



INSTRUCTIONS AND PRE-MARRIAGE CHECKLIST

BRIDE _____ GROOM _____

PARISH _____ CITY _____

Taken by _____ Date of Wedding _____

INSTRUCTIONS AND NOTES

1. Essence Of Marriage: Canon 1055§1: The matrimonial covenant, by which a man and a woman establish between themselves a partnership of the whole of life, is by its nature ordered toward the good of the spouses and the procreation and education of offspring; this covenant between baptized persons has been raised by Christ the Lord to the dignity of a sacrament.
§2: For this reason a matrimonial contract cannot validly exist between baptized persons unless it is also a sacrament by that fact.
Canon 1056: The essential properties of marriage are unity and indissolubility, which in Christian marriage obtain a special firmness in virtue of the sacrament.
2. Information is to be received in person by the assisting pastoral minister, interviewing individually each of the parties and each of their witnesses; the parties are not to fill out the information on their own. This interview may be a good opportunity for pastoral catechesis.
3. Before the celebration of matrimony, it should be clear that there are no obstacles to a valid and licit celebration (see c. 1066).
4. In the danger of death, if the parties cannot obtain other proofs of their freedom to marry, the declaration of the parties, under oath, that they are baptized and that they are free of all impediments is sufficient (see c. 1068).
5. Except in cases of necessity, no one is to assist at the marriage of those who have natural obligations from a previous union toward the other spouse, or toward children born of that union. These cases should be referred to the Tribunal. (see c. 1071).
6. A recent baptismal certificate (issued within the past six months) should be included in the nuptial file. If a baptismal certificate cannot be obtained, an affidavit should be included in the nuptial file.
7. **When a marriage is to take place outside of the Archdiocese**, the review of the Chancellor is required.

CHECKLIST AND DOCUMENTS FOR MARRIAGE FILE

- _____ Memo to nuptial file on completion of marriage preparation
- _____ Freedom to Marry form – Bride
- _____ Witnesses to Freedom to Marry (two) – Bride
- _____ Freedom to Marry form – Groom
- _____ Witnesses to Freedom to Marry (two) – Groom
- _____ Baptismal certificate – Bride
- _____ Baptismal certificate – Groom
- _____ Parish Dispensation or Permission (mixed religion, disparity of cult, etc.) when applicable
- _____ Pastoral Center Dispensation (dispensation from form, place of marriage) when applicable
- _____ Delegation for marriage, when applicable
- _____ Death certificate of previous spouse, when applicable
- _____ Declarations of Invalidity from previous marriage, when applicable
- _____ Arrangements for rehearsal
- _____ Completion of parish liturgy form, where applicable
- _____ Marriage license received
- _____ Marriage license sent to county office after ceremony
- _____ If convalidation, a copy of the marriage license/marriage certificate
- _____ Other

Data for Marriage Register

First Witness _____ Second Witness _____

The marriage was solemnized on _____ at the Church of _____

City/State _____ by Rev. (Mr.) _____

Dispensations _____

Notations/Delegation _____

Recorded by _____

Notations to Church of Baptism: Groom _____ Bride _____