

Office Use Only

Case:

Prot:

GENERAL MATRIMONIAL QUESTIONNAIRE

*Preliminary Information and Petition
(Rev. July 2021)*

TO BE FILED BY THE PETITIONER IN EVERY MARRIAGE CASE

1. This questionnaire is to be **answered by the petitioner** and presented to the Matrimonial Tribunal whenever a declaration of nullity is sought on **any legal ground whatsoever**. In the case of multiple marriages, a questionnaire is required for **each** marriage.
2. **Along with** the complete form the presenter of the marriage case will also send to the Matrimonial Tribunal a **certificate of the contested marriage** and a **copy of the decree of civil divorce**, and **Baptismal certificates**.
3. If the case is of a **previous marriage bond**, certificates of the bigamous spouse's previous marriages must be presented along with divorce decrees.
4. **All available** certificates of Baptism of **all parties** must be filed with the petition.
5. After we receive this, the Matrimonial Tribunal will issue directives to the presenter of the petition. Please do **not** do any unauthorized questioning of the witnesses or the respondent.
6. It is not sure that a favorable decision is to be forthcoming. The priest/presenter **should not encourage** the petitioner to any rash actions, e.g., setting marriage date, wedding plans, specific indication of length of time it takes for a decision.

PETITIONER INFORMATION

1. Full name _____ Maiden name _____
Other names used since birth _____
2. Address _____
Street/Box _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____
3. Religion _____ Actively Practicing? _____ Details _____

4. Birth Mo. _____ Day _____ Year _____ Birthplace _____
5. Have you ever been baptized? _____ Date _____ City, State _____
Denomination _____ Church name _____ Baptizing minister _____
6. Father's full name _____
7. Mother's full **maiden name** _____
8. Father's and mother's present address _____

9. Father's religion _____ Mother's religion _____
10. Father's religion **at your birth** _____ Mother's religion **at your birth** _____
11. Are they practicing members of their church? _____
12. Were both of them baptized? _____ Year(s) of baptism (if known) _____
13. Are your brothers and sisters baptized? _____
List the names, addresses, ages, and religious affiliation of all brothers and sisters (use separate page if necessary)

14. Your age at the time of your marriage _____ Was this your first marriage? _____
Have there been any other civil or church marriage(s) in your lifetime? _____
If yes, please specify _____

MARRIAGE

15. Date of marriage _____ City, State _____
Church name _____ Minister or official _____
16. How many children were born of this marriage? _____ Date(s) of birth _____
17. Who has custody of the children at this time? _____



RESPONDENT INFORMATION

1. His/her full name _____ Maiden name _____
Other names used since birth _____
2. His/her address _____
Street/Box _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____
3. His/her religion _____ Actively Practicing? _____ Details _____

4. His/her birth Mo. _____ Day _____ Year _____ Birthplace _____
5. Has he/she ever been baptized? _____ Date _____ City, State _____
Denomination _____ Church name _____ Baptizing minister _____
6. His/her father's full name _____
7. His/her mother's full **maiden name** _____
8. His/her father's and mother's present address _____

9. His/her father's religion _____ His/her mother's religion _____
10. Father's religion **at his/her birth** _____ Mother's religion **at his/her birth** _____
11. Are they actively practicing members of their Church? _____
12. Were both of them baptized? _____ Year(s) of baptism (if known) _____
13. Are his/her brothers and sisters baptized? _____
List the names, addresses, ages, and religious affiliation of all brothers and sisters (use separate page if necessary)

14. His/her age at the time of your marriage _____ Was this his/her first marriage? _____
Have there been any other civil or church marriage(s) in his/her lifetime? _____
If yes, please specify _____

DIVORCE

15. Date of divorce _____ County, State _____
Who was the plaintiff? _____
16. What was the true cause of the divorce? _____

STATEMENT OF MATRIMONIAL TRIBUNAL POLICY

The proceedings of the Matrimonial Tribunal of the Diocese of Jefferson City are exclusively religious in nature. They are governed solely by the Canon Law of the Roman Catholic Church and have no civil effects. The purpose of this investigation is to determine the status of the parties in the Roman Catholic Church and their possible freedom to enter into a future marriage that will be recognized by the Church. It is the desire of the Matrimonial Tribunal that these proceedings be a healing experience conducted in a spirit of Christian justice and compassion. In order to make a responsible and just decision, the Matrimonial Tribunal needs adequate information. Because of the sensitive nature of the information gathered and because the Matrimonial Tribunal wishes to promote a spirit of charity, all information gathered is considered confidential. This information is never made available in civil proceedings. However, Church law does allow the petitioner, respondent, and officers of the Matrimonial Tribunal to have access to this information. A witness may ask that his or her testimony be withheld for serious reason. The presiding judge may also restrict the availability of certain information.

AFFIDAVIT

I affirm that I have read the Statement of Matrimonial Tribunal Policy above and that I understand it, and I agree to cooperate with it fully.

I further affirm before God and my conscience that I present this testimony in good faith and that the answers that I have given are entirely true, to the best of my knowledge. Furthermore, I hereby consent to the possibility that the Matrimonial Tribunal may need to disclose my testimony to the respondent and to the officers in the Matrimonial Tribunal.

I understand that any materials received by the Matrimonial Tribunal of the Diocese of Jefferson City becomes the property of the Matrimonial Tribunal.

Petitioner's signature _____

I further wish to appoint as my procurator/advocate _____

Petitioner's signature _____

Pastor/Advocate's signature _____

Date _____ Place _____

STATEMENT OF ADVOCATE

INCLUDED WITH ANY INFORMATION OF A FORMAL CASE must be an exhaustive statement by the presenter of the case, which includes the following information:

1. Length of time you have known the petitioner
2. Opinion of the petitioner's character (maturity, general impressions, facts or incidents you have heard about the petitioner, and possibly other's opinions on the character and actions of the petitioner)
3. As much as you know about the person and the family the petitioner hopes to marry into (character, reputation, impressions, etc.)
4. Is the person the petitioner hopes to marry Catholic? Practicing? Married out of the Church at the present time? Of a proper age for marrying? etc.
5. If there has been an attempted remarriage, is this marriage working? How long have they lived together? Are there children of this marriage?
6. What are the possibilities of scandal in the case?
7. Please also give your own analysis of this petitioner's marriage case, and your opinion of its merits.

Include your signature, date and place. Thank you.