



The Episcopal Diocese of Western North Carolina

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All marriages

When requesting permission from the Bishop of Western North Carolina to perform a first marriage or the blessing of a marriage in the Diocese, please include the following in a formal letter addressed to The Rt. Rev. José A. McLoughlin:

- The names of the couple.
- The wedding date.
- Location of the ceremony (Parish name and town, or venue name and address).
- That the marriage is a first marriage for both parties or otherwise that neither has dissolved a previous marriage.
- That the couple has received premarital Christian counseling and by whom.
- Where the marriage will be registered. (*You can register the marriage in your parish or a local parish. If you need contact information for a local parish, please request it in your letter.*)

Other enclosures:

- For marriages taking place in a parish, please include a copy of your written permission from the Rector or Priest in Charge. (*Note: If the marriage is to take place outside of a parish please notify the Rector or Priest in Charge of the nearest parish that you will performing a marriage in their neighborhood.*)
- Enclose a letter of good standing from the Bishop of the Diocese in which you are canonically resident unless you are officially licensed to officiate marriages in the Diocese of Western North Carolina.
- Enclose a signed Declaration of Intention form

Remarriage (after dissolution of marriage):

When requesting permission from the Bishop to perform a remarriage or the blessing of a remarriage in the Diocese of Western North Carolina please:

- Follow the requirements of remarriage of your Diocese and submit a copy of your Bishop's letter of permission/judgement.
- Follow the requirements listed above for all marriages but indicate that the marriage is not a first marriage.
- Complete the form Application for Permission to Remarry