



(ARCH) DIOCESE of \_\_\_\_\_

**PETITION for a DISPENSATION from the CANONICAL FORM  
in a MIXED MARRIAGE**

If grave difficulties hinder the observance of canonical form in a mixed marriage, the local ordinary of the Catholic party may dispense the Catholic from the canonical form for a just pastoral cause, after having consulted the ordinary of the place in which the marriage is celebrated and with some public form of celebration for validity (Canon 1127, §2). If there is a dispensation from canonical form, the presence of a Catholic priest or deacon is permissible though not required. One may not have a Catholic marriage ceremony before or after the non-Catholic marriage ceremony. (Canon 1127, §3)

If there has been a dispensation from canonical form, ordinarily the marriage ceremony is celebrated in a non-Catholic church or oratory. In some exceptional circumstances (e.g. certain Catholic-Jewish marriages), it may be necessary that the dispensation be granted so that a civil ceremony may occur. A public form that is civilly recognized for the celebration of marriage is required.

**NOTE:**

1. A Petition for a Canonical Dispensation or Permission for a Mixed Marriage **MUST** accompany this completed petition.
2. Type or print clearly.
3. Forward this completed petition to the Tribunal/Chancery.

The undersigned requests for the following persons:

\_\_\_\_\_, a Catholic with domicile or quasi-domicile

in our (Arch) Diocese, of \_\_\_\_\_ and  
(Parish)

\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_,  
(Indicate religious affiliation.)

a dispensation from the canonical form of marriage which will allow:

- A minister of \_\_\_\_\_ to receive the exchange of vows.  
(Indicate religious affiliation.)
- A civil magistrate to receive the exchange of vows.  
(A letter to the (Arch) Bishop explaining the exceptional circumstances requiring a civil ceremony must be attached to this petition.)

For the following reason(s):

- To achieve family harmony or to avoid family alienation.
- To obtain parental agreement to the marriage.
- To recognize the significant claims of relationship of special friendship with a non-Catholic minister.
- To permit the marriage in a church that has particular importance to the non-Catholic.
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Permission(s) for:**

- A marriage ceremony in a non-Catholic church or oratory.
- A marriage ceremony in a suitable place outside a sacred space. (A letter to the (Arch) Bishop stating the serious reason for this request must be attached to this petition.)
- A Catholic  Priest or  Deacon \_\_\_\_\_ to participate in this non-Catholic marriage ceremony by offering other appropriate prayers, read from the Scriptures, give a brief exhortation and bless the couple. Only the non-Catholic officiant receives the consent of both parties during a non-Catholic marriage ceremony (Canon 1127, §3).

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name and title of person who will receive the consent of both parties (exchange of vows)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of church or place where the non-Catholic marriage ceremony will occur

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City/State/Zip Code

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of non-Catholic marriage ceremony

I, the undersigned, declare that after this dispensation from canonical form is granted and after the non-Catholic marriage ceremony is celebrated, I will:

- (a) Send to the Tribunal/Chancery a completed "Report of the Marriage Ceremony that occurred for which a Dispensation from Canonical Form was granted".
- (b) Place all documents, dispensation(s), permission(s), and records pertaining to this marriage in the usual marriage file of the parish where the pre-nuptial investigation and request for this dispensation from canonical form occurred (Canon 1121, §3).
- (c) Make notation of this marriage in the same parish marriage register where the pre-nuptial investigation and request for this dispensation from canonical form occurred, indicating the name of the minister, place and date of the non-Catholic marriage ceremony, and the granting of the necessary dispensation(s), permission(s) (Canon 1121, §3).
- (d) Send the notice of marriage to the place of baptism of the Catholic spouse (Canon 1122).

**Note:** If this dispensation from canonical form is not used within 3 months of the scheduled, non-Catholic ceremony date, return it to the Tribunal/Chancery for cancellation.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of  Priest or  Deacon or  Other

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parish

\_\_\_\_\_  
Type/print name

\_\_\_\_\_  
City/State

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date signed

**\*\*\*PARISH SEAL\*\*\***

In accord with Canon 1127, §2, the request for the dispensation from canonical form is granted. The permission(s) in this petition is granted.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Local Ordinary  
Or Delegate of the (Arch) Bishop

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date signed

**\*\*\*Seal of the (Arch) Diocese\*\*\***



(ARCH) DIOCESE of \_\_\_\_\_

**REPORT of the MARRIAGE CEREMONY  
that occurred for which a  
DISPENSATION from the CANONICAL FORM was granted**

**Verification that the non-Catholic marriage ceremony occurred (Check only one):**

- I, the non-Catholic officiant, witnessed the marriage ceremony of the couple below. I have made any necessary corrections of the marriage information below.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of non-Catholic officiant      Date signed

- A Catholic priest or deacon was present at this marriage ceremony.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Priest or  Deacon-*Type/print name*

- Other means of verification:
  - Secured photocopy of the civil marriage license signed by a non-Catholic officiant.
  - Groom/Bride contacted the Catholic priest, deacon or other Church person.
  - Family member/friend contacted the Catholic priest, deacon or other person.
  - Catholic priest, deacon, other contacted Groom/Bride or family member/friend.
  - Or: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Catholic:  Priest  Deacon  Other      Date signed

\_\_\_\_\_  
The marriage ceremony of \_\_\_\_\_, a Catholic,  
and \_\_\_\_\_, a non-Catholic, did occur.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name and title of person who received the consent of both parties (exchange of vows)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of church or place where the non-Catholic marriage ceremony was celebrated

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City/State/Zip Code      Date of non-Catholic marriage ceremony

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

In a mixed marriage for which there has been granted a dispensation from canonical form (Canon 1127, §2), an ecclesiastical record of the marriage shall be kept in the Chancery of the (Arch) Diocese which granted the dispensation and in the marriage records of the parish from which application for the dispensation was made (Canon 1121, §3).

It is the responsibility of the priest or deacon who requested the dispensation that the following occurs after the marriage ceremony is celebrated:

- (a) Complete this form. Type or print clearly.

Indicate that the marriage ceremony did occur by one of the following options:

→Send this form to the non-Catholic officiant to be signed.

OR

Give this form to the Catholic groom/bride to secure the non-Catholic officiant's signature.

→Indicate if a Catholic priest or deacon was present at this marriage ceremony.

→Indicate the "Other means of verification".

- (b) Place a copy of this completed form into the marriage file and then forward this form to the Tribunal/Chancery (Canon 1121, §3).

- (c) Place all documents, dispensation(s), permission(s), and records pertaining to this marriage in the usual marriage file of the parish where the prenuptial investigation and request for this dispensation from canonical form occurred (Canon 1121, §3).

- (d) Make notation of this marriage in the same parish marriage register where the prenuptial investigation and request for this dispensation from canonical form occurred, indicating the name of the minister, place and date of the non-Catholic marriage ceremony, and the granting of the necessary dispensation(s), permission(s) (Canon 1121, §3).

- (e) Send the notice of marriage to the place of baptism of the Catholic spouse (Canon 1122).

\_\_\_\_\_  
A dispensation from canonical form was granted by the Tribunal/Chancery of the (Arch) Diocese of \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ (Month, Day, Year).

This marriage has been recorded on \_\_\_\_\_ in the marriage register (Month, Day, Year) of \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_ (Parish) (City, State).

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of  Priest or  Deacon or  Other      Parish

\_\_\_\_\_  
Type/print name      City/State

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date signed

**\*\*\*PARISH SEAL\*\*\***