

**AN ADVISORY REGARDING APPLICATIONS FOR REMARRIAGE  
IN THE DIOCESE OF IDAHO  
(TITLE I, CANON 19)**

1. A priest is not obliged to preside at the solemnization of Holy Matrimony against his/her better judgment.
2. At least one person must be baptized. (Title 1, Canon 18, Section 2[d])
3. One person must be a member of a Christian church and active in its worship and ministry. (Title I, Canon 18, Section 2[b])

“...Both parties understand that Holy Matrimony is a physical and spiritual union of a man and a woman, entered into within the community of faith, by mutual consent of heart, mind and will, and with the intent that it be lifelong.:

4. It is preferred that applications for remarriage be submitted at least sixty (60) days before the date of the wedding. No application will be considered after forty-five (45) days before the date of the wedding.
5. Applications for remarriage must include all of the following:
  - a. A letter from the priest, explaining his/her judgment about the proposed marriage.
  - b. The “Consent of Solemnization of Marriage” form.
  - c. Letters from both the bride-to-be and the groom-to-be in response to the four points made in the Bishop’s letter.
  - d. The “Previous Marriage” form from any person who was married and divorced. (If there was more than one marriage and divorce, a form must be completed for each marriage.)
6. The priest shall meet with the couple at least three times (hours) thirty days in advance of the wedding. The number of counseling sessions and the length of time may be extended according to the priest’s judgment, and he/she is encouraged to do so. (Title I, Canon 18, Section 2[e] and Section 3[a])

“...both parties (shall) have been instructed as the nature, meaning, and purpose of Holy Matrimony by a member of the clergy...”

“The intention of the parties to contract marriage shall have been signified to the member of the clergy at least thirty days before the service of solemnization...”

7. Applications for remarriage should not be submitted for persons who are indifferent or hostile to the Church and Christianity. If persons meet the minimum canonical standards and were actively involved in a church at one time in their lives and fully intend to become involved again, the application will be considered if the priest requests it.
8. It is the Bishop’s preference that people be married by an agent of the State other than a member of the clergy and, then, request the blessing of their marriage.
9. Every couple must sign “The Declaration of Intention.” (Title I, Canon 18, Section 3[d])

**CONSENT FOR SOLEMNIZATION OF MARRIAGE**

**BRIDE**         Maiden         Widow         Divorced

Full Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Baptism \_\_\_\_\_ Denomination \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Confirmation \_\_\_\_\_ Denomination \_\_\_\_\_

Communicant of \_\_\_\_\_

**GROOM**         Bachelor         Widower         Divorced

Full Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Baptism \_\_\_\_\_ Denomination \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Confirmation \_\_\_\_\_ Denomination \_\_\_\_\_

Communicant of \_\_\_\_\_

**PROPOSED MARRIAGE**

Length of time known to each other \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Ceremony \_\_\_\_\_ Place \_\_\_\_\_

Officiant \_\_\_\_\_

Permanent address after marriage \_\_\_\_\_

Name and address of church to be attended \_\_\_\_\_

**INSTRUCTIONS**

Number of interviews to date \_\_\_\_\_

Number of additional interviews scheduled before marriage \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Episcopal priest giving instructions \_\_\_\_\_

**PRIEST'S CERTIFICATION**

I hereby certify that I have interviewed the above-named applicants and that

\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

is/are baptized member(s) of \_\_\_\_\_ Church. I have known

him/her/them for \_\_\_\_\_. If consent is granted, I am willing to officiate at the

proposed wedding. ***(Please attach a letter in which you state your reasons for believing that permission should be given for the proposed marriage.)***

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Dear Friends,

To enable me to respond to your request to be married in the Episcopal Church, it would be helpful for me to have as much background information as possible. Therefore, please answer the questions on the attached sheet and include them with a letter to me in which you set forth your responses to the following:

1. The reasons why you believe your prior marriage did not succeed and the attempts that were made to reconcile the differences between you and your former spouse.
2. The arrangements that have been made for the custody and care of the children of the former marriage.
3. Your understanding of the meaning of Christian marriage and family life.
4. Please describe how you and your prospective spouse plan to get religious or spiritual nourishment in your marriage.

If the other partner in the proposed marriage has not be previously married and divorced, I would appreciate hearing from that person responses to elements number (3) and (4) above.

Please be assured that your letters will be treated with the utmost respect and confidence. After reading and reviewing them, a decision will be made which will be communicated to your priest.

Thank you for your time and thoroughness in this matter.

Faithfully yours,

The Rt. Rev. Brian Thom  
Bishop of Idaho

**PREVIOUS MARRIAGE**

*(If more than one marriage and divorce, please submit form for each marriage)*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date of previous marriage \_\_\_\_\_

Church: \_\_\_\_\_ Place \_\_\_\_\_  
City/State

Name, Address and Present Marital Status of Former Spouse

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Your age at time of marriage \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse's age \_\_\_\_\_

Length of time known to each other prior to marriage \_\_\_\_\_

Was this the first marriage for both of you? \_\_\_\_\_

Number of children of this marriage \_\_\_\_\_

Ages \_\_\_\_\_

Are they financially dependent upon you? \_\_\_\_\_

Religious or Church affiliations(s) during marriage

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Date of Actual Separation \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Divorce \_\_\_\_\_

Court and State in which divorce was granted \_\_\_\_\_



Declaration of Intention  
for  
Marriage

*Note: Canon I.18.4 requires couples to sign this Declaration of Intention prior to the solemnization of their marriage.*

We understand the teaching of the Church that God's purpose for our marriage is for mutual joy, for the help and comfort we will give to each other in prosperity and adversity, and, when it is God's will, for the gift and heritage of children and their nurture in the knowledge and love of God. We also understand that our marriage is to be unconditional, mutual, exclusive, faithful, and lifelong; and we engage to make the utmost effort to accept these gifts and fulfill these duties, with the help of God and the support of our community.

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*Signature*

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*Signature*

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*Date*

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*Date*