

A PETITION FOR DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE THE PAULINE PRIVILEGE

Introduction:

“A marriage entered into by two non-baptized persons is dissolved by means of the Pauline Privilege in favor of the faith of the party who has received baptism by the very fact that a new marriage is contracted by the same party, provided that the non-baptized party departs.” C. 1143, §1.

What must be proven:

1. The Petitioner has never been baptized or has only been baptized since the parties to the prior marriage stopped living together.
2. The Respondent has never been baptized in any form recognized by the Catholic Church, up to the present time.
3. The Respondent does not wish to receive baptism.
4. The Petitioner was not the direct cause of the failure of the prior marriage.

PETITION FOR PAULINE PRIVILEGE

PETITIONER

First Middle Last (maiden, if woman)

Address City/State/Zip

Phone Email

Date of Birth Place of birth: City/State or Country

Petitioner's witnesses: (Who can testify your baptismal status)

Name Name

Address Address

City/State/Zip City/State/Zip

Phone email Phone email

Relationship to Petitioner Relationship to Petitioner

RESPONDENT

First Middle Last (maiden, if woman)

Address City/State/Zip

Phone Email

Date of Birth Place of birth: City/State/County

Respondent's witnesses: (Who can testify his/her baptismal status)

Name Name

Address Address

City/State/Zip City/State/Zip

Phone email Phone email

Relationship to Respondent Relationship to Respondent

MARRIAGE

Date of Marriage Name of Church/Courthouse/Chapel

Date of Final Decree of Divorce City/County/State of Civil Dissolution

Questions for the Petitioner:

1. What is your father's religion at the time of your birth? (Please be specific):

2. What is your mother's religion at the time of your birth? (Please be specific):

3. Please describe to what degree each parent practiced in his or her religion.

4. Did your parents believe in the necessity of baptism? _____ Of infant baptism? _____
5. Do they believe in it now? _____
6. If you have never been baptized, what was the reason? _____

7. Were you under the care and supervision of your parents continuously during your childhood and youth? _____
8. Have you ever been in a hospital, nursing home or other church or civil institution where you might have been baptized without being aware of that act? _____
If so, when? _____ Where? _____
Denomination: _____
9. Did you ever attend Sunday School, Sunday church services or Bible school as a child or youth? _____
If so, when? _____ Where? _____
Denomination: _____
10. Did you ever join any church (for example, by enrollment or profession faith)?

If so, please state the name and address of the church and the date you joined:

11. What is your religion at present? _____
12. How long have you been a part of that religion? _____

13. If any of your close family have been baptized and you have not, please explain as completely as possible why you have not been baptized. _____

14. Did anyone ever have you baptized, christened, sprinkled or immersed during your infancy or early childhood? _____
If so, please state the name and relationship, address and telephone number of that person: _____

15. Where did this baptism, christening, sprinkling or immersion take place (church, hospital, chapel, home). Please include the address and date if known. _____

16. Have you, on your own initiative, ever been baptized or christened at any time?

- If so, in what denomination? _____
When? _____ Where? _____
17. How old were you at time of baptism? _____
18. Please describe the ceremony which took place (if in infancy, as it was told to you). _____

19. Why did your marriage break up? _____

20. Was this the first marriage contract by each of you? _____
If not, which of you was previously married? _____

Questions about the Respondent:

21. Was your former spouse ever been baptized in any religion? _____

- If so, where? _____ In what denomination? _____
(Proof of the lack of baptism at the time of marriage for your former spouse is required).
22. Was your former spouse ever been in a hospital, nursing home or other church or civil institution where he/she might have been baptized without being aware of that act? _____
If so, when? _____ Where? _____
Denomination: _____

23. Did your former spouse ever attend Sunday school, Sunday church services or Bible school as a child or youth? _____
If so, when? _____ Where? _____
Denomination: _____
24. Did your former spouse ever join any church (for example, by enrollment or profession faith)? _____
If so, please state the name and address of the church and the date he/she joined: _____

25. What is your former spouse's religion at this present time? _____

26. How long has she/he been a part of that religion? _____
27. If any of your former spouse's close family have been baptized and he/she has not, please explain as completely as possible why your former spouse has not been baptized. _____

28. Did anyone ever have your former spouse baptized, christened, sprinkled or immersed during infancy or early childhood? _____
If so, please state the name and relationship, address and telephone number of that person: _____

29. Where did this baptism, christening, sprinkling or immersion take place (church, hospital, chapel, home). Please include the address and date if known. _____

30. Has your former spouse, on he/she own initiative, ever been baptized or christened at any time? _____
If so, in what denomination? _____
When? _____ Where? _____
31. How old was he/she at time of baptism? _____
32. Please describe the ceremony which took place (if in infancy, as it was told to him/her). _____

Future Baptism:

33. If you have **never** been baptized, is it your current intent to seek baptism in the Catholic Church? _____
If so, please describe your intentions in this regard and state when and where you contemplate being baptized (baptism must precede any Church wedding or convalidation). _____

Contemplated Marriage or Convalidation:

(Information regarding the person with whom the Petitioner wishes to enter or convalidate marriage in the Church).

Name (maiden if woman)

Address

City/State/Zip

Phone email

Religion of Baptism

34. Has this person ever been previously married? _____
If so, When? _____ Where? _____
Before whom? _____ Denomination: _____
35. Have you already entered marriage with this person? _____
If so, When? _____ Where? _____
Before whom? _____ Denomination: _____
36. Have you ever petitioned another tribunal or discussed a Pauline Privilege case with any other priest? _____
If so, When? _____ Where? _____

Do you swear to the truth of your answers? _____

Signature of the Petitioner

Signature of the Advocate

Date

Advocate's Name - Please print

SEAL

Parish

Address

City/State/Zip

Phone

email

When submitting the case, the following documents **MUST** accompany this petition.

1. Marriage license for the Petitioner/Respondent.
2. Final Divorce Decree for the Petitioner/Respondent.
3. Any Baptism records (if any)