

**APPLICATION FOR PERMISSION TO MARRY  
ACCORDING TO THE RITES OF THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA  
AFTER CIVIL DIVORCE WHILE A FORMER HUSBAND OR WIFE  
OF EITHER APPLICANT IS STILL LIVING**

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**Suggestions for the pastoral use of this application**

1. Arrange a meeting with the couple in which you explain Anglican requirements to them personally.
2. Have as your primary aim in this interview to establish open and warm communication with the couple so that they realize that the church is concerned for them, and desires to help them as they seek Christian marriage as understood in the preface to Canon 21.
3. After you have established this rapport, explain to them the procedures under Part IV of the canon, and the Declaration on page 10 of Part B of this application.
4. Please note that Part A of this application (pages 1-3) is designed to be filled out by the incumbent in the presence of the couple.
5. At the end of the first interview, give the couple Part B (pages 4-10) to fill out at home and to return at a later meeting for discussion and signing.
6. Please note that the questions in Part B are designed to be as simple as possible. But naturally they will, if thoroughly discussed, give rise to others. For example, in discussing support (page 4), you will want to know that they believe their proposed marriage to be financially viable in the light of continuing commitments to child support. Or, in discussing the questions on page 9, you may wish to ask them if they have thought through any changes in wills which may be appropriate.
7. By the conclusion of the second meeting, you will normally be in possession of the information required for the incumbent's report (Part C of this application); or you may wish to make enquiries of other sources before completing it.
8. Certified or authenticated copies of the Decree Nisi and the Decree Absolute – or Divorce Judgment and Certificate of Divorce – are to be submitted to you by the couple, and forwarded with the application forms to the Commission for final approval. **Please send copies only, with a notation that you have seen the original.** (When there has been a divorce, a marriage licence is necessary in all provinces – although banns may be read as well – and the Decree Absolute or Certificate of Divorce is required for this purpose.)
9. We stress that this entire procedure is *pastoral*, in that it enables an incumbent to minister to *parishioners*, that is, all persons resident in the parish, whether Anglican or not, and others who come sincerely desiring ministry.
10. Problems sometimes arise when couples seeking marriage are not living in the parish in which they wish their marriage to be solemnized. In such cases, the pastoral care of the people involved requires that appropriate interviews and documentation be completed by the Incumbent of the parish in which the couple intends to reside. The Incumbents should correspond with the Incumbents solemnizing the marriage so that the latter may be confident in conscientiously endorsing applications prepared by the former. The Incumbent solemnizing the marriage has the ultimate responsibility for ensuring that the Marriage Canon is complied with.

**PART A, PAGE 1**

**Please Print**

We, \_\_\_\_\_  
full name of man

\_\_\_\_\_  
occupation single (never married)/widowed/divorced

\_\_\_\_\_  
date of birth age religious affiliation

\_\_\_\_\_  
address

**AND**

\_\_\_\_\_  
full name of woman

\_\_\_\_\_  
occupation single (never married)/widowed/divorced

\_\_\_\_\_  
date of birth age religious affiliation

\_\_\_\_\_  
address

Wish to be married in \_\_\_\_\_  
name of parish or mission

**WE WILL BE ATTENDING** \_\_\_\_\_ Parish

and since I/we, \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

am/are divorced, do make application to the Ecclesiastical Matrimonial Commission of the

Diocese of \_\_\_\_\_

for permission to be married according to the rites of the Anglican Church of Canada.

**PART A, PAGE 2**

I, \_\_\_\_\_  
name

Was married on \_\_\_\_\_ at age \_\_\_\_\_  
date

To \_\_\_\_\_

Whose age at time of marriage was \_\_\_\_\_, by \_\_\_\_\_  
officiant

In \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_  
church municipality/province/country

My marital status at that time was \_\_\_\_\_. If divorced, give particulars.  
Single (never married)/widowed/divorced

We separated permanently on \_\_\_\_\_  
date

And the marriage was dissolved by:

Decree Absolute/Certificate of Divorce dated \_\_\_\_\_

**PART A, PAGE 3**  
**(to be used by other applicant only if both applicants are divorced)**

I, \_\_\_\_\_  
name

Was married on \_\_\_\_\_ at age \_\_\_\_\_  
date

To \_\_\_\_\_

Whose age at time of marriage was \_\_\_\_\_, by \_\_\_\_\_  
officiant

In \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_  
church municipality/province/country

My marital status at that time was \_\_\_\_\_. If divorced, give particulars.  
Single (never married)/widowed/divorced

We separated permanently on \_\_\_\_\_  
date

And the marriage was dissolved by:

Decree Absolute/Certificate of Divorce dated \_\_\_\_\_

**PART B, PAGE 4**

**TO THE DIVORCED APPLICANT - \_\_\_\_\_**  
**(Name)**

Please outline your understanding of

...the causes that led to the breakdown of this marriage:

...your attempts to seek help and reconciliation:

Please state your financial responsibilities (if any) to your former spouse:

...and how these are being fulfilled:

...if not, why not?

**PART B, PAGE 5**

**(to be used by other applicant only if both applicants are divorced)**

**TO THE DIVORCED APPLICANT - \_\_\_\_\_**  
**(Name)**

Please outline your understanding of

...the causes that led to the breakdown of this marriage:

...your attempts to seek help and reconciliation:

Please state your financial responsibilities (if any) to your former spouse:

...and how these are being fulfilled:

...if not, why not?

**PART B, PAGE 6**

**TO THE APPLICANTS**

Please state here:

...how long you have known each other:

...full reasons for your confidence that your proposed marriage will be stable:

...and mention anything learned from your experience and knowledge of the broken marriage that you see as being helpful to this new relationship:

**PART B, PAGE 7**

**TO THE DIVORCED APPLICANT - \_\_\_\_\_**  
**(Name)**

Please give the names, addresses and ages of any children born to your previous marriage:

Please state

...who now has legal custody:

...with whom they are now living:

...who is responsible for support and what support was ordered:

...what support is now being given:

...are there any arrears outstanding:

...how the children get along with the parent who does not have custody:

**PART B, PAGE 8**  
**(to be used by other applicant only if both applicants are divorced)**

**TO THE DIVORCED APPLICANT - \_\_\_\_\_**  
**(Name)**

Please give the names, addresses and ages of any children born to your previous marriage:

Please state

...who now has legal custody:

...with whom they are now living:

...who is responsible for support and what support was ordered:

...what support is now being given:

...are there any arrears outstanding:

...how the children get along with the parent who does not have custody:

**PART B, PAGE 9**

**TO THE APPLICANTS**

What is the attitude of each of the children of your previous marriages to your proposed marriage?

How do you see each of these children relating to both of you in your married life?

Taking into account any difficulties and opportunities you foresee, how do you anticipate developing and sustaining your new family life?

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My answers to the above questions are complete and true.

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man

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woman

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incumbent

**DECLARATION**

We hereby declare that we intend to enter into marriage which we acknowledge to be a union in faithful love, to the exclusion of all others on either side, for better or for worse, until we are separated by death.

We undertake to prepare ourselves for the exchange of vows at our wedding, recognizing that by this mutual exchange our union in marriage will be established.

We intend to strive thereafter to fulfill the purpose of marriage: the mutual friendship, support and comfort to one another, the procreation (if it may be) and the nurture of children, and the creation of a relationship in which sexuality may serve personal fulfillment in a community of faithful love.

(Schedule A of Canon 21).

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man

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woman

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incumbent

