

SPIRITUAL ASSESSMENT

1. What has been their religious background and training? Are there any serious flaws, gaps, or weaknesses?
2. How do their religious beliefs influence the way they live their daily lives?
3. How are their religious beliefs influencing the way they are preparing for their approaching marriage?
4. Are there any areas of religious difference between them? What religious tradition or beliefs are they planning to share with their children?
5. How will their religious beliefs help them in their relationship with God and with each other?
6. What place do religious worship services have in their lives? How frequently do they attend these services?
7. Do they consider marriage between a baptized man and a baptized woman to be a sacrament? What is their understanding of the word “sacrament?”
8. Do they understand that they will be the ministers of matrimony to each other for a lifetime? What implications and consequences do they see for themselves and for their marriage in this understanding?

PERSONAL ASSESSMENT

1. How long have they known each other? Have they been able to communicate effectively?
2. Do they show signs of growing maturity? What evidence or signs of this growth do they notice in themselves and in each other?
3. Do they know and understand the basic obligations and responsibilities of marriage? of parenthood? of employment as it relates to marriage?
4. Do they believe that they have adequate personal and financial resources to marry and begin a family? Do they in your judgment?
5. Has either party been under a doctor’s care for any mental or physical ailments? Explain.
6. Do they have now, or have they had in the past, any problems with abuse of alcohol or drugs?
7. Do they believe that they are compatible in personality, character, temperament, and feelings? Are they in your judgment?

PERSONAL ASSESSMENT (continued)

- 8. What is the quality of their relationship with their prospective in-laws?
- 9. Does either party have any children from a previous relationship? Explain.

CANONICAL ASSESSMENT

- 1. Has either party ever been married or attempted marriage or lived in a common law marriage? If so, has/have the former spouse (spouses) died, or a declaration of nullity been granted by the Roman Catholic Church? Has documentary proof been submitted?

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- 2. Are there any obstacles to their marriage from civil or canon law? (cf. canons 1071; 1082-1094 for the listing of diriment impediments and cases in which special permission is required). Have any restrictions included in a declaration of nullity been lifted?
- 3. Is the couple entering marriage freely, without force, coercion, social pressure, or peer pressure?
- 4. Do both parties intend to make a permanent, lifelong covenant with each other? Do they intend to be faithful to each other even in the face of serious and prolonged difficulties?
- 5. Are they open to children in their marriage?
