



Prenuptial Questionnaire – Bride

BRIDE

(Orally questioned separately from groom; form must be filled out by priest/deacon/delegate)

Do you solemnly swear to tell the whole truth and nothing but the truth in answering the following questions? _____

Name: _____

What religion do you profess? _____

What other religions have you formerly professed and dates you joined? _____

Are you baptized? _____ Date: ___/___/___ Church: _____ Place: _____

Marriages between a Catholic and Non-Catholic always require permission or dispensation; see Instructions.

For a Catholic only: Provide a copy of your baptismal certificate ISSUED WITHIN THE LAST SIX (6) MONTHS.

Have you received first Communion? _____ Confirmation? _____

When was the last time you went to Confession? _____ To Communion? _____

Name of your Parish: _____

In your Parish you are: Registered and active in some way Registered only Not registered

Others: "Please obtain certificate of your Baptism from your church or affidavits of Baptism from 2 witnesses" (Form A).

If bride not known to you, require two (2) affidavits regarding freedom to marry (Form A).

1. How long have you known your future spouse? _____
2. How long have you been engaged? _____
3. Are you currently practicing your religion? _____
4. Have you ever taken religious vows in the Catholic Church? _____

Y N 5. Have you or your future spouse ever married in any way to anyone before, even civilly or in "common law"?

[If bride has been previously married, below, or on a separate page if needed, give names of all persons with whom she has entered marriage. Enter case name, protocol number and Tribunal of nullity decree, attach a copy of death certificate or "In-Parish Case" (Form C). Complete "Prior Obligations" (Form D). NO WEDDING CAN TAKE PLACE IF ANY ECCLESIASTICAL DECREE OF INVALIDITY IS STILL NEEDED. THEREFORE, ANY PROPOSED WEDDING DATE REMAINS MERELY TENTATIVE.]

Y N 6. Are either of you under eighteen (18)? *[If yes, a special procedure is necessary.]*

Y N 7. Have you or will you execute a premarital or post-nuptial legal agreement?

Y N 8. Is there anything that might happen in the future for which you could never forgive your future spouse? *[If yes, explain each thoroughly on a separate page.]*

Y N 9. Are you or your future spouse having any hesitation about getting married? *[If yes, explain thoroughly on a separate page.]*

Y N 10. Are you pregnant at this time or do you think you might be? *[If yes, a special procedure is necessary.]*

Y N 11. Is there any psychological, social, or physical problem that might stop you or your future spouse from leading a normal married life? *[If yes, explain thoroughly on a separate page.]*

Y N 12. Are you related to your future spouse in any way, or are your families related through marriage?

Y N 13. Do you intend to have proper marital sexual relations with your spouse? *[If no, explain thoroughly on a separate page.]*

Y N 14. Do either of you intend to exclude children permanently from your marriage? *[If yes, explain thoroughly on a separate page.]*

Y N 15. Is any person or circumstance pressuring you to marry? *[If yes, explain thoroughly on a separate page.]*

Y N 16. Are you or your future spouse entering this marriage sooner than originally planned? *[If yes, explain thoroughly on a separate page.]*

Y N 17. *[To be asked only of someone under age 18]* Have your parents (guardians) and his given their approval for this marriage? *[If no, explain thoroughly on a separate page.]*

Y N 18. Are you placing any conditions on your marriage vows?

Y N 19. Is there any major fact about yourself, either in the present or past, that you have not made known to your future spouse and that might affect his willingness to marry you? *[If yes, explain thoroughly on a separate page.]*

Y N 20. Do you intend to be faithful to your future spouse in a life-long marriage that can be dissolved only by death? *[If no, explain thoroughly on a separate page.]*

Number of additional pages attached as part of this information: _____

By signing my name I solemnly swear that my answers are true and complete to the best of my knowledge and I understand the obligations and responsibility of marriage.

Today's date: _____

(SIGNATURE OF BRIDE)

I have seriously discussed with this person who is to enter this marriage the significance of marriage in the Catholic Church and from her statements I am convinced that no impediments to marriage are present and that she is free to marry.

Comments:

Today's date: _____

(SIGNATURE OF CLERIC/DELEGATE)

(SEAL OF PARISH)



Prenuptial Questionnaire – Groom

GROOM

(Orally questioned separately from bride; form must be filled out by priest/deacon/delegate)

Do you solemnly swear to tell the whole truth and nothing but the truth in answering the following questions? _____

Name: _____

What religion do you profess? _____

What other religions have you formerly professed and dates you joined? _____

Are you baptized? _____ Date: ___/___/___ Church: _____ Place: _____

Marriages between a Catholic and Non-Catholic always require permission or dispensation; see Instructions.

For a Catholic only: Provide a copy of your baptismal certificate ISSUED WITHIN THE LAST SIX (6) MONTHS.

Have you received first Communion? _____ Confirmation? _____

When was the last time you went to Confession? _____ To Communion? _____

Name of your Parish: _____

In your Parish you are: Registered and active in some way Registered only Not registered

Others: "Please obtain certificate of your Baptism from your church or affidavits of Baptism from 2 witnesses" (Form A).

If groom not known to you, require two (2) affidavits regarding freedom to marry (Form A).

1. How long have you known your future spouse? _____
2. How long have you been engaged? _____
3. Are you currently practicing your religion? _____
4. Have you ever received Sacred Orders or taken Religious Vows in the Catholic Church? _____

Y N 5. Have you or your future spouse ever married in any way to anyone before, even civilly or in “common law”?

[If groom has been previously married, below, or on a separate page if needed, give names of all persons with whom he has entered marriage. Enter case name, protocol number and Tribunal of nullity decree, attach a copy of death certificate or “In-Parish Case” (Form C). Complete “Prior Obligations” (Form D). NO WEDDING CAN TAKE PLACE IF ANY ECCLESIASTICAL DECREE OF INVALIDITY IS STILL NEEDED. THEREFORE, ANY PROPOSED WEDDING DATE REMAINS MERELY TENTATIVE.]

Y N 6. Are either of you under eighteen (18)? *[If yes, a special procedure is necessary.]*

Y N 7. Have you or will you execute a premarital or post-nuptial legal agreement?

Y N 8. Is there anything that might happen in the future for which you could never forgive your future spouse? *[If yes, explain each thoroughly on a separate page.]*

Y N 9. Are you or your future spouse having any hesitation about getting married? *[If yes, explain thoroughly on a separate page.]*

Y N 10. Is your future spouse pregnant at this time or do you think she might be? *[If yes, a special procedure is necessary.]*

Y N 11. Is there any psychological, social or physical problem that might stop you or your future spouse from leading a normal married life? *[If yes, explain thoroughly on a separate page.]*

Y N 12. Are you related to your future spouse in any way, or are your families related through marriage?

Y N 13. Do you intend to have proper marital sexual relations with your spouse? *[If no, explain thoroughly on a separate page.]*

Y N 14. Do either of you intend to exclude children permanently from your marriage? *[If yes, explain thoroughly on a separate page.]*

Y N 15. Is any person or circumstance pressuring you to marry? *[If yes, explain thoroughly on a separate page.]*

Y N 16. Are you or your future spouse entering this marriage sooner than originally planned? *[If yes, explain thoroughly on a separate page.]*

Y N 17. *[To be asked only of someone under age 18]* Have your parents (guardians) and hers given their approval for this marriage? *[If no, explain thoroughly on a separate page.]*

Y N 18. Are you placing any conditions on your marriage vows?

Y N 19. Is there any major fact about yourself, either in the present or past, that you have not made known to your future spouse and that might affect her willingness to marry you? *[If yes, explain thoroughly on a separate page.]*

Y N 20. Do you intend to be faithful to your future spouse in a life-long marriage that can be dissolved only by death?

Number of additional pages attached as part of this information: _____

By signing my name I solemnly swear that my answers are true and complete to the best of my knowledge and I understand the obligations and responsibility of marriage.

Today's date: _____

(SIGNATURE OF GROOM)

I have seriously discussed with this person who is to enter this marriage the significance of marriage in the Catholic Church and from his statements I am convinced that no impediments to marriage are present and that he is free to marry.

Comments:

Today's date: _____

(SIGNATURE OF CLERIC/DELEGATE)

(SEAL OF PARISH)

KEY AND GUIDE - PRENUPTIAL QUESTIONNAIRE

1. BRIDE OR GROOM

Interview bride and groom separately after establishing a good relationship in which you sense they are both being open and honest in their responses. These questions are delicate and are not to be asked in the style of the grand inquisitor but with sensitivity while seeking a complete self revelation of the truth. The **Priest/Deacon/Delegate** writes out all information.

Females who are not yet 14 and males not yet 16 cannot validly marry. If either are under 18 or if pregnancy is involved, consult the Vicar General about special preparation.

These questions will indicate whether to apply for permission/dispensation and will give you a clue to possible areas of conflict.

Permission for mixed marriage (Form B) is granted by a priest with Ordinariate faculties if both are baptized persons in a church that at least pours water over the head, uses the Trinitarian formula, and intends what the Catholic Church intends: at least to baptize them in Christ and incorporate them into the church. (If a person once Catholic has left the Church and does not wish to return to it, it is required that the promise to rear the children as Catholics be signed by the party who was formerly Catholic. Permission for mixed marriage is then granted.)

Permission for mixed marriage and dispensation from Disparity of Worship *ad cautelam* (for safety) is requested from the Chancery if there is doubt about the validity of the Baptism as described above (Form B). Dispensations are FOR VALIDITY, permissions are FOR LICEITY.

Finally, if one of the parties is not baptized, then dispensation from disparity of cult/worship is requested from the Chancery (Form B).

2. For Catholics Only:

The baptismal certificate issued within last six months is needed to be certain of the Catholic Baptism and to be sure of the correct church and address for the notification of the marriage to the church of Baptism. The back of the certificate will indicate if there has been a previous marriage or formal departure from the Catholic Church. It may also indicate whether there was first Communion or Confirmation.

An indication of religious profession or ordination could also be recorded. If either of these are indicated, contact the Vicar General immediately.

Remember that you may need to do much catechesis if you discover a non-practicing Catholic. Confirmation is not canonically required prior to marriage but is highly recommended. This question will give the opportunity to discuss their confessional practice and encourage them in this regard.

3. Others: **If bride/groom is not known to you, require two (2) affidavits regarding freedom to marry using two copies of Form A.**

You should request the affidavits regarding freedom if you do not have personal knowledge of the couple and they are old enough or have moved around enough that either one of them could have entered a union. Form A is provided for this purpose.

4. Are you currently practicing your religion?

This question should initiate a discussion to determine the intention of the parties regarding Catholic

marriage as the Church understands it. It will also allow you to explore the faith of non-Catholics. See the section on marriage preparation in the Ordinariate's *Liturgical and Sacramental Handbook*.

5. Have you ever married in any way to anyone before?

The answer to this question in the affirmative will require that you determine by what right the party concerned seeks marriage in the Catholic Church. If an annulment is involved, **MAKE CERTAIN THAT YOU READ THE DECREE OF EXECUTION AND ADHERE TO ANY CONDITIONS SPELLED OUT IN IT.**

6. All Other Questions:

If any of the questions answered need explanation, there is cause for deep concern about the validity of the marriage until the difficulty can be addressed. Discuss questions. Encourage professional help. Consult with the Chancery in any doubt about the validity of the proposed marriage.