



**DIOCESE OF COVINGTON**  
**TRIBUNAL**  
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## **PETITION FOR FAVOR OF THE FAITH - PETRINE PRIVILEGE**

**For Tribunal Use Only**

Case Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Case Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Received: \_\_\_\_\_  
Petitioner's Parish: \_\_\_\_\_

The Petrine Privilege - The marriage between two non-Catholics, one of who is baptized, (and in some cases, the marriage between a Catholic and a non-baptized person) can be dissolved by the Roman Pontiff in "favor of the faith". This dissolution is considered to be a pastoral remedy for the good of souls. The favor is requested through the diocesan bishop who is then responsible for gathering the necessary documentation and sending it to the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith. The CDF examines the request and forwards it to the Holy Father for his signature if all requirements have been fulfilled.

Requirements - Certain conditions must be verified before the favor can be granted.

1. The marriage in question remains non-consummated after the baptism of the non-baptized party.
2. There is no possibility of restoring conjugal life.
3. The petitioner was not the cause of the breakdown of the conjugal relationship.
4. The petitioner's current or intended spouse did not provoke the breakdown of the conjugal relationship.
5. The petitioner has fulfilled his/her moral and civil obligations toward the first spouse and offspring.
6. A Catholic party must declare that he/she is prepared to remove all dangers of defecting from the faith. If the petitioner's current or intended spouse is non-Catholic he/she must declare that he/she is prepared to allow the Catholic party the freedom to practice his/her religion and the freedom to baptize and educate the children as Catholics.
7. If a dispensation from disparity of cult was granted and a non-sacramental marriage was entered, the case can be presented for examination if the Catholic party intends to enter a new marriage with a baptized party.

**Priest/Deacon/Advocate Requesting Petrine Privilege on Behalf of the Petitioner**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parish (or current office) \_\_\_\_\_

**PETITIONER** (you)

**RESPONDENT** (your former spouse)\*

\_\_\_\_\_ Complete Present Name \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Maiden Name \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Street Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Place of Birth (City) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No      Ever Baptized?      \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No  
\_\_\_\_\_ Date of Baptism \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Church Where Baptized \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Street Address (Church of Baptism) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ City, State, Zip (Church of Baptism) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Religion at Time of Wedding \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Present Religion \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Current Parish/Congregation \_\_\_\_\_

(\* Respondent information must be provided. The Tribunal is required to contact your former spouse.)

**MARRIAGE CEREMONY**

Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_      Church/Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_      County: \_\_\_\_\_      State: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Presiding Official: \_\_\_\_\_  
Petitioner's Age (at the time of the ceremony): \_\_\_\_\_  
Respondent's Age (at the time of the ceremony): \_\_\_\_\_

**Children**

Please list the names and birth dates of any children born of this marriage.

1. _____	___/___/___	5. _____	___/___/___
2. _____	___/___/___	6. _____	___/___/___
3. _____	___/___/___	7. _____	___/___/___
4. _____	___/___/___	8. _____	___/___/___

**Separation/Divorce**

How long did you live together as husband and wife? \_\_\_\_\_ Date of final separation \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

Date of civil divorce: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_ Case Number: \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

**Witnesses**

According to Catholic Church law, the truth of a matter cannot be determined solely on the word of one person. Credible witnesses are required to verify the testimony of the parties involved in all cases submitted to the Church for resolution. Witnesses will need to answer questions about whether you were or your former spouse was ever baptized. The names of parents, blood relatives and/or people who have knowledge of the parties from infancy to the present are preferable. The names of two witnesses for each party are required.

**Witnesses for the Petitioner**

Witness #1

Witness #2

_____	Name: _____
_____	Street: _____
_____	City: _____
_____	State/Zip: _____
_____	Phone: _____
_____	Relation: _____

**Witnesses for the Respondent**

Witness #1

Witness #2

_____	Name: _____
_____	Street: _____
_____	City: _____
_____	State/Zip: _____
_____	Phone: _____
_____	Relation: _____

**Current Marital Status**

\_\_\_ I am planning to remarry if and when the request for dissolution is granted.

\_\_\_ I am currently in a civil marriage.

Intended Spouse/Current Spouse Information:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

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

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of his/her previous marriages: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

Was he/she ever baptized? \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No Religion: \_\_\_\_\_

If baptized in the Eastern Church, which rite: \_\_\_\_\_

**Required Documents**

1. A **Certificate of Baptism** for all Catholic parties involved: the petitioner, the respondent, and the petitioner's current or intended spouse. These must be issued from the church of baptism within the last six months. They must include all sacramental notations and the parish seal. If a party was baptized in a non-Catholic Christian church and was later received into the Catholic Church, a **Certificate of Reception** from the Catholic Church of reception is required. (Copies are not acceptable.)
2. A **certified copy** (i.e., stamped and dated by the county clerk) **of the marriage license** for the petitioner and respondent issued by the County Clerk's Office.
3. A **certified copy of the civil divorce decree** for the petitioner and respondent issued by the County Clerk's Office.
4. If the petitioner and respondent were married in the Catholic Church after receiving a dispensation from disparity of cult, a copy of the dispensation is required along with a copy of the pre-nuptial investigation.
5. If the petitioner is currently in a civil marriage, a certified copy of the marriage license for the petitioner and the petitioner's current spouse issued by the County Clerk's Office.
6. If the petitioner's current or intended spouse was in a previous marriage and has had that marriage declared null by the Catholic Church, a copy of the sentence.

**Please return this application and the required documents to the Tribunal at the address given on the first page.**