

APPLICATION FOR PERMISSION TO OFFICIATE
AT THE RE-MARRIAGE OF (A) DIVORCED PERSON(S)
EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS

The following information should be provided to the Bishop at least thirty (30) days before the proposed wedding date.

Today's Date: _____

The following persons desire to be married by a priest of the Episcopal Church on

at

_____ *date* _____ *name of church and city*

_____ *Groom's Full Name (no initials)*

_____ *Age*

_____ *Address (city, state, zip code)*

_____ *Member of parish, city, state (if none, please indicate)*

This person is:

baptized confirmed a confirmed communicant in good standing

an active member of another denomination: _____

This person: has never been married before is a widower

has been married before and his former wife is still living.*

_____ *Bride's Full Name (no initials)*

_____ *Age*

_____ *Address (city, state, zip code)*

_____ *Member of parish, city, state (if none, please indicate)*

This person is:

baptized confirmed a confirmed communicant in good standing

an active member of another denomination: _____

This person: has never been married before is a widower

has been married before and her former husband is still living.*

OVER

CANONICAL CHECKLIST TO ACCOMPANY THE APPLICATION
FOR PERMISSION TO OFFICIATE AT THE RE-MARRIAGE OF (A) DIVORCED PERSON(S)

*Title I,
Canon 19,
Section 3(2)*

- I am satisfied that the prior marriage has been annulled or dissolved by a final judgment or decree of a civil court of jurisdiction because I have examined a copy of the "Certificate of Divorce Absolute" (not Agreement; not Complaint; not Judgment NISI). (In states other than Massachusetts, the Certificate must include in the wording that the marriage is dissolved.

Date of Final Decree(s): _____

*Title I,
Canon 19,
Section 3(b)*

- I have instructed the parties that continuing concern must be shown for the well-being of the former spouse, and of any children of the prior marriage(s).

*Title I,
Canon 18,
Section 2(b)*

- I have ascertained that both parties understand that Holy Matrimony is a physical and spiritual union of a man and a woman, entered into within the community of faith, by mutual consent of heart, mind and will, and with intent that it be lifelong.

*Title I,
Canon 18,
Section 2(e)*

- I have instructed both parties as to the nature, meaning, and purpose of Holy Matrimony, or I have ascertained that they have both received such instruction from persons known by me to be competent and responsible.

*Title I,
Canon 18,
Section 3(d)*

- I have reviewed with both parties the Declaration of Intention, and both have signed the same.

*Title I,
Canon 19,
Section 3(c)*

- I respectfully request the consent of the Bishop to solemnize this marriage.

The Bishop also requests:

1. A cover letter from the cleric briefly introducing the couple and their situation.
2. A short letter from each divorced person (no more than one page) outlining the causes of the breakdown or the previous marriage and the reasons he/she believes the proposed marriage will be a life-long commitment.

Since we are called to respect and support the integrity of vows in Holy Matrimony, there are serious concerns raised by a request for a 3rd or 4th marriage. These extraordinary requests should include a more detailed letter of explanation from the cleric.

Signature

Date