



Form C

Application to the
Personal Ordinariate of the
Chair of Saint Peter for

**Dispensation from
Canonical Form**

P.O. Box 55206, Houston, TX 77255

For Chancery use only

FORM C

No. _____ CF

Names _____

Granted by _____

Date _____

_____, a Catholic
(PRINT OR TYPE NAME)

actually residing in or formally registered in _____ Catholic Church/Parish,

(STATE), wishing to marry _____

requests a dispensation of the Canonical Form of marriage.

The just pastoral reason for seeking this dispensation is the spiritual welfare of the parties, which is particularly:

- To achieve family harmony or avoid alienation
- To obtain parental agreement to the marriage
- Relationship/friendship with non-Catholic minister
- Importance of congregation/religious edifice to non-Catholic
- Other: _____

If this dispensation is granted, the wedding will take place:

Date _____

Name of non-Catholic Church _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Name of Non-Catholic Officiant _____ Daytime Phone _____

- An application for dispensation from disparity of cult *ad cautelam* is enclosed. Send application and this form to Tribunal.
- I have granted the permission for mixed marriage. A copy is attached.
- This marriage will take place inside a church building of some type.

Please grant dispensation in the usual manner. Send to Chancery (P.O. Box 55206, Houston, TX 77255).

Date: _____
(SEAL) _____
(PRIEST/DEACON/DELEGATE)
(PARISH AND CITY)

MAIL THIS FORM TO THE CHANCERY WITH THE REQUEST FOR DISPENSATION FROM DISPARITY OF CULT OR PERMISSION FOR MIXED MARRIAGE (FORM B) COMPLETED AND ATTACHED.

KEY AND GUIDE – FORM C

DISPENSATION FROM THE CANONICAL FORM OF MARRIAGE - CATHOLIC PARTY MUST BE A MEMBER OF THE ORDINARIATE

1. A Catholic may be dispensed from the observance of the canonical form, otherwise required for the validity of marriage by Canon 1108. This dispensation cannot be granted except in the case of marriage from which either dispensation from disparity of worship or permission for mixed marriage is both necessary and properly sought. Canonical form is not an impediment to marriage but is required for the validity of marriage when at least one principal is Catholic.
2. This dispensation may be sought only if there are serious difficulties in observing the canonical form. It is impossible to give an exhaustive list of reasons that justify petition for this dispensation, but the following are samples of such reasons: "to achieve family harmony," "to avoid family alienation," "to obtain parental agreement to an otherwise prudent marriage," "to recognize the significant claims of relationship or close friendship with a clergy of another denomination," "to permit marriage in a church that has particular importance to the non-Catholic."
3. Ordinarily, dispensation from the observance of the canonical form is granted in view of a proposed celebration of marriage in a religious context, but in some exceptional circumstances it may be sought to permit a civil marriage ceremony. In any case some public celebration, one recognized under the civil law, is necessary for the validity of the marriage. It is not granted in the Ordinariate for the sake of an outdoor wedding. If the marriage is to take place in the local diocese or another diocese, there may be some local limitations (e.g. not in a historic home or reception hall's commercial chapel).
4. The dispensation from the canonical form can be granted only by the diocese of the place where the Catholic party resides. For Ordinariate purposes, it can only be granted if one of the parties is a member of the Ordinariate. If the actual marriage takes place in another diocese, the diocese of the place of the ceremony must be consulted by the Ordinariate before the dispensation can be validly granted.
5. When a dispensation is granted for a marriage to take place in a religious ceremony other than a Catholic ceremony, there is no reason why the parish priest (or other priest for familial or similar reasons) may not participate in the ceremony by saying an appropriate prayer, giving a reading from Scripture, saying other appropriate words, or doing something similar. Canon 1127, §3, however, directs that it is forbidden to have a religious celebration in which a Catholic and a non-Catholic minister, assist together but, following their respective rituals, ask for the consent of both parties.
6. The Catholic party who petitions must be a member of the Ordinariate. Records are kept as if the wedding took place in the Catholic party's own Parish church. The Parish priest has all the same obligations for fully preparing the couple and doing the paperwork.
7. Canon 1121, §3 provides the following with regard to the keeping of records of such marriages: The marriage is properly recorded with appropriate notations in the marriage register of the Parish of the Catholic party. The following documents should also be placed in the Parish file of pre-nuptial documents:
 - a. The actual pre-nuptial documents;
 - b. Baptismal record recently issued;
 - c. The rescript of dispensation;
 - d. Any other pertinent documents.
8. The Catholic spouse has the obligation of informing the Parish priest who obtained the dispensation of the fact and date of the marriage.
9. The parish priest also has the obligation of noting the fact and date of the marriage on the Baptismal record of the Catholic party or of sending the information to the Parish of Baptism of the Catholic party.