



Checklist for a Nullity Case Petition

- A completed *Preliminary Questionnaire and Petition* (the four sided form). The latest version of the form is preferred. A signature by the Petitioner is required.
- The Narrative written by the Petitioner or written by the priest/advocate who interviews the Petitioner. A signature by the Petitioner is required.

Note: Narrative = the story of what happened that led to the breakdown of the marriage along with relevant facts, circumstances, and background. Questionnaires can be used as a tool, but need not be followed in a manner that becomes burdensome to the Petitioner. If in doubt, be thorough but also realize that the tribunal will follow-up with the Petitioner to acquire more evidence when necessary.

- Baptism certificates for Petitioner and Respondent if possible. This means an official copy issued by the parish of baptism along with notifications is required.
- Marriage license. A copy is acceptable.
- Divorce decree. A copy is acceptable.

Notes: You will be informed about the diocesan policy regarding payment. By no means do we want to be perceived as charging people for nullity cases. At the same time, we accept donations. Those figures and timeline will be communicated to the Petitioner at a later date.

If you have difficulty locating the contact information for the Respondent, please contact the Tribunal to receive instructions of how to proceed. The Respondent enjoys the same rights as the Petitioner.

If there is more than 1 marriage to examine before the possibility of being free to marry, note all the facts in the 4-page form, but focus on one-marriage-at-a-time, starting with the earliest.

If you believe your case qualifies for absence of canonical form, documentary case such as a prior bond (canon 1085) that existed, or Pauline Privilege – if one of those applies, then you will likely not need to write a narrative and would follow a different track. You will receive instructions on how to proceed.

If you have questions about anything regarding what any of the terms mean or questions about the procedure at this stage or as the case unfolds, please contact the Tribunal.