



ARCHDIOCESE OF
NEW ORLEANS

Metropolitan Tribunal

HOW TO DETERMINE A PETRINE PRIVILEGE CASE

“It is well known that under certain determined conditions the marriages between non-Catholics, at least one of whom is not baptized, can be dissolved in the favor of the faith and for the salvation of souls by the Roman Pontiff.” (*Potestas Ecclesiae*, Congregation of the Doctrine of the Faith, 30 April 2001).

The following questions will help to determine whether you have a Petrine Privilege case.

1. **YES** **NO** Was one party in the marriage unbaptized prior to the marriage and remained so throughout the marriage?
2. **YES** **NO** Is it true that there is no hope that the couple will be reconciled?
3. **YES** **NO** Is it true that the petitioner was not the predominant cause of the breakup of the marriage?
4. **YES** **NO** (*Check if applicable*): If the unbaptized party later became baptized, is it true both parties have **not** had conjugal relations since after his/her baptism?
5. **YES** **NO** If the petitioner or his/her intended spouse is not a Catholic, is the non-Catholic party willing to sign the promise to raise any children born of the new marriage as Catholics and not hinder the Catholic party’s practice of the faith?
6. **YES** **NO** Does the petitioner have a fiancé or spouse whom he/she wishes to marry in the Catholic Church?
7. **YES** **NO** Is the petitioner’s a fiancé or spouse free to marry in the Catholic Church?
8. **YES** **NO** Is it true that the new fiancé/spouse was not the cause of the breakup of the marriage for which you are seeking a favor of the faith?
9. **YES** **NO** Is the Catholic party actively practicing the faith?
10. **YES** **NO** Is it true that the granting of the favor would not be a cause of scandal?

If the answers to all the questions are **YES**, you may a Petrine Privilege case. Kindly send a copy of this completed form to the Tribunal. If the Tribunal determines that it is indeed a Petrine Privilege case, we will then send you the Petrine Privilege petition and a list of the required documents. If a Petrine Privilege case cannot be proven, it may be necessary to complete the forms for a formal case.

If the answer to any of the questions is **NO**, then you have a case other than Petrine. Kindly call the Tribunal at 504-861-6291 for assistance.

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