfully request a dispensation from the matrimonial impediment of:

Disparity of Cult (c.1086)

Affinity (c.1092) (c.109)

Consanguinity (c.1091)

Direct Degree Line: \_\_\_\_\_

Degree Collateral Line: \_\_\_\_\_

Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_  
e.g. public honesty, adoption, etc.

### Respectfully request permission:

Marriage of Mixed Religions (c.1124)

To marry a baptized non-Catholic (with dispensation from Disparity of Cult, if needed).

To marry a lapsed Catholic or a Catholic who has notoriously rejected the Faith.

### Letter Required to Diocesan Bishop:

For a marriage of a person under 18 yrs. whose parents are unaware of it or are reasonable opposed to it.

For a marriage to be entered by means of proxy, mentioned in Canon 1105.

For a marriage outside a sacred place (c.1118).

For a marriage in a Church other than a Catholic Church (c.1118). (See reversed side of this form).

### Canonical reasons for this dispensation/permission:

Spiritual welfare of the faithful.

Well-founded hope that the non-Catholic will enter full communion with the Church.

Danger of attempted invalid marriage.

Convalidation.

Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

Catholic

and

Catholic/Non-Catholic; Baptized/Non-Baptized

are hereby granted: A dispensation in virtue of canon 1073, from the matrimonial impediment of:

Disparity of Cult (c. 1086)

Consanguinity (c.1091)

Degree collateral line: \_\_\_\_\_

Affinity (c.1092)

Degree direct line: \_\_\_\_\_

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Permission, in virtue of Canon 1124, for a

Marriage of Mixed Religion

Dispensation from Disparity of Cult, *ad cautelam*

Proposed Date of Marriage

Granted By (Chancery Official)

Date Granted (Chancery Official)

Priest/Deacon

Parish

City

Date Signed

(If this dispensation was granted orally earlier, please indicate by whom and date.)

Ordinary or Delegate

Date

If this dispensation is not used within six months, this form should be returned.

## DISPENSATION FROM CANONICAL FORM

Letter to Diocesan Bishop provided

By virtue of the norm of canon 1127 §2, the requested dispensation from canonical form is hereby granted.

It is not permitted to have two religious marriage services or to have a single service in which both the Catholic and non-Catholic marriage rituals are celebrated Jointly or successively.

The prenuptial papers should be filed in the parish from which the application for the dispensation was made. Upon verification that the wedding has taken place, notation is to be made in the marriage register of that parish, and notification is to be given to the parish of the Catholic's baptism.

If this dispensation is not used within six months this form should be returned.

(TO BE FILLED OUT BY CHANCERY OFFICIAL)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ordinary or Delegate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## PROMISES TO BE MADE FOR ALL MARRIAGES INVOLVING A NON-CATHOLIC

I reaffirm my faith in Jesus Christ and, with God's help, intend to continue living that faith in the Catholic Church.

I promise to do all in my power to share the faith I have received with our children by having them baptized and reared as Catholics.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Catholic (if made orally, please indicate this preference.)

Certification of Pastor/Delegate

The required declaration and promise have been made by the Catholic in my presence. The non-Catholic has been informed of the Catholic's declaration and promise.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Pastor/Delegate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## DISPENSATION FROM CANONICAL FORM FOR A MIXED MARRIAGE (Attach letter to Diocesan Bishop)

A dispensation from the canonical form of marriage is requested by

\_\_\_\_\_, Catholic, to validly contract marriage with

\_\_\_\_\_, non-Catholic.

Pastoral Reason(s) for Dispensation:

To achieve family harmony or to avoid family alienation.

To obtain parental agreement to the marriage.

To recognize significant relationship/friendship to non-Catholic minister.

To permit marriage in a church of particular importance to non-Catholic.

Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### Details of the Wedding

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Minister

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Civil Magistrate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Church of Marriage

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City

\_\_\_\_\_  
State

\_\_\_\_\_  
Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Marriage

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Pastor/Delegate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\*If a civil magistrate is to receive exchange of vows, a letter of explanation to the Bishop must be attached.



**PASTORAL GUIDELINES  
FOR  
MARRIAGE PREPARATION**

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**MARRIAGE PREPARATION IS A VITAL REQUIREMENT FOR THE CELEBRATION OF MARRIAGE. SOME OF THE STRUCTURED FORMS SUCH AS SPONSOR COUPLES, ENGAGED ENCOUNTER, PRE-CANA AND OTHERS, ADDRESS THE MANY CONCERNS OF MARRIAGE. WHERE THESE ARE NOT AVAILABLE OR WHERE THERE IS A NEED TO AUGMENT A PARTICULAR PROGRAM, THE ONE WHO IS PREPARING A COUPLE FOR MARRIAGE MAY FIND THIS GUIDELINE AS AN AID IN THAT PREPARATION.**

---

\_\_\_\_\_  
**GROOM**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**BRIDE**

## PHASE ONE

## 1. ESTABLISHING A RELATIONSHIP WITH THE COUPLE

The Church cares about you and wants your married life to be happy. Your decision is one of the most important decisions you'll ever make. This is why there needs to be sufficient and unhurried time allowed to prepare well. I am happy to spend this time with you in preparing not just for your wedding but for your whole married life.

1. Tell me about yourselves. What are your families like?
2. How long have you been dating? When were you engaged? Where did you meet? What attracted you to each other?
3. How does your family feel about your intentions to marry?
4. Why do you wish to be married in or through the Catholic Church?
5. Are each of you close to your family emotionally? How difficult will it be to live a great distance from them? Are you independent now?
6. Are your parents ready for you to leave home?
7. Do you accept your relationships with each other's family?
8. What are your plans for the first year of marriage? Where will you live? What type of work will you do?
9. What would you like your marriage to be like 25 years from now? 50 years?
10. Do you have any questions?

COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

## II. REQUIREMENTS EXPLAINED

If there are no impediments or obvious problems to warrant delaying the wedding far beyond the desired date, then explain what is required of the couple.

1. Another initial session with the priest.
2. Secure needed documents.
3. Primary Marriage Preparation (PMP) requirements/to be completed 2 to 3 months before wedding.
4. Two or Three final sessions to complete assessment and plan liturgy.

III. A PRE-MARITAL INVENTORY or assessment tool may be administered at this time to aid in the assessment or instructional phase of preparation.

IV. TENTATIVE or PROVISIONAL DATE OF WEDDING

Only at this point is the Church calendar checked for available date. It should be clear that a final commitment to this date CANNOT be made until the final phase with the couple.

[illegible]

## PHASE TWO

- I. **SHARE the RESULTS** of the Pre-Marital Inventory or other instrument (if one has been administered in the first phase), and use it gently to point out areas of strength and areas of weakness.
- II. **AN INSTRUCTION**, with dialogue, on the **THEOLOGY OF MARRIAGE**: Treating with biblical background:

**Marriage as a covenant relationship,  
Marriage as a sacrament,  
The signs of the marriage covenant,  
Covenant virtues: fidelity/faithfulness,  
                    permanence/lasting love,  
                    children/fruitfulness.**

### III. PRESENT RELIGIOUS INVOLVEMENT

1. Tell me about your involvement in your church, synagogue, or mosque?
2. How does religion influence your present relationship?
3. Do you attend church regularly and receive the sacraments? How regularly?
4. What role will religious values have in your marriage relationship? Do you anticipate any difficulties in this regard?  
How can the Church help you? How will you as a couple be involved in the Church? or your Churches?
5. Have you made any decisions in regard to the religious upbringing of your children?

COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### IV. The VARIOUS kinds of PRIMARY MARRIAGE PREPARATION available are explained, and the couple discusses how they can begin the instructional phase. (See Sec. IV of the Marriage Guidelines for Dioceses of the State of Texas—MGST.)

Name of Sponsor Couple: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Here the requirements as in II-2, 3, and 4 of Phase I above, may be repeated.)

### PHASE THREE

(This phase is suggested if no other Marriage Preparation Course is used)

#### I. CONSIDERATIONS OF WORK, RESPONSIBILITY AND FINANCES

1. Are both of you working at the moment? How long have you been working at your present job(s)? What are your future plans? How do you feel about each other's job? Have you ever had problems with employment or holding a job?
2. Do you know how much each other earns? Are you aware of how much money the two of you have saved? Aware of each other's debts? Do you spend wisely?
3. Have you discussed your feelings about both of you working, about sharing chores in the home, about the relationship between your home life and work, about the possibility of taking on too much responsibility early in your marriage?
4. Is schooling in your plans for the beginning of your marriage? Who will be the support in the beginning of your marriage? Groom? Bride? Both? Parents?
5. Have you figured out how much it costs to get married? How much for living expenses? How will you plan your budget? For two people? For three people?
6. Do you often speak about your future home? Future recreational expenses? Who is going to run the house, organize things?

COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

#### II. MUTUAL COMMITMENT AND COMMUNICATION

1. What are your feelings about the home in which you were raised? What kind of home life would you like to create for yourselves? Would you know a couple that has what you would consider a very good marriage?
2. How were differences of opinion or quarrels solved by your parents? How do you solve them?
3. What are some signs that your future spouse understands and accepts you as you are?
4. Are you aware of any cultural or ethnic differences between you? Do you see ways it could affect your marriage relationship? Are there any resentments?
5. Do you usually share what you think and feel? With ease or difficulty?
6. Are there times when it is difficult to communicate with each other? Explain.
7. How do you handle anger, jealousy, irritation, impatience with each other?
8. Would there ever be a time when you would place someone before your spouse? When? How do you think your spouse would respond?
9. How do you think you would feel if your spouse put someone else before you?
10. Do you have any feelings about attending a retreat for marriage enrichment periodically? In the event of a serious problem, how would you feel about going to a counselor?

COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### III. SEXUALITY AND PARENTHOOD

1. How do you feel about discussing sexual matters between the two of you? Were you comfortable discussing these matters during the Marriage Preparation sessions?
2. Are there any questions you would still like to discuss further with each other, with a priest, with a married couple, or a doctor?
3. What do you feel your sexual relationship will mean to your marriage?
4. What is your attitude about having children in the years to come? How many children would you like to have?
5. How do you understand the church's teaching on birth control? Are you aware of Natural Family Planning?
6. How do you plan to share the responsibilities of parenting?
7. If there are children from a previous marriage, have you frankly discussed your feelings toward them?...how they might affect your marriage in the years to come.

COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

.....

### FINAL PHASE

I. FINAL ASSESSMENT: DATE OF WEDDING \_\_\_\_\_ TIME OF WEDDING \_\_\_\_\_

If, after these follow-up interviews, the Pastor, or delegated representative, is unable to reach a conclusive assessment regarding the readiness of the couple for marriage, he should seek immediate consultation with qualified resource personnel, including medical or psychological expertise, if such seems appropriate. —Marriage Guidelines of the State of Texas, Section III.

II. CHECK that all necessary documents and dispensations are secured: (See envelope)

### III. PLANNING THE WEDDING LITURGY

1. Discuss the wedding liturgy and present the options available.
2. Arrange for the rehearsal and what will be expected of the couple and what will happen at that time.
3. Encourage them and the wedding party to participate in the Sacrament of Reconciliation at some time before the rehearsal.
4. Discuss parish policies, reserving reception facilities, etc.
5. BE SURE ALL NECESSARY INFORMATION IS FILLED OUT ON THE ENVELOPE FOR PERMANENT RECORD.

FINAL COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE of Priest or Deacon

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE



**ARCHDIOCESE OF SAN ANTONIO  
NOTIFICATION OF MARRIAGE TO CHURCH OF BAPTISM**

**This serves as notification to:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(NAME OF CHURCH OF BAPTISM)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(COMPLETE MAILING ADDRESS OF CHURCH OF BAPTISM)

**that** \_\_\_\_\_,  
(NAME/MAIDEN NAME, IF APPLICABLE)

**child of** \_\_\_\_\_ **and** \_\_\_\_\_,

**who was baptized on** \_\_\_\_\_ **at your parish,**  
(DATE OF BAPTISM)

**was married to** \_\_\_\_\_,  
(NAME/MAIDEN NAME, IF APPLICABLE)

**on** \_\_\_\_\_ **at** \_\_\_\_\_  
(DATE OF MARRIAGE) (NAME OF CHURCH OF MARRIAGE)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(COMPLETE MAILING ADDRESS OF CHURCH OF MARRIAGE)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(TELEPHONE OF CHURCH OF MARRIAGE)

(PARISH SEAL)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(SIGNATURE OF PASTOR/DELEGATE)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(DATE)

\*\*\*\*\*

***Please return the signed bottom portion of this document back to the church of marriage.***

**Having received your notice, the marriage between**

\_\_\_\_\_ **and** \_\_\_\_\_  
(NAME OF GROOM) (NAME OF BRIDE)

**has been entered into the baptismal register of this parish. I return this copy to you.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
(NAME OF CHURCH OF BAPTISM)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(CITY/STATE OF CHURCH OF BAPTISM)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(SIGNATURE OF PASTOR/DELEGATE)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(DATE)