

*If the Lord
does not build
the house,
then in vain
do the builders
labor.*

(Psalm 127:1)

OUR TRIBUNAL STAFF

is here to serve you!

OFFICE HOURS:
8:30 AM - 5 PM
(closed for lunch 12PM - 1PM)

ADDRESS:
Tribunal, 2718 W. Woodlawn Ave.
San Antonio, TX 78228

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COLLECTING DOCUMENTS FOR PRENUPTIAL PACKETS



Revised September 2021

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Prenuptial Questionnaire

Your parish minister will guide you through a Prenuptial Questionnaire. Both Bride and Groom and your parish minister will need to sign and date the form.

Baptismal Certificate for a Catholic

Contact your church of baptism for a newly issued copy of your baptismal certificate with notations.

You can have the certificate sent directly to your home parish.

Proof of Baptism for other Christians

Any available documentation is appreciated.

Dispensations:

Your parish minister can obtain the necessary dispensation for a Catholic to marry an unbaptized person or to marry a non-Catholic, who is a validly baptized Christian. The Catholic party to the marriage will need to sign and date the form.

Evidence of Marriage Preparation

Any certificates or other proof of marriage preparation should be provided to your parish minister.

Affidavits of Free Status

Ideally, you will provide two witnesses for the Bride and two witnesses for the Groom, who can affirm your freedom to marry.

Your witnesses may be parents or brothers or sisters, or if necessary, longtime friends of over 10 years.

Witnesses should come to the parish to sign the documents in the presence of a parish minister.

If witnesses are out of town, they can present themselves to their local Catholic parish and sign in the presence of a parish minister close to where they live.

Marriage License

If you are planning to marry, you should obtain your marriage license from the county about 2 weeks prior to the date you plan to marry. Marriage licenses are valid for 30 days. This gives you a chance to accommodate any unforeseen delay in the ceremony.

If you are already married civilly, and you cannot locate your copy of the executed marriage license, you can obtain a copy from the county where you originally requested the license.

Are you planning to marry outside of the Archdiocese of San Antonio?

All documents should be submitted to your parish minister at least two months in advance of your wedding date. This is essential to allow the parish to mail your prenuptial packet with all the original documents to the Tribunal for review before the Tribunal sends your prenuptial packet to the diocese where the marriage will be celebrated. In turn, that diocese will send to the parish where the marriage will take place.

Note: Your parish minister should scan all documents in a pdf file. This is a safeguard to ensure delivery of all of the necessary documents is possible, even if there are unexpected issues with the mail.

For marriages taking place outside of the United States

To avoid any issues with mail delivery in foreign countries, the Tribunal uses private mailing services to send prenuptial packets to diocese outside of the United States.

Please provide \$100 to your parish to send along with your prenuptial packet to cover the cost of mailing. Dioceses in foreign countries may require you to marry civilly before marrying in the Church.

Please check with the parish where you will marry for their specific requirements.