

DIOCESE OF EAU CLAIRE

510 S. Farwell Street

Eau Claire, WI 54701

Petition to the Bishop Regarding Judgment of Termination of a Marriage,  
Annulment, and/or Consent to Solemnize a Marriage after Divorce or  
Annulment

Petition submitted by:

The Rev'd \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Church \_\_\_\_\_

To the Bishop:

( ) I petition for a judgment of termination in the marriage of:

( ) I petition for annulment of the marriage of:

( ) I petition for consent to solemnize the marriage of:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Age \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Please furnish dates for the beginning and termination of any prior marriages:

1st Marriage:

2nd Marriage:

3rd Marriage:

Other?

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ages of children from prior marriage(s)

\_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Age \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Please furnish dates for the beginning and termination of any prior marriages:

Wedding \_\_\_\_\_ Wedding \_\_\_\_\_ Wedding \_\_\_\_\_

Divorced \_\_\_\_\_ Divorced \_\_\_\_\_ Divorced \_\_\_\_\_

Annulled \_\_\_\_\_ Annulled \_\_\_\_\_ Annulled \_\_\_\_\_

Widowed \_\_\_\_\_ Widowed \_\_\_\_\_ Widowed \_\_\_\_\_

1st Marriage:

2nd Marriage:

3rd Marriage:

Other?

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Ages of children from prior marriage(s)

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Note: If both addresses are the same - i.e. if this couple is already cohabiting - the member of the clergy preparing this form is to describe in writing to the Bishop the nature of the pastoral counseling being given to the couple regarding this decision on their part.

Each petitioner shall furnish the following information to the Bishop, in writing, concerning prior marriages.

What do you believe to be the true cause of the breakdown of your prior marriage in terms of your own involvement as well as that of your spouse? Your statement should include the following:

a - Describe your attempt at marital counseling before and after the divorce.

b - Describe your spiritual life during the process of your separation and divorce.

c - Describe what repentance, forgiveness and healing you have experienced.

d - What is your intention toward involvement in the life of the church after your marriage?

The clergy person submitting this petition shall answer the following question :

Yes \_\_\_ I have personally examined the final decree(s) of divorce or civil annulment listed above, and I certify that on the basis of my examination the prior marriage(s) (is) (are) dissolved.

If you are petitioning for Judgment of Termination or Annulment without requesting consent to marry, you may stop here.

Wedding \_\_\_\_\_ Wedding \_\_\_\_\_ Wedding \_\_\_\_\_

Divorced \_\_\_\_\_ Divorced \_\_\_\_\_ Divorced \_\_\_\_\_

Annulled \_\_\_\_\_ Annulled \_\_\_\_\_ Annulled \_\_\_\_\_

Widowed \_\_\_\_\_ Widowed \_\_\_\_\_ Widowed \_\_\_\_\_

The Member of the Clergy shall have required that the parties sign the following declaration:

We, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, desiring to receive the blessing of Holy Matrimony in the Church, do solemnly declare that we hold marriage to be a lifelong union of husband and wife as it is set forth in the Book of Common Prayer. We believe that the union of husband and wife, in heart, body, and mind, is intended by God for their mutual joy; for the help and comfort given one another in prosperity and adversity; and, when it is God's will, for the procreation of children and their nurture in the knowledge and love of the Lord. And we do engage ourselves, so far as in us lies, to make our utmost effort to establish this relationship and to seek God's help thereto."

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

TO BE COMPLETED BY CLERGY IN ALL APPLICATIONS FOR  
CONSENT TO REMARRY. CHECK YES OR NO TO EVERY QUESTION.  
WHERE NO IS CHECKED THERE NEEDS TO BE AN ATTACHED  
EXPLANATION.

1. Yes\_\_\_ or No\_\_\_ I have met personally with both parties and they are engaged in a program of premarital counseling satisfactory to me, or they have met in person with a priest of this church satisfactory to me and I have consulted that priest and am assured that they are engaged in a program of premarital counseling.

2. Yes\_\_\_ or No\_\_\_ Each person has signed the Declaration of Intent.

3. Yes\_\_\_ or No\_\_\_ At least one person is baptized.

4. Yes\_\_\_ or No\_\_\_ I have inquired of the parties whether they have consulted any other priest of this church regarding the proposed marriage and have personally contacted that priest. If a priest has declined to officiate, a statement concerning the circumstances of that priest's decision is attached.

5. Yes\_\_\_ or No\_\_\_ I have inquired of the priest of the former parish (if applicable) to ascertain pertinent pastoral information. (A letter is attached.)

6. Yes\_\_\_ or No\_\_\_ I have thoroughly discussed with both parties their personal readiness for marriage. (Or such discussion has occurred in a counseling program satisfactory to me.)

7. Yes\_\_\_ or No\_\_\_ I believe each person has realistically faced and evaluated the causes(s) of the death of the previous marriage.

8. Yes\_\_\_ or No\_\_\_ I am satisfied that each party has an adequate continuing concern for the previous spouse(s) and children and is acting responsibly to fulfill moral and legal obligations.

9. Yes\_\_\_ or No\_\_\_ I believe the marriage of this couple is likely to be a demonstrable sign of the spiritual union between Christ and His Church.

10. Yes\_\_\_\_ or No\_\_\_\_ I am satisfied that the couple (or at least of one person with the support of the other) intends to live out their marriage with the support of the Christian community as participants in some congregation of the Church.

11. Yes\_\_\_\_ or No\_\_\_\_ At least one calendar year has elapsed since the date(s) of the final decree(s).

12. Yes\_\_\_\_ or No\_\_\_\_ I have discussed with the couple, to the degree that I believe appropriate, the spiritual aspects of:

**FAMILY RELATIONSHIPS:** Equal partnership in marriage, in- law relationships, blended families, parenting concepts. **COMMUNICATION:** Sharing feelings, how do you deal with anger, is there mutual affirmation? **SPIRITUAL:** Family rule of life, daily prayer, scripture reading, relationship to God.

**FINANCIAL:** Legal and insurance matters, will, planning budgets, who pays bills, stewardship.

**SEXUAL:** Discuss the sacramentality of marriage, fidelity, honesty, openness to communication and discussion of sexuality.

13. Yes\_\_\_\_ or No\_\_\_\_ I am willing to solemnize the marriage if consent is granted.

14. Yes\_\_\_\_ or No\_\_\_\_ I am requesting judgment at least 30 days prior to the date of the marriage. Proposed date of marriage \_\_\_\_\_.

**THE FOLLOWING QUESTION IS FOR SITUATIONS WHERE EITHER OR BOTH PERSONS HAS/HAVE BEEN DIVORCED OR HAD THEIR MARRIAGES ANNULLED MORE THAN ONCE.**

15. Yes\_\_\_\_ or No\_\_\_\_ I have received from a professional counselor a statement concerning this couple and their suitability for marriage. The statement is attached along with an explanatory letter from me.

WHERE QUESTIONS 1-14 ARE ANSWERED YES AND QUESTION 15 IS NOT APPLICABLE, NO ADDITIONAL MATERIAL IS REQUIRED TO ACCOMPANY THE PETITION.

I request consent of the Bishop for me to solemnize this marriage.

Signature of Clergy submitting this Petition

\_\_\_\_\_

Date\_\_\_\_\_

-----detach and send-----

To be filled in by the person officiating at the Marriage and returned to:

Bishop of Eau Claire/510 S. Farwell Street/Eau Claire, WI 54701

Date\_\_\_\_\_

On this day I officiated and solemnized the Marriage

between \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

that took place at \_\_\_\_\_.

Signed\_\_\_\_\_