

**The Gulf Atlantic Diocese**  
**PETITION TO THE BISHOP FOR CONSENT**  
**TO SOLEMNIZE A MARRIAGE**



**Submitted By:**

Clergyperson: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Intended Marriage: \_\_\_\_\_

Clergy Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Seeking consent to solemnize the marriage of: [eliminate (b) or (c)]:**

(a) (NAME) \_\_\_\_\_ I \_\_\_\_\_

Whose prior marriage ended in divorce or annulment.

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ City, State, ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

(b) (NAME) \_\_\_\_\_

Whose prior marriage ended in divorce or annulment.

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ City, State, ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

(c) (NAME of other party, if not above): \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ City, State, ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

(d) Statement of Groom's Christian commitment/church membership/affiliation/status Bapt/Conf/Comm):

(e) Statement of Bride's Christian commitment/church membership/affiliation/status Bapt/Conf/Comm):

*Consents will generally not be given for remarriage for a person with more than one divorce.*

**(Circle "YES" or "NO" to questions. Where "NO" is circled, attach a full explanation.)**

**YES NO** 1. I have met with both parties and I am engaged in a program of premarital counseling with them; or, they have met with a priest of this church, and I am assured that they have participated in a program of premarital counseling with the priest or qualified professional counselor known to me.

**YES NO** 2. Each party has signed an attached Declaration of Intention (**revised 6/26/16**).

- YES NO** 3. Both of the persons are baptized. (If not, the gospel has been shared clearly. Marriage between a believer and an unbeliever has been strongly discouraged (1 Cor. 7:39). If the priest believes that one is actually an unbeliever, even if baptized, the bishop will be consulted personally.)
- YES NO** 4. I have inquired of the parties whether they have consulted any other priest or pastor of this or any church regarding the proposed marriage and if they have, I have consulted with that clergyperson before submitting this petition. (A brief note concerning this is attached.)
- 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. At least one year has passed since the granting of the final civil decree(s) of divorce.
- YES NO** 7. All matters of property and custody have been settled.
- 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(s) and children.
- YES NO** 10. I have thoroughly discussed each party's personal readiness for marriage with them, or such discussion has occurred in a counseling program.
- YES NO** 11. I have discussed with this couple, to the degree I believe to be appropriate, differences in age, income, religious discipline, patterns of conflict, (or such discussion of those issues has occurred in a counseling program satisfactory to me.)
- YES NO** 12. I believe the marriage of this couple is likely to be a demonstrable sign of the spiritual union between Christ and His Church.
- YES NO** 13. I believe these parties intend a true Christian marriage.
- YES NO** 14. I am satisfied that the couple intends to live out their marriage with the support of the Christian community as participants in a congregation of the Church.
- YES NO** 15. This marriage will be solemnized in a church, chapel or other authorized place.
- YES NO** 16. Either a lawful civil marriage will occur before the wedding or I will sign the marriage license as an agent of the state after performing the liturgy.
- YES NO** 17. I am willing to solemnize the marriage if consent is granted.

**I request consent of the Bishop to solemnize this marriage.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Clergyperson submitting petition  
(emailed version may have name typed)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_