

Diocese of Georgia

611 East Bay Street, Savannah, Georgia 31401-1296

Petition to the Bishop for Consent to Solemnize a Marriage after Divorce or Annulment

Case No. R- _____

This form must be accompanied by Forms MJ-2, Request For Bishop's Consent For a Marriage After Divorce

Petition submitted by:

The Rev. _____ Date: _____

Address _____

Telephone (_____) _____ Parish _____

To the Bishop:

I petition for consent to solemnize the marriage of

a) (Name) _____
whose prior marriage ended in divorce or annulment (date finalized: _____)

b) (Name) _____
whose prior marriage ended in divorce or annulment (date finalized: _____)

c) (Name of other party, if not above) _____

The proposed date of the solemnization of the marriage is: _____

(Circle "Yes" or "No" to every question. Where "No" is circled, attach a full explanation.)

- | | | | |
|-----|----|----|---|
| Yes | No | 1. | I have met in person with both parties and they are engaged in a program of premarital counseling satisfactory to me, or they have met in person with a member of the clergy of this church satisfactory to me and I have consulted that member of the clergy and am assured that they are engaged in a program of premarital counseling. |
| Yes | No | 2. | Each party has signed the Declaration of Intention. |
| Yes | No | 3. | At least one of the parties is baptized. |
| Yes | No | 4. | I have inquired of the parties whether they have consulted any other member of the clergy of this church regarding the proposed marriage and if they have, I have personally consulted that priest prior to submitting this petition. |
| Yes | No | 5. | I have personally examined the final decree(s) of divorce or annulment and I certify that on the basis of my examination the prior marriage(s) is (are) lawfully dissolved. |
| Yes | No | 6. | I believe these parties intend a true Christian marriage. |

- Yes No 7. I have thoroughly discussed with them each party's personal readiness for marriage (or such discussion has occurred in a counseling program satisfactory to me).
- Yes No 8. I believe each has realistically faced and evaluated the cause(s) of the deaths of the previous marriage(s).
- Yes No 9. I am satisfied that each party has an adequate continuing concern for the previous spouse and any children.
- Yes No 10. I believe the marriage of this couple is likely to demonstrate a sign of the spiritual union between Christ and his Church.
- Yes No 11. I am willing to solemnize the marriage if consent is granted.
- Yes No 12. I am satisfied that the couple (or at least one party 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.
- Yes No 13. At least one calendar year has elapsed since the date(s) of final decree(s).
- Yes No 14. All matters of property and custody have been settled.
- Yes No 15. I have discussed with this couple, to the degree I believe to be appropriate, differences, if any, in age, income, religious discipline, patterns of conflict, and especially for older couples with grown children, whether a written pre-nuptial agreement on disposition of assets, property, or other estate planning would be appropriate for them to consider (or such discussion of those issues has occurred in a counseling program satisfactory to me).

The following question is for situations where either or both parties have been divorced (or had marriages annulled) more than once.

- Yes No 16. I have received from a professional counselor a statement concerning this couple and the statement is attached along with an explanatory letter from me.

(Where questions 1-15 are answered, "Yes" and question 16 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 Priest/Deacon

PERMISSION IS HEREBY GRANTED for the solemnization of a marriage between the persons named herein on or after _____

Given under my hand and seal this _____

Bishop of Georgia



Diocese of Georgia

Request For Bishop's Consent For a Marriage After Divorce

(Canon I.19.2a)

This form must accompany Form MJ-1, completed by petitioning priest or deacon

Each person needs to complete a separate form

Name: _____ Age: _____ Occupation: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: () _____ Day () _____ Evening

Member (include denomination): _____ Congregation, City: _____ State: _____

Fiancé(e): _____

Why do you wish the Church to be involved in your marriage?

Has a previous marriage ended in divorce? Yes No

How many previous marriages have ended in divorce? 1 2 3 (or more)

If you have a prior marriage, please answer the following

What did you learn from the failure of your first marriage that will help you in developing a successful marital relationship with your fiancé(e)? *(Please use the reverse side if more space is needed.)*

I have / have not *(circle one)* read the Diocesan Policy, Petitioning For Consent To Solemnize a Marriage After Divorce.

The petitioning member of the clergy is _____

I understand that this petition is to determine the possibility of marriage in, and by, the Church and that no date for the solemnization of the marriage may be announced until the bishop's consent has been given.

I understand the nature of Christian marriage as set forth in the Declaration of Intention, and I seek God's blessing upon our marriage; I will endeavor to honor my commitment, and will support my spouse in doing likewise.

(signature of applicant)

(date)

Form MJ-2

Word/mj-petition.doc rev. 08/00