

**Diocese of St. Augustine**  
**Declaration for the Invalidity of Marriage**  
**Lack of Form**

Christian marriage is a vocation from God in which the liberating effect of divine love is experienced through human love. Love ever seeks to communicate, reaching out in commitment to the Christian community. Thus, marriage itself is a “Church Event,” not just a private matter. It has social and ecclesial dimensions far beyond the partners and their immediate relatives.

The Catholic Church requires its members to exchange consent in a Catholic Church, in the presence of two witnesses, and an authorized priest or deacon and to receive his blessing.

There are some exceptional circumstances in which the above requirements can be dispensed. If a dispensation was granted before or after (a Radical Sanation) the wedding, this form cannot be used.

## **INSTRUCTIONS**

The following documents are to be submitted with the petition:

- The **original** Certificate of Baptism of the Catholic Party dated within the past 6 months with notations.
- A **copy** of the Certificate of Marriage on which the name and title of the Officiant is given.
- A **copy** of the civil divorce or annulment decree.
- A statement from two witnesses who swear to the fact that the marriage was: (1) not solemnized in the Catholic Church; (2) never blessed by a priest or deacon; (3) no dispensation from form was sought; and (4) the marriage was not sanated (recognized by the Church at a later date). These statements must be notarized by any clergyman or notary public.
- A check made payable to the Diocese of St. Augustine for the required fee of \$30

**Petitioner for a Declaration of Invalidity of Marriage  
Lack of Form  
Diocese of St. Augustine**

*Please Print/Type Answers*

Parish: \_\_\_\_\_

1. I, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_  
First Name ... Last Name (Maiden Name if a Woman) Religion

Married \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_  
First Name ... Last Name (Maiden Name if a Woman) Religion

In \_\_\_\_\_, On \_\_\_\_\_  
City and State Date of Marriage

Before a: \_\_\_\_\_ Civil Official \_\_\_\_\_ Minister \_\_\_\_\_ Orthodox Priest \_\_\_\_\_ Rabbi

Name of Official: \_\_\_\_\_

2. I live at: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name & Street (Apt #) City State Zip

3. Present Name of above person I married: \_\_\_\_\_

4. He/She lives at \_\_\_\_\_  
Name & Street (Apt #) City State Zip

5. I have a Civil Divorce or Annulment:

\_\_\_\_\_ Date Granted \_\_\_\_\_ Where obtained \_\_\_\_\_ Number of Decree

6. I solemnly swear that the statements made above are true, that the marriage in question has never been convalidated in the presence of a Catholic Priest or Deacon, radically sanated and that I am now aware of any impediments preventing a future marriage in the Catholic Church.

7. I also swear that a dispensation from the form of marriage was not sought or granted before the wedding.

\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signature of Petitioner (Present Name)

\_\_\_\_\_ Contact Phone Number for Petitioner

8. Signature of Priest/Deacon Submitting the Case: \_\_\_\_\_

**RESERVED FOR TRIBUNAL USE**

Proof of Obligation to form of:                      Petitioner                      Respondent

Date and Place of Catholic Baptism \_\_\_\_\_

I, the undersigned Delegate of the Ordinary, am morally certain that the marriage in question is invalid by reason of Lack of Form.

\_\_\_\_\_ Delegate \_\_\_\_\_ Date



Mary, Queen of Heaven Catholic Church

**Witness Statement**

I, the undersigned, swear that the marriage of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ was (1) not solemnized in the Catholic church; (2) never blessed by a priest or deacon; (3) no dispensation from form was sought; and (4) the marriage was not sanated (recognized by the Church at a later date).

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Print Name of Witness)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Print Name of Witness)

Signature of Witness: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Witness: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to Petitioner: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to Petitioner: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Priest or Notary: \_\_\_\_\_

SEAL

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