

THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF LONG ISLAND

Petition to solemnize the marriage of persons one or both of whom have been divorced

A Word from Bishop Provenzano

Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

There are certain steps that must be observed in order for an Episcopal clergy person to officiate at the marriage of persons when one or both have been previously married. These steps are canonical (Title I, Canon 18) and procedural in nature. However, my principle hope is that the couple will experience this process as pastoral, involving the care and concern of both the local clergy person and me as bishop of this Diocese. My ultimate care is for the couple, with the hope that their intended marriage will be filled with mutual love and affection, supported by the Christian Community and grounded in the love of God in Christ.

The formal application that follows is to be completed by the local clergy in cooperation with the couple seeking marriage. The application is fairly straightforward and clear. However, I am happy to have you call with any questions you may have. If there are outstanding pastoral circumstances regarding the couple seeking remarriage, please be sure to make them obvious to me in an attached letter. One such case would include a person who has been divorced more than once. My permissions under such circumstances are generally rare and so a detailed explanation from the clergy helps me to make an informed pastoral decision.

The following must be submitted to my office at 36 Cathedral Avenue, Garden City at least 60 Days in advance of the proposed date of marriage:

- Application completed
- Copy of final civil divorce decree (*nisi* is not acceptable, must be final)
- Declaration of Intent signed by couple
- Letter of support of clergy

Yours in Christ,

The Rt. Rev. Lawrence C. Provenzano
Bishop of Long Island

Updated March 2016



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Dear Bishop Provenzano,

I hereby respectfully request your permission to minister the Rite of Holy Matrimony to:

Full Name

Known to me since _____

Church Affiliation

Baptized _____

Church year

Confirmed _____

Church year

_____ Number of previous marriages

Date of final divorce/annulment _____

Date of Proposed Marriage _____ **(60 days notice is required)**

*** CERTIFIED copies of all Final Divorce or Annulment Decrees must accompany this request**

In counseling this couple, I hereby declare that (check all that apply):

I have ascertained that they have not been refused marriage in the Episcopal Church to each other by any Priest of this Church.

I have enclosed the letter giving my pastoral support to the couple's application.

I have reviewed with the applicants the DECLARATION OF INTENT required by Title I, Canon 18, Sec. 3(d).

They have signed it in good conscience. *(A copy of their Declaration must accompany this request.)*

They have received (or will receive) before their marriage the instruction and counsel required by Title I, Canons 18 and 19.

I am satisfied that they intend to maintain a loving Christian marriage as understood by this church and

I am willing to officiate at their wedding.

They have indicated their intention to live out their Marriage within the context of a worshipping Christian community.

Notice that this marriage has taken place will be sent to you to complete this record, as required by Title I, Cn. 19, Sec.3(c).

*** Please explain any items not checked in a separate cover letter.**

To Be Completed by the Office of the Bishop:

Date Received _____

Disposition: Approved / Denied Date _____

Signature _____

Wedding Notice Received _____

Effective 5/2016

Respectfully submitted by:

Priest: _____

Position: _____

Church: _____

Address: _____

Signature: _____