

Fill Out RCIA Inventory at First Inquiry Session

Diocese of Honolulu RCIA Inventory

Please print all information

First name _____ Full middle name _____

(Maiden last name _____) Last name _____

Name you are called, if different _____

Address _____

E-mail address _____

Home phone _____

Cell phone _____

Work phone _____

Occupation/employer _____

Your children (names/ages of those living at home) _____

Your date of birth _____

City/state/country of birth _____

Your father's name _____ Religion _____

Mother's maiden name _____ Religion _____

Have you ever previously been accepted as a catechumen or candidate in the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults in the Catholic Church? _____

If yes, when and where? _____

Why did you not complete initiation at that time? _____

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Are you baptized? _____ If yes . . .

Name of church _____ Denomination _____

City/state/country _____

Date of baptism _____ Officiant _____

If you were baptized Catholic . . .
Have you received first Holy Communion? _____ First penance? _____

Where and when? _____

Are you married? _____

If you are married . . .
(Maiden) name of spouse _____

Spouse's religion _____

Date of marriage _____ Officiant _____

Name of place of marriage _____

City/state _____

Prior to this marriage, have you ever been married to another person? _____ *

Prior to this marriage, has your spouse ever been married to another person? _____ *

If you are not married . . .
Have you ever been married before either in a church or civilly? _____ *

Are you engaged? _____ If yes . . .

Name of fiancé(e) _____

Has your fiancé(e) ever been married before either in a church or civilly? _____ *

* If yes, fill out Prior Marriage Supplemental Form for each prior marriage.

Your signature _____ Date _____

Parent/guardian signature _____ Date _____
(If under 18 years of age)

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Baptism/confirmation name _____
(To be chosen later)

Godfather full name _____

Address _____

Home phone _____

Cell phone _____

Work phone _____

E-mail address _____

Name of parish where member _____

Parish city/state _____

Godmother full name _____

Address _____

Home phone _____

Cell phone _____

Work phone _____

E-mail address _____

Name of parish where member _____

Parish city/state _____

Notes: Godparents (sponsors) must be practicing, confirmed Catholics, and if married, married in the Catholic Church.


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Page 4 of the form:

 **Have all candidates fill out one of these pages for each prior marriage**

 **Even if they are not currently married**

 **And for the prior marriages of their spouses or fiancé(e)s.**

Prior Marriage Supplemental Form
Fill out one form for each prior marriage of catechumen or candidate and current spouse or fiancé(e)

Check one:

This was my prior marriage

This was my current spouse's prior marriage

This was my fiancé(e)'s prior marriage.

Husband's name _____

Husband's religion _____

Baptized Not baptized

Wife's maiden name _____

Wife's religion _____

Baptized Not baptized

Date of marriage _____ Officiant _____

Name of place of marriage _____

City/state/country _____

How did this marriage end? Check one:

Death Divorce

Staff use only – Possible resolutions

Defect of form – if one or both parties are Catholic and marriage was outside of church

Pauline privilege – if both parties are not baptized and one is to be baptized

Defect of consent (or impediment) (formal nullity cause)

Marriage: Definition Canon

Canon 1055, §1. The matrimonial covenant, by which a man and a woman establish between themselves a partnership of the whole of life and which is ordered by its nature to the good of the spouses and the procreation and education of offspring, has been raised by Christ the Lord to the dignity of a sacrament between the baptized.

Marriage Essentials

- Man & woman (equality & complementarity)
- Partnership of the whole of life (unity)
- For the good of the spouses (mutual benefit)
- For the procreation & education of children
- Requires fidelity
- Indissolubility (perpetual, lasts until death)
- Sacramental dignity (between the baptized)




Canonical Form

- 🔊 Catholics are required to get married by a Catholic priest or deacon
- 🔊 This applies even if only one of the two getting married is Catholic
- 🔊 A dispensation is possible when a Catholic is marrying a non-Catholic.
- 🔊 If a Catholic (or two Catholics) get married outside of the Catholic Church with no dispensation from canonical form, the marriage is invalid.

Marriage Validation

- Validation: When a Catholic (or two Catholics) marry outside of the Catholic Church & seek to get married in the Catholic Church.
- Includes a new marriage ceremony
- Usually done in a simple manner
- In the eyes of the Church, this is the marriage.

Validate the Marriage Before Celebrating Rites

-  No one is permitted to receive the sacraments unless they are in a valid marriage.
-  If an RCIA candidate is married to a Catholic outside the Church, the marriage needs to be validated so that the Catholic can receive the sacraments.
-  The validation is to be done prior to the Rite of Acceptance into the Order of Catechumens or the Rite of Welcoming the Candidates.



Resolve Marriage Issues Before RICA

- 📌 In cases where a formal declaration of marital nullity is needed, the potential catechumen or candidate should be advised early in the process that initiation may need to be delayed.
- 📌 The process for a declaration of nullity should be completed and the marriage validated before the Rite of Acceptance into the Order of Catechumens or the Rite of Welcoming the Candidates.

- 📌 Individuals who are not currently married but had prior marriages should also resolve their issues before the Rite of Acceptance or Welcome.
- 📌 Exceptions to this should only be considered if a person is divorced and not remarried and never intends to remarry (e.g., due to advanced age).
- 📌 Otherwise, a person may find themselves a member of a new religion but not be free to marry.

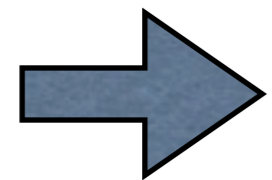
📌 Also, insisting that a person resolve their marital issues first gives them an impetus to do it which is sometimes lost after initiation.

Non-Catholics Are Not Bound to Canonical Form

-  The Catholic Church considers all marriages between two non-Catholics to be valid and true marriages, no matter how they were married (in another religion or in a civil ceremony).
-  If a married couple, both not Catholic, enters the RCIA program & they have no prior marriages, their marriage is valid & needs no validation. There was no requirement that they get married in the Catholic Church.

If you only remember one thing from this workshop, remember this:

Each & Every Prior Marriage



Civil or Religious

Requires **Proof**


That it Was Invalid


or Has Ended

*(Divorce Doesn't Count
as Proof)*

Proof Regarding Prior Marriages:

 Death Certificate
(1)

 Dissolution Due
to Privilege of
the Faith (2)

 Declaration of
Invalidity (3)

Print Form

STATE OF HAWAII, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
OFFICE OF HEALTH STATUS MONITORING

REQUEST FOR CERTIFIED COPY OF **DEATH** RECORD

1	FIRST CERTIFIED COPY	= \$	10.00
0	ADDITIONAL COPIES AT \$4.00 EACH	= \$	0.00
0	OTHER: _____	= \$	0.00
1	TOTAL COPIES	TOTAL AMOUNT DUE	\$ 10.00

NAME OF DECEASED:	FIRST	MIDDLE	LAST	MALE/FEMALE <input type="checkbox"/> MALE <input type="checkbox"/> FEMALE
DATE OF DEATH:	MONTH	DAY	YEAR	
PLACE OF DEATH:	CITY OR TOWN		ISLAND	
SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER:				
RELATIONSHIP OF REQUESTOR TO PERSON NAMED ON CERTIFICATE			REASON FOR THIS REQUEST	
SIGNATURE OF REQUESTOR:			TELEPHONE NUMBER	
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">Don't Forget To Sign Here After Printing This Form</div>			RES: BUS:	
PRINT NAME OF REQUESTOR:				
ADDRESS OF REQUESTOR:			NO. AND STREET OR P.O. BOX	
CITY			STATE	ZIP
IF MAILING TO A LOCATION OTHER THAN ABOVE, PLEASE FILL THIS SECTION <small>IF THE INFORMATION GIVEN IS INCORRECT, THE CERTIFICATE WILL FAIL TO REACH THE DESTINATION.</small>			NAME OF PERSON TO RECEIVE CERTIFICATE	
			AGENCY OR ORGANIZATION	
			NUMBER AND STREET OR P.O. BOX	
			CITY	STATE
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY				
NR FILE _____ PENDING: _____				
PRICE	INDEX SEARCHED TO	PRICE	VOLUMES SEARCHED TO	DATE COPY PREPARED
YEAR	VOLUME	CERTIFICATE	RECEIPT NUMBER	

DHSM 138 (Rev. 3/1/95)

* Be sure to sign the "Signature of Requestor" Box before submitting this form.

Natural vs. Sacramental Marriages

- 🔊 Natural marriage: One or both parties are not baptized
- 🔊 Sacramental marriages: Both are baptized

Before Christ:

- 🔊 All marriages were natural marriages

After Christ:



- 🔊 Sacramental marriages between his disciples
- 🔊 Natural marriages continue for all others

Natural vs. Sacramental Marriages

A sacramental marriage includes all that a natural marriage includes, plus it:

- 🔊 Is religious vocation rooted in baptism (like being a priest, joining a religious order, etc.)
- 🔊 Authorizes the couple to represent Christ to each other & to children
- 🔊 Allows a couple's love to reflect the love of Christ as a witness to the whole world

A Natural Marriage Can Become Sacramental

-  If one person is baptized & his or her spouse is not when they get married, it is a natural marriage.
-  If the second spouse gets baptized, then at that moment, the marriage also becomes a sacrament (canon 1055, §2).

Natural Marriages Can Sometimes Be Dissolved

Circumstances when a valid natural marriage can be dissolved:

 Pauline privilege

 Petrine privilege

THE OFFICE FOR CANONICAL AFFAIRS

DIocese of HONOLULU • ST. STEPHEN DIOCESAN CENTER
6301 PALI HIGHWAY, KĀNEʻOHE, HAWAII 96744-5224
(808) 203-6766 • WWW.CATHOLICHAWAII.ORG



Petition for the Invocation of the Pauline Privilege

Petitioner	Respondent
Name-in-full _____	
Maiden last name (if applicable) _____	
Street address* _____	
City* _____	
State/Zip* _____	
Home phone _____	
Work phone _____	
Cell phone _____	
E-mail address _____	
Date of birth _____	
City of birth _____	
State (or country) of birth _____	

*The current address of the respondent is required. The cooperation of both parties is ordinarily needed for the successful processing of a Pauline privilege petition.

Include copies of the following documents with this form:

- Marriage certificate
- Divorce decree (first and last page if a multi-page document)
- Affidavits of two witnesses for petitioner
- Affidavits of two witnesses for the respondent
- Baptismal certificate of the petitioner OR if not yet baptized, date and church of anticipated baptism: _____

Note: The non-baptism of both parties during the marriage must be proven in order to invoke the Pauline privilege.

Office Use Only

Name _____ Prot. No. _____

Date Received _____ \$100 Processing Fee Paid _____

Pauline Privilege Petition

Page 1 of 4 plus 4 Witness Forms Attesting to Lack of Baptism of Both Parties

Pauline Privilege

- 🔊 Based in 1 Corinthians 7:15
- 🔊 Helpful in particular for use with RCIA candidates who may have been divorced
- 🔊 Both parties in the prior marriage must have been not baptized
- 🔊 One seeks baptism along with a new marriage
- 🔊 Challenge is proving the lack of baptism of the respondent

Petrine Privilege

- 🔊 It involves a natural marriage between a baptized & unbaptized person
- 🔊 Must be “in favor of the faith” in some manner (e.g., a divorced unbaptized person who was married to a baptized person now seeks baptism & a new marriage)
- 🔊 Granted by the pope, must be submitted to the Vatican

Declarations of Invalidity

- 🎤 A “declaration of nullity” is more accurate term than the commonly used “annulment.”
- 🎤 A declaration of nullity is a ruling issued by a Church tribunal (court) that a marriage is invalid.
- 🎤 Three possibilities:
 - 🎤 Due to Lack of Canonical Form
 - 🎤 Due to Impediment of Prior Bond
 - 🎤 Due to a Defect of Consent

Presumed Valid Until Proven Invalid



Canon 1060. Marriage possesses the favor of law; therefore, in a case of doubt, the validity of a marriage must be upheld until the contrary is proven.

- 🗣️ When someone petitions the Church for a declaration of nullity, the person must prove that his or her marriage was invalid.
- 🗣️ Civil divorce has no effect on marriage. The presumption is that, even after a divorce, the two people are still married until death.
- 🗣️ The presumption of validity of a marriage applies also to non-Catholics who marry in any manner.

A Clarification

- 🔊 When a Tribunal examines a marriage, it examines whether it was a valid marriage or not (whether or not the marriage existed), not merely whether or not it was a sacrament.
- 🔊 The sacramental nature is determined only by whether both are baptized or not.
- 🔊 The grounds that the Tribunal looks at with regard to validity of the marriage are primarily based on the Natural Law. Therefore, it can declare both natural & sacramental marriages to be invalid.

Multiple Prior Marriages

-  A man was married 5 times, each ending with divorce: It is presumed that his first marriage is valid. If his first marriage is proven to be invalid, then the presumption is that his second marriage is valid. If his second marriage is declared invalid, then his third marriage is presumed to be valid. Etc.
-  However, petitions for declarations of nullity can be processed for multiple prior marriages all at the same time.

Proof Regarding Prior Marriages: Lack of Canonical Form

- 🔊 For Catholics with a prior marriage outside of the Church, the lack of canonical form must be proven & established by declaration of the diocesan Tribunal.
- 🔊 This is the easiest procedure, so always see first if this applies.
- 🔊 If person is not Catholic, check to see if the former spouse was Catholic.
- 🔊 \$25 processing fee

Lack of Canonical Form: Only For Catholics Who Married Outside the Catholic Church

**THE DIOCESAN TRIBUNAL
AND OFFICE FOR CANONICAL AFFAIRS**

DIocese of HonoLulu • ST. STEPHEN DIOCESAN CENTER
6301 PALI HIGHWAY, KĀNEʻOHE, HAWAII 96744-5224
(808) 203-6786 • WWW.CATHOLICHAWAII.ORG



**Petition for Declaration of Marital Nullity
Due to Lack of Canonical Form**

Petitioner

Respondent

Name-in-full _____

Maiden last name (if applicable) _____

Street address _____

City _____

State/Zip _____

Home phone _____

Work phone _____

Cell phone _____

E-mail address _____

Date of birth _____

Wedding date _____
Type of officiant (e.g., Protestant minister, judge) _____
Church/Place _____
City of marriage _____
State/Zip (or Country) of marriage _____

Did you meet with a priest or deacon before the marriage and seek a dispensation from canonical form, permitting you to marry validly outside of the Catholic Church? _____
If yes, you are not eligible to petition on the basis of a lack of canonical form.

Were you first married outside of the Catholic Church and later had your marriage validated or "blessed" in the Catholic Church? _____
If yes, you are not eligible to petition on the basis of a lack of canonical form.


Number of children _____
Current ages of children _____
Date of divorce _____

Tribunal use only	
Date Received _____	Cause Name _____
Prot. No. _____	Processing Fee Paid \$25 _____
Clergy/Parish/City _____	

Impediment: Prior Bond of Marriage

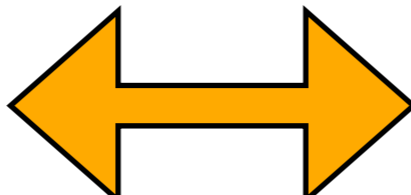
- 🔊 It might apply in a case where the ex-spouse (the respondent) was married previously.
- 🔊 It cannot be used if the respondent's first spouse was Catholic and the marriage took place outside of the Catholic Church as the prior marriage would be invalid due to lack of canonical form.
- 🔊 The cause of nullity is handled by the Tribunal through the documentary process.

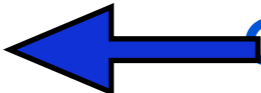
Prior Bond Example

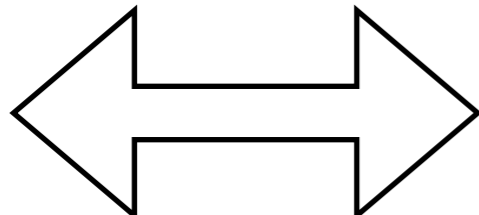
Bill  Malia

Bill was previously married to Malia, whom he divorced before marrying Maria

Maria, Bill & Malia all not Catholic

Maria  Bill
Maria however was married to Bill & now they are divorced


 This marriage of Maria & Bill is invalid because Bill was not free to marry Maria

Jose  Maria

Maria is in RCIA and wants to marry Jose, a Catholic, who was never married before

Documentary Process for Prior Bond & Other Impediments

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 Call the
Tribunal office
for a copy of
this form.

THE DIOCESAN TRIBUNAL

DIOCESE OF HONOLULU • ST. STEPHEN DIOCESAN CENTER
6301 PALI HIGHWAY, KĀNEʻOHE, HAWAII 96744-5224
(808) 203-8788 • WWW.CATHOLICHAWAII.ORG



Cause for Marital Nullity: Documentary Process

Petitioner	Respondent
Name-in-full _____	
Maiden last name (if applicable) _____	
Street address* _____	
City _____	
State/Zip _____	
Occupation _____	
Home phone _____	
Work phone _____	
Cell phone _____	
E-mail address _____	
Date of birth _____	
Age at the time of marriage _____	

*The current address of the respondent is required. You are not required to contact the respondent. The Tribunal will do this for you.

Include copies of the following documents with this preliminary investigation:

- For Catholics: Baptism certificates (if you were originally baptized in a non-Catholic community, provide a certificate of reception into the full communion of the Catholic Church)
- Marriage certificate (Catholic marriage certificate if a Catholic marriage or convalidation; otherwise, provide a copy of the civil marriage certificate)
- Divorce decree (first and last/signature pages if a multi-page document)
- For prior bond of marriage causes only: Marriage certificate or other documentary proof of respondent's prior marriage

Tribunal use only

Date Received _____ Cause Name _____

Prot. No. _____ \$100 Processing Fee _____

Consent Makes Marriage

- 🔊 Marriage is a contract entered by consent of the parties (canon 1057).
- 🔊 The presence of God transforms the contract into a covenant.
- 🔊 The internal act of consent is expressed in the marriage vows.

Consent: Intellect & Will

Gather information in the intellect:

- 📌 Objective knowledge about marriage rights & obligations
- 📌 Self-knowledge
- 📌 Knowledge of the other party
- 📌 Evaluative judgment

Make choice in will:

- 📌 Freedom is needed (no internal or external pressure)



When Does Consent Occur?

- Even though consent is exchanged in the marriage ceremony (the vows), the internal act of consent usually takes place before that.
- Usually consent takes place around the time of the engagement & then it continues virtually in time.
- When the Tribunal examines a marriage regarding its validity, it looks at the time of consent. Therefore, what happens during the time leading up to the marriage ceremony is of greatest importance.

Formal Nullity Process: Preliminary Investigation & Petition for Defect of Consent

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Cause for Marital Nullity: Defect of Consent Preliminary Investigation

Petitioner

Respondent

_____ Name-in-full _____
 _____ Maiden last name (if applicable) _____
 _____ Street address* _____
 _____ City* _____
 _____ State/Zip* _____
 _____ Occupation _____
 _____ Home phone _____
 _____ Work phone _____
 _____ Cell phone _____
 _____ E-mail address _____
 _____ Date of birth _____
 _____ Age at the time of marriage _____

*The current address of the respondent is required. You are not required to contact the respondent. The Tribunal will do this for you.

Include copies of the following documents with this preliminary investigation:

- For Catholics: Baptism certificates (if you were originally baptized in a non-Catholic community, provide a certificate of reception into the full communion of the Catholic Church)
- Marriage certificate (Catholic marriage certificate if a Catholic marriage or validation; otherwise, provide a copy of the civil marriage certificate)
- Divorce decree (first and last/signature page if a multi-page document)

Tribunal use only

Cause Name _____ Prot. No. _____
 Date Received _____ Processing Fee: _____ \$450 Paid _____ \$250 Paid (\$200 due)

Defect of Consent: Declaration of Nullity

- 🔊 This involves a process to determine if marital consent was defective from the beginning of the marriage.
- 🔊 People often focus on the end of the marriage. The Tribunal focuses on the beginning.
- 🔊 A ground for invalidity must exist at the beginning of the marriage, preventing a true marriage from taking place.
- 🔊 The ground can be on the part of one or both of the spouses.
- 🔊 Later adultery does not make a marriage invalid.
- 🔊 If a “lack of canonical form” or “an impediment” do not apply, and a “privilege of the faith dissolution” cannot be used, then this formal process is the possibility to try in most situations.

Grounds for Nullity

Several causes can make a marriage which seems to be valid to be invalid (null):

- 📌 Defects in reason, judgment, psychological condition
- 📌 Defects in the intellect, knowledge
- 📌 Defects in the will, intention
- 📌 Impairments of freedom

What People Are Involved?

- Petitioner and respondent – the parties to the marriage
- Advocates – priests and deacons and other trained parish staff serve as advocates
- Judicial vicar and other judges

- Witnesses – usually family and friends who provide testimony
- Psychological expert – if a psychological ground is being considered
- Defender of the bond – argues against a declaration of nullity being issued
- Moderator of the Tribunal chancery and other notaries

Does the Respondent Have to Be Involved?

- 🎤 Yes. But the Tribunal is responsible for contacting the respondent. The petitioner just needs to provide the address.
- 🎤 Because a marriage is a contract between two people, canon law recognizes the respondent's right to be notified and participate. If the respondent is not notified, then the process is invalid.
- 🎤 A respondent has no veto power over the process and does not need to agree to a declaration of nullity.
- 🎤 If the respondent does not respond or refuses to participate, the Tribunal will decide based on the petitioner and witnesses.
- 🎤 Information is gathered privately, so the petitioner and the respondent will never face each other. The petitioner's current address can be withheld from the respondent upon request.

What is the Process?

- Completion of the Petition and Preliminary Investigation: Petitioner gives the basic facts to help set grounds, submits a list of witnesses.
- The Tribunal establishes its jurisdiction.
- The judge accepts the petition and notifies the respondent.
- Formulation of the doubt: statement of the grounds being considered
- Instruction stage: evidence is gathered. This often gets delayed due to slow participation by witnesses.
- Publication of the acts: the parties are notified that they have a right to know what evidence is being considered by coming to the Tribunal.
- The cause is reviewed by the defender of the bond, who must point out everything in the acts that suggest that the marriage is valid.
- The judge writes his decision, which can either be negative or affirmative, whether the nullity of the marriage has been proven or not.
- All first instance affirmative decisions are subject to an automatic appeal to a second instance Tribunal. The Tribunal of the Diocese of San Jose, California, serves as our Tribunal of appeal.

Affirmative & Negative Decisions

- 📌 Affirmative decisions are not guaranteed.
- 📌 If a petitioner is not able to prove that the marriage was invalid, then a negative decision is given.
- 📌 In this situation, then it may not be possible for someone who is in an invalid marriage to be initiated into the Catholic Church without renouncing the marriage. So it is not fair to the person to be admitted as a catechumen or candidate if they will not be able to be initiated.
- 📌 If someone not currently married but with a prior marriage receives a negative decision, it may be OK to initiate the person, but he or she should know that it will not be possible to marry in the future as long as the person's former spouse is alive. In fairness, the person should find this out before being initiated.

What is the Cost?

- The fee for processing a declaration of nullity cause is \$450. This fee is paid by the petitioner. The petitioner is asked to submit \$250 with the initial petition. The additional \$200 is due once the first instance decision is rendered.
- Depending upon one's situation, other payment plans can be arranged. Exceptions can be made for those coming from impoverished conditions.
- The fee helps cover the salaries for the Tribunal personnel. It also helps cover the costs of running an office.
- This fee does not cover all expenses of the Tribunal. The Diocese of Honolulu subsidizes the Tribunal to cover the balance of the costs.
- The fee is not refunded when there is a negative decision.