

PETITION REQUESTING THE PAULINE PRIVILEGE

Your Excellency,

I, the undersigned, respectfully request that canonical proceedings be instituted to establish my freedom to avail myself of the Pauline Privilege (Canon 1143) in the instance of the marriage I contracted with

Former Spouse First Middle Last

We separated on _____ and never cohabitated as husband and wife since that time.
Month, Day, Year

At the time of the marriage, neither party was baptized, christened, sprinkled, etc., in any religion, and to the best of my knowledge my former spouse is still unbaptized.

At the present time I am (please check one of the following)

_____ Preparing for the reception of baptism in the Catholic faith and taking instructions.

_____ Already a convert to the Catholic Faith.

_____ Taking instructions in the Catholic Faith, but I have already been baptized in the _____ religion. This baptism took place at:

Place:

Date:

I desire to contract marriage with _____, a
Intended Spouse First Middle Last
Catholic.

I request that after a positive conclusion to the investigation you kindly grant me the Pauline Privilege.

Sincerely Yours in Christ,

(Signature of Petitioner—Maiden Name if woman)

(Date)

(Printed Name)

(Signature of Priest Sponsor)

(Printed Name of Priest Sponsor)



**TRIBUNAL
DIOCESE OF FARGO**

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The Case: The Pauline Privilege can be used, at the discretion of the bishop, to dissolve a natural (non-sacramental) marriage between two **non-baptized persons** in the case that one of the partners seeks baptism, and the other partner does not wish to continue the marriage.

Throughout this form, **you** are the **Petitioner**, your **former spouse** is the **Respondent**.

Petitioner's Name: _____

Birth Date: _____

Birth Location: _____

Address: _____

Phone:
Cell: _____
Home: _____
Work: _____

The Following Documents **MUST BE INCLUDED**

- Petitioner's Baptismal Certificate -or- Letter from Pastor regarding entering RCIA
- Certified Copy of Marriage License for marriage in question
- Certified Copy of Divorce Decree for marriage in question
- Catholic Baptismal record of Petitioner's intended spouse

1. What is your religion at present?

2. Do you actively practice your religion?

3. Father's Name: _____

Address: _____

4. Mother's Name: _____

Address: _____

5. What is/was the religion of your **father**?

6. Does/did he actively practice his religion?

7. Does/did he believe in the necessity of infant baptism?

8. Did you ever hear him express his belief or disbelief in baptism? If so, what was his belief, and when did he express it?

9. What is/was the religion of your **mother**?

10. Does/did she actively practice his religion?

7. Does/did she believe in the necessity of infant baptism?

8. Did you ever hear her express her belief or disbelief in baptism? If so, what was her belief, and when did she express it?

9. Were you ever under the guardianship of others besides your parents?

9a. If so, please give full name and address of guardian or guardians.

9b. How long were you under this guardianship?

9c. What was the religion of these guardians?

9d. Did they actively practice this religion?

- 9e. Did they believe in the necessity of baptism?
10. Did your parents or guardians ever have you baptized, christened, or sprinkled in any Christian denomination?
- 10a. If so, give the name of each church.
- 10b. Date of the above baptism, christening, or sprinkling:
11. From whom did you obtain the above information?
12. When did you obtain the above information?
13. Have you ever been baptized, christened, or sprinkled of your own accord in any Christian denomination?
- 13a. If so, give the name of each church.
- 13b. Date of the above baptism, christening, or sprinkling:
14. If your parents or guardians did not have you baptized, what was the reason?
- 14a. From whom did you receive this information?
- 14b. When did you receive this information?
15. Did your parents or guardians have any other members of your family baptized?
- 15a. How many of them were baptized?
- 15b. At what age were they baptized?
- 15c. In what Christian denominations were they baptized?
- 15d. If they were baptized, but your parents or guardians did not have you baptized, explain the reason for this difference.

16. Did you ever attend Sunday School or Religious Education classes?

16a. If yes, during what years?

16b. What religion?

16c. Name and Address of Church or Churches attended (add more on back if necessary):

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

17. Give the exact names and addresses of parents, siblings and all others who can testify regarding your non-baptism.

Witness 1		Witness 2
	Name	
	Address	
	City/State/Zip	
	Phone	
	Relationship	
Witness 3		Witness 4
	Name	
	Address	
	City/State/Zip	
	Phone	
	Relationship	
Witness 5		Witness 6
	Name	
	Address	
	City/State/Zip	
	Phone	
	Relationship	
Witness 7		Witness 8
	Name	
	Address	
	City/State/Zip	
	Phone	
	Relationship	

18. Regarding your past marriages

Marriages of the Petitioner			
Former Spouse	First Marriage	Second Marriage	Third Marriage
First Name			
Present Last Name			
Maiden Name			
Birth date			
Birth Location			
Present Address			
City, State, Zip			
Date of Marriage			
Place of Marriage			
City, State/Province of Marriage			
County Where Married			
Officiant			
Affiliation of Officiant			
Age of Former Spouse at Time of Marriage			
Is this former spouse alive?			
Date of Death			
Date of Divorce			
Name of Divorce Court			
Court County, State, Country			
Religion of both at Time of Marriage			
Was Former Spouse ever Baptized?			
If Yes, Name of Church			
Address of Church			
City, state, zip of Church			
Date of Former Spouse's Baptism			
Did you ever discuss the question of Baptism with the former spouse?			

<p>Do you solemnly swear that to the best of your knowledge this former spouse was never baptized?</p>			
<p>Were you and this former spouse physically and mentally capable of marriage at the time of the wedding?</p>			
<p>Are you and the former spouse related by blood, marriage, or adoption? If yes, describe in detail.</p>			
<p>Was any force or fear brought to bear upon either of you that caused you to enter this marriage? If yes, describe in detail.</p>			
<p>Did either of you enter this marriage with the intention that it would not be a permanent union? If yes, describe in detail.</p>			
<p>Did either of you enter this marriage with the intention of denying to the other party the right to normal marital relations or denying the right to children? If yes, describe in detail.</p>			

How long did you live together?			
When did you separate?			
What was the immediate and actual cause of the final separation?			
Has the former spouse remarried?			
If yes, to whom?			
Is this new marriage still in existence?			
Is there any possibility of reconciliation between you and your former spouse?			

19. Have you been coached by anyone as to what to say before testifying?

I, _____ solemnly swear and affirm the truth of all the above statements.

Given at _____ (Date)
(Place)

Signed: _____
(Petitioner)

Signed: _____
(Priest-Sponsor)

Remarks of Priest:

--Parish Seal--