

PRE-MARITAL INVESTIGATION
DIOCESE OF ALTOONA-JOHNSTOWN

Church of Marriage _____

Address _____

City/Town _____

State _____

Zip Code _____

Groom _____

Bride _____

Date of Marriage _____

N.B. If marriage is to take place outside the Diocese, be certain to include complete address of church of marriage.

The priest arranging the marriage must address the following questions to the prospective bride and groom separately, using a separate form for each one. The interview provides a pastoral opportunity for catechesis, which should not be neglected. Each prospective spouse should be briefly instructed in the nature of an oath and should be asked to give his or her oath that the factual information and the attitudes reflected in the interview are truthful.

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Full Name _____

2. Date of Birth _____ Place of Birth _____

3. Address _____

(Street)

(City/Town)

(State)

How long have you lived at this address? _____ Occupation _____

4. Religion _____ Parish _____

5. Father's Name _____ His Religion _____

6. Mother's (Maiden) Name _____ Her Religion _____

7a. FOR CATHOLICS

a. Church and place of Baptism _____

b. Date of Baptism _____ Current Certificate _____

c. Church and Place of Confirmation _____

d. Date of Confirmation _____

7b. FOR NON-CATHOLICS

a. Have you ever been baptized, christened or sprinkled in any Christian denomination? _____

b. If "Yes" church and Place? _____

c. Date of Baptism? _____

II. QUALIFICATIONS FOR MARRIAGE

8. Have you ever been married before in any type of ceremony? _____
a. If "Yes" please furnish the following details: _____

a. Name of prior spouse? _____

b. Place and date of marriage? _____

c. Before what type of official? _____
(Please indicate if this marriage is being convalidated.) Yes _____
No _____

d. How terminated: Death _____
Declaration of Nullity _____

e. Place and date of termination? _____

9. Are you aware of any physical condition which would prevent you having normal marital (sexual) relations? _____

10. a. Have you ever been under the care of a physician, psychologist or psychiatrist for treatment of mental or emotional problems? _____

(Affirmation responses to questions 9 and 10 should be investigated and the Chancery must be consulted.)

When a prospective spouse is not yet 18 years of age, the priest should inquire as follows:

11. Do your parents or guardians approve of the marriage? _____
If "No" please inquire further: _____

a. What objection do your parents or guardians have? _____

b. Why do you seek to enter this marriage without consent? _____

(In all instances involving minors, the priest is exercising his pastoral responsibilities should carefully investigate the matter and have recourse to the Chancery before proceeding with the marriage.)

12. Are you bound by vows, religious profession or sacred ordination? _____

If "Yes" have you been dispensed? _____

13. a. Are either of you related in any way? _____

b. Do you know of any other reason why you should not marry? _____

III. INQUIRY REGARDING INTENTION

The priest should remind the prospective spouse regarding the sacredness of marriage, the essential properties of unity and indissolubility, the ordination of conjugal life toward procreation and Catholic doctrine in this regard. The consortium omnis vitae of husband and wife should be indicated. Should the priest have concern over the poor religious instruction in or practice of the faith, he should seek counsel of the Chancery especially if the party is unwilling to remedy the defect. The following 3 questions are based upon the inquires which form a part of the Rite of Marriage itself:

14. Are you freely and without reservation intent upon giving yourself to your intended spouse in marriage? _____
(Any instance of compulsion or force should be carefully investigated and made a matter of recourse to the Chancery.)

15. Will you love and honor your intended spouse for the rest of your life? _____
(Any instance where bonum fidei or bonum sacramenti is impeded by an intention contrary to Catholic doctrine must be carefully investigated and made a matter of recourse to the Chancery.)

16. Will you accept children lovingly from God and bring them up according to the law of Christ and His Church?

(Any instance where the bonum prolis is impeded by an intention contrary to Catholic doctrine must be carefully investigated and made a matter of recourse to the Chancery.)

IV. MISCELLANY

17. a. How long have you been dating your intended spouse? _____

b. How long have you been engaged? _____

18. Have you attended the Pre-Cana Conferences? _____

19. Witnesses to the Marriage _____

I, the undersigned, swear that the answers given above are the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth so help me God.

If the investigation is conducted outside of the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, it must be approved by the local Chancery.

VISUM _____
Chancellor

Place _____ Date

Signature of Bride / Groom

Signature of Priest

Parish

Place

Date

(Parish Seal)

PASTORAL INFORMATION

The following documents must be on hand:

1. Certificate of Baptism of this party, under seal, and dated not more than three months previously.
2. Certificate of Confirmation of this party, under seal, and dated not more than three months previously.
3. Other documentary proofs of status liber, e.g., death certificate, declaration of nullity, investigations made in other parishes, notice that Banns were published in other parishes.
4. Free-Status Forms when case requires.
5. Corresponding investigations of other party to this marriage.
6. Documents concerning any dispensation granted.
7. Officiant's portion of marriage license.
8. Acknowledgements from parishes of Baptism that this marriage is recorded.

ALL THE ABOVE DOCUMENTS, INCLUDING THIS FORM SHOULD BE PLACED IN THE FILES OF THE PARISH WHERE THE MARRIAGE TOOK PLACE. WHEN THE MARRIAGE IS TO BE PERFORMED OUTSIDE OF THE DIOCESE OF ALTOONA-JOHNSTOWN, ALL THE DOCUMENTS ARE TO BE FORWARDED TO THIS CHANCERY. THE COMPLETE MARRIAGE FILE WILL BE SENT TO THE PARISH WHERE THE MARRIAGE IS TO TAKE PLACE.