



ARCHDIOCESE OF ST. LOUIS PRE-NUPTIAL INVESTIGATION

This form must be completed for all marriages. This form must be sent to the Office of the Metropolitan Tribunal: (a) if a dispensation, permission, or nihil obstat is needed (see page eight and nine); (b) if the marriage will take place in another diocese; or if there is a question about the marriage.

Please Print if printed out and filled in

Groom _____ Bride _____

Religion _____ Age _____ Religion _____ Age _____

Date and Time of Marriage _____ Date and Time of Rehearsal _____

Priest/Deacon Arranging Marriage _____ Priest/Deacon Officiating at Marriage _____

Archdiocese/Diocese *(If outside the Archdiocese, Letter of Suitability must be sent to dioceses and church of wedding)* _____

Delegation Received _____

Church of Marriage _____

Denomination _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Best Man _____ Maid/Matron of Honor _____

Delegation

Delegation presiding at the marriage is needed for **validity**. If the priest presiding is not the local Ordinary or the pastor or associate pastor assigned to the parish in which the marriage takes place, the priest presiding at the marriage must be delegated by either the delegate of the Archbishop or the pastor of the parish or sub-delegated by the associate pastor. If a deacon is presiding at the marriage, he must receive delegation from the pastor or associate pastor of the parish where the marriage is to take place or from the delegate of the Archbishop.

Pastor/Associate Pastor/Delegate of the Archbishop	Parish	Date
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Testimonial Letter from Another Diocese

When this pre-nuptial investigation form is completed in another diocese, it must be sent to its chancery whereupon, after having been seen by the delegate of its Bishop, it is forwarded to the chancery of the Archdiocese of Saint Louis.

Delegate of the Bishop	Diocese	Date
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Permission

If the marriage will take place in a parish other than that (a) of either Catholic party, or (b) of the Catholic party in a mixed marriage, permission of their own pastor is required. Letter suffices.

Permission is herewith granted by	Date
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Parish	City	State
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Questionnaire Each party should be interviewed separately. The interviewer should propose the questions and write the answers.

Groom

Full Name

Address

City

State

Zip

Cell Phone

Email Address

Parish of Residence

Father's Name

Mother's (maiden) Name

Parent's Address

Your Date of Birth

Religion

Baptized:

☐ YES

☐ NO

If not Catholic or Orthodox, was the baptism administered with water and the Trinitarian formula (I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit)? ☐ YES ☐ NO

Date of Baptism

Denomination

Church of Baptism

City

State

Zip

First Communion:

☐ YES

☐ NO

Where

Confirmation:

☐ YES

☐ NO

Where

Extent You Practice Your Faith: ☐ Regularly
☐ Seldom

☐ Occasionally
☐ Never

Length of Exclusive Courtship

BRIDE

Full Name

Address

City

State

Zip

Cell Phone

Email address

Parish of Residence

Father's Name

Mother's (maiden) Name

Parent's Address

Your Date of Birth Religion
Baptized: ☐ YES ☐ NO

If not Catholic or Orthodox, was the baptism administered with water and the Trinitarian formula (I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit)? ☐ YES ☐ NO

Date of Baptism Denomination

Church of Baptism

City State Zip

First Communion: ☐ YES ☐ NO

Where

Confirmation: ☐ YES ☐ NO

Where

Extent You Practice Your Faith: ☐ Regularly ☐ Occasionally
☐ Seldom ☐ Never

Length of Exclusive Courtship

	Groom		Bride	
Have you ever received Holy Orders or made Religious Vows? (C. 1087-88)	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
Are you related to each other by blood or marriage? (C. 1091-92)	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
Have you had any serious mental or emotional difficulties? (C. 1095)	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
Do you intend a lifelong marriage, totally faithful to your spouse? (C. 1096, 1056)	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
Do you intend to give your spouse the right to have children with you? (C. 1055)	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
[This question can be omitted if the couple is advanced in years]				
Are these also the intentions of your fiancé(e)?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
Are you consenting to this marriage freely, without force of any kind? (C. 1089, 1003)	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
Are you placing any conditions on your marriage? (C. 1102)	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
(If so, please explain)				

	Groom		Bride	
Have you ever been married previously in a civil or religious ceremony?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
(If so, please complete the following) (C. 1085)				

Groom (List Previous Marriages Below)

With whom?	When?
Where?	Ended? <i>(Date, Place of Annulment, Divorce, Death)</i>
With Whom?	When?
Where?	Ended? <i>(Date, Place of Annulment, Divorce, Death)</i>
With Whom?	When?
Where?	Ended? <i>(Date, Place of Annulment, Divorce, Death)</i>

Comments

Bride (List Previous Marriages Below)

With Whom?	When?
Where?	Ended? <i>(Date, Place of Annulment, Divorce, Death)</i>
With Whom?	When?
Where?	Ended? <i>(Date, Place of Annulment, Divorce, Death)</i>
With Whom?	When?
Where?	Ended? <i>(Date, Place of Annulment, Divorce, Death)</i>

Comments

Declaration of Intent

I understand the rights and essential obligations of Christian marriage. Accordingly, I am entering this marriage freely, I intend to be faithful to my husband/wife until death, and I pray that our marriage will be blessed with children.

I now affirm the truth of the above.

Groom's Signature	Bride's Signature
Priest/Deacon Signature	Date

Permission or Dispensation

For permission for mixed religion or dispensation from disparity of cult only, the priest/deacon should complete the section which follows. The complete pre-nuptial investigation form as well as all pertinent documents, *i.e.*, baptismal certificates, *etc.*, should be forwarded to the Office of the Metropolitan Tribunal.

Check the appropriate box(es):

- ☐ Permission for Mixed Religion (if the non-Catholic party is validly baptized in another Christian Church or Ecclesial community).
- ☐ Dispensation from Disparity of Cult, if the non-Catholic party was not validly baptized.

In the following situations please consult with the Metropolitan Tribunal before continuing marriage preparation:

- ☐ Dispensation from Consanguinity (related by blood), to the 4th degree of the collateral line, Canon 1091.
- ☐ Dispensation from Affinity (related by marriage), any degree of the direct line, Canon 1092.
- ☐ Permission, for circumstances listed in Canon 1071:

Marriages noted in Canon 1071: marriage of transients; marriage which cannot be recognized or celebrated in accord with the norm of civil law; marriage of a person who is bound by natural obligations toward another party or toward children, arising from a prior union; marriage of a person who has notoriously rejected the Catholic faith; marriage of a person who is bound by a censure; marriage of a minor child when the parents are unaware of it or are reasonably opposed to it; marriage to be entered by means of proxy.

Reasons for the Dispensation (mark all that apply):

Reasons sufficient in themselves:

- ☐ Danger of invalid marriage
- ☐ Well-founded hope of conversion
- ☐ Pregnancy
- ☐ Validation of invalid marriage

Supplementary Reasons:

- ☐ Public announcement already made
- ☐ All preparation made for wedding
- ☐ Other (specify)

The following declarations must be made when permission for mixed religion or a dispensation from disparity of cult is being requested.

Declaration and Promise of the Catholic Party

I reaffirm my faith in Jesus Christ, and with God's help I 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 raised as Catholics. We have discussed our religious beliefs and practices. We intend to be faithful to one another until death, and we intend a marriage which is permanent.

Signature

Date

Declaration by Priest Witness:

The required promise and declaration have been made by the Catholic party in my presence. The other party has been informed of this requirement, and he/she is aware of the promise and obligation on the part of the Catholic party.

Priest / Deacon Signature

Parish

Date



Dispensation from the Canonical Form of Marriage

This dispensation is intended for a religious marriage ceremony taking place outside of a Catholic church and without a Catholic cleric.

Reasons for Dispensation (Mark all that apply):

- ☐ Significant relationship or friendship with non-Catholic clergyman.
- ☐ Particular church has special importance to the non-Catholic.
- ☐ Achieve family harmony, avoid family alienation.
- ☐ Other

Delegate of Archbishop

Archdiocese

Date



Rescript

In virtue of the faculties granted to me, the dispensations/permissions requested are herewith granted for the valid and licit celebration of matrimony.

Delegate of Archbishop

Archdiocese

Date



Nihil Obstat

This is required (a) if a dispensation is needed; (b) if marriage will take place in another diocese; (c) if parties have no fixed residence; (d) if there have been any previous attempts at marriage.

On the basis of the documents presented, there is no objection to the witnessing of this marriage.

Delegate of Archbishop

Archdiocese

Date

Dispensation

Revision Date: 2/20/2023