Metropolitan Tribunal 1300 S. Steele Street Denver, CO 80210

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THE MC FORM

- Please read the following carefully as you complete each section that pertains to your petition.
- Please print and complete the form and send it to us by regular mail, not email.

A. GENERAL INFORMATION:

- 1. Please complete the entire section and include bride's maiden name and Baptismal affiliation.
- 2. Please include the full address with city and state, so the canonical domicile can be determined correctly.
- 3. Please make sure to highlight any discrepancy between the religion at baptism and the current religion.
- 4. Since requesting and granting permissions/dispensations involves consideration of the spiritual welfare of the parties, only clergy may complete the form, or at least give proof, through their signature, that they have reviewed it.

B. REQUEST FOR PERMISSION TO CELEBRATE MARRIAGE:

- 1. Please check all that apply.
- 2. Permission for Mixed Marriage can only be requested if there is proof that the non-Catholic party was validly baptized, unless it is requested together with a Dispensation from Disparity of Cult *ad cautelam*.

C. REQUEST FOR DISPENSATIONS:

- 1. Please check all that apply.
- 2. When requesting dispensations regarding Consanguinity, Affinity, Public Propriety, or Relationship through adoption, please describe the exact nature of the relationship.

D. REASONS FOR REQUEST:

- 1. Please explain the reason(s) why the local ordinary should grant the requested permission/dispensation. You may use an additional paper if needed to address the circumstances.
- 2. In general, each distinct permission/dispensation requires a distinct reason, unless it is evident that the same motivating cause applies.
- 3. When discerning a just reason to grant the permission/dispensation, it is important to consider why the Church prohibits the marriage without the permission/dispensation and weigh the reasons justifying the law against the specific circumstances justifying the marriage.
- 4. For example, the reasons motivating permission for mixed marriages or a dispensation from disparity of worship typically would express why the couple's religious difference is not a concern. To reach this judgment, it is usually necessary to consider the strength of the Catholic party's faith, the non-Catholic party's respect for the Catholic party's faith and practice, whether the non-Catholic party will allow any children to be raised in the Catholic Faith, and whether both parties' understanding of marriage is consistent with the teaching of the Church. Other considerations may be relevant, as well.

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E. DISPENSATION FROM CANONICAL FORM:

- 1. Please complete the entire section along with:
 - i. Site where marriage is to take place
 - ii. Title of person who will be performing the ceremony (e.g., Rabbi, Minister, etc).
 - ii. The reason(s) for this request, that is, why it is appropriate and spiritually advantageous for the couple not to be married with a Catholic ceremony (use additional paper if needed).
- 2. Also, keep in mind that this dispensation CANNOT be granted for two Catholics.
- 3. This Dispensation implies the Permission from Place, therefore, there is no need to fill out section F.

F. PERMISSION FOR PLACE:

- 1. Permission for Place is required when a sacramental marriage (involving two baptized persons) is to be celebrated with a Catholic ceremony in any place besides a parish church.
- 2. The request for Permission for Place must always be accompanied by documentation of the permission of the local pastor within whose boundaries the chapel/oratory/shrine is located.
- 3. List of Catholic Chapels/Shrines commonly used within the Archdiocese:
 - i. St. Catherine of Siena Chapel at St. Malo in Allenspark, Colorado.
 - ii. Mother Cabrini Shrine in Golden, Colorado.
 - iii. St. John Francis Regis Chapel at Regis University.
 - iv. Snowmass Chapel, in Snowmass Village, Colorado.
- 4. List of non-Catholic Chapels for which is customary to grant this permission:
 - i. Vail Interfaith Chapel, in Vail, Colorado.
 - ii. Beaver Creek Chapel, in Avon, Colorado.
 - iii. Copper Mountain Community Chapel, in Copper Mountain, Colorado.
- 5. Even with Permission for Place, it is not permitted to celebrate the Catholic rite of marriage out-of-doors in the Archdiocese of Denver.
- 6. When the wedding will be celebrated in another diocese, the request for Permission for Place will be forwarded to that diocese, as it should be granted by the Local ordinary of the Place.

G. PRE-NUPTIAL DECLARATION AND PROMISE

- 1. If one party is non-Catholic, the Catholic Party *only* is required to make the declaration and promise.
- 2. The declaration and promise are always required, regardless of whether the couple is beyond child-bearing years or capable of having children. The Catholic party's duty to the faith of the children applies not only to future biological children but biological children already born, as well as children already adopted or that may be in the future, step-children, grandchildren, etc.