

Groom _____

Date of Birth _____

Baptized yes no Denomination _____

Is he now an active participating member of a church? yes no

Name of congregation _____ Place _____

If previously married: (Provide separate answers for each previous marriage)

Date _____ Place _____

Children by previous marriage? yes no

Ages _____

Date of divorce decree _____

I have received evidence of the divorce decree _____
initial

Does he have any obligations regarding the well-being of his former spouse and children? yes no

If yes, is he carrying out these responsibilities? yes no

Does he plan to continue? yes no

Any additional comments:

In your best judgment:

Do you think this couple intends a Christian marriage as it is described in the Canons and celebrated in the Rite of Marriage in the Book of Common Prayer? yes no

Do you think that they are capable of carrying out this intention? yes no

Have you instructed them, or ascertained that they have been instructed, regarding the nature, obligation, and purpose of Holy Matrimony? yes no

Signed _____ Church _____ Date _____

When the Bishop writes his letter to the couple, he would like to use the names by which they are most commonly addressed. These would be:

Dear _____ and _____:

To the couple seeking consent:

When two people come to the Church seeking its blessing at the celebration of their marriage, it is our understanding that they are then inviting the Church to be a participant in their marital union. Accepting this invitation, we seek to instruct them as to the nature, meaning, and purpose of Holy Matrimony as Christians understand it following the model given us by the relationship between Christ and His Church. Further, we offer, as a community of faith and love, to support them in their marriage in the years ahead.

Following the Canons of the General Convention of the Episcopal Church, the priest who is to solemnize the marriage of a divorced person is required to consult with and obtain the consent of the Bishop of the Diocese prior to the wedding ceremony.

The purpose of this application is to ascertain the intention of the couple with regard to their relationship to the Church, that the Bishop might give his consent in good conscience.

In consultation with the priest, please take time to fill out the following:

1. When relationships fail, the failure is rarely one-sided. Have you discussed with the priest and your fiancé (e) your part in the failure of your previous marriage(s)?

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|-------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Bride | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Groom | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | yes | no | NA | | yes | no | NA |

2. As a couple please describe what role you see the Church playing in your new relationship.

3. As a couple, how do you plan to participate in the life of the Church?

Any additional comments:

The following form to be signed by both persons of the intended marriage:

“We, A.B. and C.D., desiring to receive the blessing of Holy Matrimony in the Church, do solemnly declare that we hold marriage to be a life-long union of husband and wife as it is set forth in the Book of Common Prayer.”

“We believe that the union of husband and wife, in heart, body, and mind, is intended by God for their mutual joy; for the help and comfort given one another in prosperity and adversity; and, when it is God's will, for the procreation of children and their nurture in the knowledge and love of the Lord.”

“And we do engage ourselves, so far as in us lies, to make our utmost effort to establish this relationship and to seek God's help thereto.”

-Title I, Canon 18.Sec.3.

Signature _____

Signature _____