



# The Diocese of South Dakota

500 S. Main Avenue  
Sioux Falls, South Dakota 57104-6814  
(605) 338-9751 · FAX (605) 336-6243  
office.diocese@midconetwork.com

The following information should be provided to the Bishop **at least thirty (30) days before** the proposed date of the wedding.

**To the Bishop of the Diocese of South Dakota**  
**Application for Permission of Divorced Persons to Remarry**  
(Please print or type)

The following persons desire to be married by a priest of the Episcopal Church on \_\_\_\_\_ (date)  
at (church) \_\_\_\_\_ (town/city) \_\_\_\_\_

**MAN**

Full name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Church member? Yes \_\_\_\_ How long? \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_

Name & location of church \_\_\_\_\_

This person is (check all that apply) \_\_\_\_ baptized \_\_\_\_ confirmed  
\_\_\_\_ a confirmed communicant in good standing  
\_\_\_\_ an active member of another denomination: \_\_\_\_\_

This person

- \_\_\_\_ has never been married before
- \_\_\_\_ is a widower
- \_\_\_\_ has been married before and his former wife is still living.

**WOMAN**

Full name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Church member? Yes \_\_\_\_ How long? \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_

Name & location of church \_\_\_\_\_

This person is (check all that apply) \_\_\_\_ baptized \_\_\_\_ confirmed  
\_\_\_\_ a confirmed communicant in good standing  
\_\_\_\_ an active member of another denomination: \_\_\_\_\_

This person

- \_\_\_\_ has never been married before
- \_\_\_\_ is a widow
- \_\_\_\_ has been married before and her former husband is still living.

**CANONICAL CHECKLIST TO ACCOMPANY THE APPLICATION FOR PERMISSION  
TO OFFICIATE AT THE RE-MARRIAGE OF (A) DIVORCED PERSON(S)**

Title I,  
Canon 19,  
Section 3(2)

\_\_\_\_\_ I am satisfied that the prior marriage has been annulled or dissolved by a final judgment or decree of a civil court of jurisdiction because I have examined a copy of the final decree.

Date of Final Decree(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Title I,  
Canon 19,  
Section 3(b)

\_\_\_\_\_ I have instructed the parties that continuing concern must be shown for the wellbeing of the former spouse, and of any children of the prior marriage(s).

Title I,  
Canon 18,  
Section 2(b)

\_\_\_\_\_ I have ascertained that both parties understand that Holy Matrimony is a physical and spiritual union of a man and a woman, entered into with the community of faith, by mutual consent of heart, mind and will, and with intent that it be lifelong.

Title I,  
Canon 18,  
Section 2(e)

\_\_\_\_\_ I have instructed both parties as the nature, meaning, and purpose of Holy Matrimony, or I have ascertained that they have both received such instruction from persons known by me to be competent and responsible.

Title I,  
Canon 18,  
Section 3(d)

\_\_\_\_\_ I have reviewed with both parties the Declaration of Intention, and both have signed the same.

Title I,  
Canon 19,  
Section 3(c)

\_\_\_\_\_ I respectfully request the consent of the Bishop to solemnize this marriage.

The Bishop also requests:

1. A cover letter from the cleric briefly introducing the couple and their situation.
2. A short letter from each divorced person (no more than one page) outlining the causes of the breakdown of the previous marriage and the reasons he/she believes the proposed marriage will be a life-long commitment.

Since we are called to respect and support the integrity of vows in Holy Matrimony, there are serious concerns raised by a request for a 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> marriage, when previous marriages have ended in divorce and the former spouses are still living. These extraordinary requests should include a more detailed letter of explanation from the cleric.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Dated: \_\_\_\_\_



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## REPORT TO THE BISHOP (in accordance with Title I, Canon 19, Section 3(c))

Having received permission from the Bishop on \_\_\_\_\_  
(date)

to solemnize the marriage of \_\_\_\_\_  
and \_\_\_\_\_

I did at \_\_\_\_\_  
*Place/Church*                      *Town/City*                      *State/Zip Code*

join them in Holy Matrimony on \_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*

They expect to live at the following address:

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

Clergy Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Church: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*Date Received at Bishop's Office:* \_\_\_\_\_