

## Diocese of Covington Tribunal

Cathedral Square  
1125 Madison Avenue  
Covington, KY 41011-3115  
Telephone: (859) 392-1500

### For Tribunal Use Only

Case Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Case Number: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Advocate: \_\_\_\_\_

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

## PETITION FOR FAVOR OF THE FAITH - PAULINE PRIVILEGE

The Pauline Privilege - In 1 Cor 7:12-13, 15 St. Paul was faced with a problem caused in marriages where one spouse converted and became a believer in Christ and the other spouse did not believe. If the non-believer was willing to live in peace with the believer, the marriage was to remain intact. However, if the non-believer was not willing to live in peace with the believer and subsequently departed from the marriage, St. Paul states that the believer was not bound to the duties and obligations of the marriage. Over time this pastoral solution developed into what is known as the Pauline privilege.

Conditions for Application - Before the Pauline privilege can be applied, the following three criteria must be satisfied:

1. a marriage entered into by two non-baptized persons;
2. the subsequent baptism of one and only one of the spouses during the course of the marriage; and
3. the departure of the still non-baptized spouse.

It is the responsibility of the diocesan bishop to verify that these conditions have been met. On a practical level, before this privilege is applied, it has to be determined that:

- there is no possibility of restoring conjugal life.
- the petitioner was not the primary cause of the breakdown of the conjugal relationship.
- the petitioner's current or intended spouse did not provoke the breakdown of the conjugal relationship.
- the petitioner has fulfilled his/her moral and civil obligations toward the first spouse and offspring.

### Priest/Deacon/Advocate requesting Pauline Privilege on behalf of the petitioner.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parish (or current office) \_\_\_\_\_

**PETITIONER** (you)

**RESPONDENT** (your former spouse)\*

\_\_\_\_\_ Complete Present Name \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Maiden Name \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Street Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Place of Birth (City) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No      Ever Baptized?      \_\_\_\_\_ Yes      \_\_\_\_\_ No

\_\_\_\_\_ Date of Baptism \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Church Where Baptized \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Street Address (Church of Baptism) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ City, State, Zip (Church of Baptism) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Religion at Time of Wedding \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Present Religion \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Current Parish/Congregation \_\_\_\_\_

(\* Respondent information must be provided. The Tribunal is required to contact your former spouse.)

**MARRIAGE CEREMONY**

Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_      Church/Other: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_      County: \_\_\_\_\_      State: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Petitioner's Age (at the time of the ceremony): \_\_\_\_\_ Respondent's Age (at the time of the ceremony): \_\_\_\_\_

## Children

Please list the names and birth dates of any children born of this marriage.

- |          |                |          |                |
|----------|----------------|----------|----------------|
| 1. _____ | ____/____/____ | 5. _____ | ____/____/____ |
| 2. _____ | ____/____/____ | 6. _____ | ____/____/____ |
| 3. _____ | ____/____/____ | 7. _____ | ____/____/____ |
| 4. _____ | ____/____/____ | 8. _____ | ____/____/____ |

## Separation/Divorce

How long did you live together as husband and wife? \_\_\_\_\_ Date of final separation \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_  
Date of civil divorce: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Case Number: \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

## Witnesses

According to Catholic Church law, the truth of a matter cannot be determined solely on the word of one person. Credible witnesses are required to verify the testimony of the parties involved in all cases submitted to the Church for resolution. Your witnesses will need to answer questions confirming the fact that neither you nor your former spouse were baptized at the time of the wedding. The names of parents, blood relatives and/or people who have knowledge of the parties from infancy to the present are preferable. The names of two witnesses for each party are required.

### Witnesses for the Petitioner

Witness #1

Witness #2

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Street: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Relation: \_\_\_\_\_

### Witnesses for the Respondent

Witness #1

Witness #2

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Street: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Relation: \_\_\_\_\_

## Current Marital Status

\_\_\_ I am planning to remarry if and when the request for dissolution is granted.

\_\_\_ I am currently in a civil marriage.

Intended Spouse/Current Spouse Information:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of his/her previous marriages: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Was he/she ever baptized? \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No Religion: \_\_\_\_\_

If baptized in the Eastern Church, which rite?: \_\_\_\_\_

### Required Documents

If applicable, **Certificates of Baptism** for all parties involved: the petitioner, the respondent, and the petitioner's current or intended spouse. [If the party is Catholic, the certificates must be issued from the church of baptism within the last six months. They must include all sacramental notations and the parish seal. If a party was baptized in a non-Catholic Christian church and was later received into the Catholic Church, a **Certificate of Reception** from the Catholic Church of reception is required. (Copies are not acceptable.)]

A **certified copy** (i.e., stamped and dated by the county clerk) **of the marriage license** for the petitioner and respondent issued by the County Clerk's Office.

A **certified copy of the civil divorce decree** for the petitioner and respondent issued by the County Clerk's Office.

If the petitioner is currently in a civil marriage, a certified copy of the marriage license for the petitioner and the petitioner's current spouse issued by the County Clerk's Office.