



Questionnaire for Determining Cause for an Episcopal Declaration of Nullity

The Anglican Church in North America (ACNA) affirms our Lord's teaching that the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony is in its nature a permanent and lifelong union of one man and one woman. Scripture also acknowledges our fallen nature and provides guidance to know when a marriage may be declared a nullity or dissolved. This questionnaire is designed to elicit information useful in helping the bishop to assess whether you qualify for a Declaration of Nullity, consistent with that guidance.

Important note about timing: from the time the Diocese receives a completed questionnaire to when the Bishop makes a decision can take a minimum of 3 months, and sometimes longer. This determination is not one the Bishop enters into lightly and the process, depending on the specifics of the application, can be lengthy.

PERSONAL INFORMATION

- Full legal name: _____
- Current address: _____
- Telephone number: _____
- E-mail address: _____
- Date of birth: _____
- Date of baptism: _____
- Church affiliation: _____
- ☐ ACNA Congregation: _____
 - Member since: _____
 - Nonmember regular attender since: _____
 - Nonmember occasional attender since: _____
- ☐ Another church
 - Name and denomination: _____
 - Member since: _____
 - Nonmember regular attender since: _____
 - Nonmember occasional attender since: _____
- ☐ Not connected with a church



Anglican Diocese *of the* Great Lakes

1446 S. Main Street Akron, OH 44301 | 234.466.0426

EX-SPOUSE INFORMATION

- Full legal name: _____
- Current address: _____
- Telephone number: _____
- E-mail address: _____
- Date of birth: _____
- Date of baptism: _____
- Church affiliation: _____
- ☐ ACNA Congregation: _____
 - Member since: _____
 - Nonmember regular attender since: _____
 - Nonmember occasional attender since: _____
- ☐ Another church
 - Name and denomination: _____
 - Member since: _____
 - Nonmember regular attender since: _____
 - Nonmember occasional attender since: _____
- ☐ Not connected with a church.

INFORMATION ABOUT THE MARRIAGE

- Date of marriage: _____
- Place of marriage: _____
- Date of breakup: _____
- Cause of breakup: _____
- Date of final decree of divorce: _____
- Were either you or your former spouse unfaithful during the marriage? (If so, please provide information on the date, number, and duration of extra-marital relationships) _____



POTENTIAL GROUNDS FOR A DETERMINATION OF NULLITY

☐ (a) Consanguinity and affinity as defined in the 1662 Book of Common Prayer

- Were you related, by blood or marriage, to your former spouse? (If so, how?) _____

☐ (b) Mistaken identity

- Were you unaware of the true identity of your former spouse at the time you were married? (If so, how?) _____
- Did either you or your former spouse fail to inform the other prior to the wedding of a significant fact that likely would have altered the other's decision to marry (for example, infertility, unwillingness to have children, marital history, medical history, sexual history, same-sex attraction, criminal record)? (If so, please describe) _____

☐ (c) Absence of the capacity for free and intelligent choice

- How old were you and your former spouse when you married? _____
- How long had you and your former spouse known each other before you married? _____
- What kind of preparation did you receive for marriage (e.g., premarital counseling)? _____
- Was your wedding a religious or a civil ceremony? _____
- Did both you and your former spouse understand marriage to be an exclusive, lifelong commitment requiring mutual fidelity? _____
- Did either of you have any misgivings about entering into this marriage? (If so, please explain) _____
- Was either your ability or your spouse's ability to give consent to the marriage compromised by the use of drugs? (If so, please describe) _____
- Was either your ability or your spouse's ability to give consent to the marriage compromised by psychological distress or mental illness? (If so, please describe) _____



Anglican Diocese *of the* Great Lakes

1446 S. Main Street Akron, OH 44301 | 234.466.0426

- Was there ever a time that you and your former spouse lived together in relative harmony? (If so, when and for how long?) _____

- **(d) Bigamy, evidence of sexual perversion or conviction of a sexually related crime;**
 - Were either you or your former spouse previously married to someone else who was still alive at the time of the wedding? (If so, please explain) _____

 - Were either you or your former spouse incapable of a regular life of normal marital intimacy? (If so, please explain) _____

 - Were either you or your former spouse a regular user of pornography? (If so, please explain) _____

 - Did either you or your former spouse pressure the other to engage in undesired types of sexual activity? (If so, please explain) _____

- **(e) Fraud, coercion, abuse or duress.**
 - Did either you or your former spouse deceive the other prior to the wedding regarding a significant fact that likely would have altered the other's decision to marry (infertility, unwillingness to have children, marital history, medical history, sexual history, same-sex attraction, criminal record)? (If so, please describe) _____

 - Were either you or your former spouse under extreme pressure to marry (premarital intimacy, pregnancy)? (If so, please describe) _____

- **(f) Failure to conform to the teaching of this Church regarding man, woman, and marriage as set forth in the Holy Scriptures and in the ACNA Canons.**
 - Did either you or your former spouse engage in unrepentant behavior violating the sacramental commitment of Holy Matrimony as taught in ACNA Canon Title II, Canon 7, Sections 1 and 4. (If so, please describe) _____



Signature of the Petitioner and Rector are required *before* submitting this questionnaire to the office of the bishop.

Petition for an Episcopal Declaration of Nullity

The undersigned, hereby, petitions the Bishop of the Anglican Diocese of the Great Lakes of the Anglican Church in North America to determine whether the bonds of a former legal union may be declared a nullity. It is the undersigned's sincere belief that the former legal union was not a true sacramental union and the petitioner solemnly affirms before God and His Church that the information contained in the questionnaire is both true and complete, to the best of the petitioner's knowledge.

Signature of Petitioner

Date

Name (printed)

I affirm that the petitioner is a member of my parish. I also affirm that I have reviewed the questionnaire and accompanying documents and believe the information contained therein to be true and complete based on my meeting with the petitioner and on corroborating evidence described or presented in the accompanying documents. Furthermore, I believe there is probable cause to refer the matter to the bishop for his consideration.

Signature of Rector

Date

Name (printed)

I have reviewed the Petition for an Episcopal Declaration of Nullity and the accompanying documents, and am persuaded that there is cause and hereby issue a Declaration of Nullity.

Signature of Bishop Ordinary

Date

Name (printed)

10.20.2025