

PAGELLA OF FACULTIES

MARRIAGE PREPARATION

Marriage Banns

Marriage Banns (c. 1067) refers to the public announcement of a proposed marriage. The purpose of the Marriage Banns is to offer the faithful time to exercise their obligation to reveal any impediments they know about to the pastor or local ordinary before the celebration of the marriage. (c. 1069)

It is the policy of the Diocese of Crookston that the Marriage Banns are to be published in the parish bulletin for at least three consecutive weeks at the beginning of the marriage preparation.

Sample bulletin announcements

MARRIAGES & BANNS ~ Please join us in praying for
all newly married couples & those preparing for the
Sacrament of Matrimony:

John Smith & Jane Jones
Exchange of Vows at 2pm on December 1

Johnny Deer & Sara Doe
Nuptial Mass at 4:30pm on December 28

Annually on the first Sunday in October, the following should be put in every parish bulletin:

Marriage Banns (c. 1067) refers to the public announcement of a proposed marriage. The purpose of the Marriage Banns is to offer the faithful the opportunity to exercise their obligation to reveal to the pastor any impediments to a proposed marriage (c. 1069). The following are impediments to Marriage:

- **Holy Orders.** Has the groom ever been ordained a deacon or a priest in the Catholic Church?
- Public **perpetual vow** of chastity in a religious institute. Has either the bride or the groom been a member of a religious community?
- **Crime.** (killing someone's spouse with the view of marrying the surviving spouse)
- **Age.** Will either the bride or the groom be under the age of 14 or 16 respectively, at the time of the wedding? (Civil law states a person needs the consent of the parents if under the age of 18.)
- Antecedent and perpetual **impotence.** Is the bride or groom incapable of sexual intercourse because of injury or some other medical or psychological condition?

- **Marriage.** Has either the bride or the groom been married previously?
- **Abduction:** refers to the kidnapping of a person who later becomes engaged to the kidnapper.
- **Consanguinity:** Blood relationship between persons who descend from a common ancestor in all degrees of the direct line (Father-daughter or Mother-son), and to up to the fourth degree of the collateral line (first cousins). Are the bride and groom related to one another by blood?

Collateral line are those relatives who are not part of direct lineage, but of the same ancestral line (such as cousins)

- **Affinity** (relationships because of marriage) any degree in the direct line (father-daughter or mother-son. Are the bride and groom related through marriage?
- **Adoption:** Are the bride and groom related through adoption?
- **Public Propriety** The impediment arises from an invalid marriage after the establishment of common life or from notorious or public concubinage (cohabitation between a man and a woman without marriage.) It nullifies marriage in the first degree of the direct line between the man and the blood relatives of the woman, and vice versa (c. 1093). Has the groom shared common life with his intended spouse's mother or daughter; or has the bride shared common life with her intended spouse's father or son?
- **One Man and One woman:** Sex change or reassignment. Has either the bride or groom lived as the opposite sex or had surgery to physically alter their gender? (c. 1056)

Other notes:

The Marriage Banns, in a positive way, reinforce the value and dignity of marriage.

The Marriage Banns should be published in the couple's parish where each was baptized (if located in the Diocese of Crookston) and the parish where they are most well known in the Diocese of Crookston (ex: where they are receiving marriage prep and/or where the wedding will take place).

Besides the publication of the Banns, it is also recommended that a blessing be offered to engaged couples and/or acknowledge them in some other way in the parish assembly.

It is important to note that any acknowledgement of a marriage engagement should not create an expectation of marriage. During the engagement, even after the publication of the Banns, the couple retains the freedom to decide *not* to get married.