

Explanatory Notes for Questionnaire
(points that are not self-explanatory)

8. If the father is an Eastern Rite Catholic, the candidate is also an Eastern Rite Catholic. Please note this in the baptismal record.

10. If only the mother is Roman Catholic, the candidate is also Roman Catholic.

11. If the candidate is seeking Baptism (full initiation), ask how certain he/she is of lack of Baptism? Who could testify that the candidate has never been baptized?

12. The candidate needs to get a certificate of Baptism, issued within the last six months, from the place of baptism and give it to you to be kept on file. If the candidate claims to be Eastern Rite Catholic or Eastern Orthodox and has received Baptism, he/she has already been confirmed and received First Holy Communion and needs, not sacraments, but catechesis. One coming from an Eastern Orthodox background needs to make a profession of faith. "Other" baptism may or may not be valid. It is important to know the name of the denomination. Even then it may be necessary to inquire how the baptism was done. For validity, the formula, "I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit," must be used while the one saying it pours water over at the least the head of the person baptized. Some of the denominations without valid Baptism are the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (Mormons), Jehovah's Witnesses, and Pentecostal Churches. If in doubt, call the Tribunal.

13. If the candidate is divorced, ask about the number of times and the circumstances of each. Use the "Determining the Correct Type of Marriage Case" questionnaire to determine what type of case(s) to present to the Tribunal. If there are two or more cases, they should be presented at the same time.

17. If the candidate is already civilly married, the spouse's religion and baptismal status will be useful in determining whether convalidation is needed and whether a dispensation or permission is needed for the same.

18. If the spouse or fiancé/e has been married before, an interview with that party using the "Determining the Correct Type of Marriage Case" questionnaire will be necessary. Non-Catholics are not bound to the Catholic form of marriage, and their marriages are presumed valid until a Tribunal determines otherwise.

19. Children below the age of reason (seven years) are to be baptized as infants. If a child under the age of seven has been validly baptized, the "Rite of Bringing a Baptized Child to the Church" in the *Rite of Baptism for Children* may be used. Children age seven and older are, after appropriate catechesis, to be initiated as adults using the rites of the RCIA. In the case of Full Initiation of those age seven and older, Confirmation is not to be delayed except for the gravest reasons. Belief that Confirmation should occur during high school is not a grave reason.

Statement of the Interviewer: In the interest of completeness and accuracy of the information received, the staff person conducting the interview is asked to give an estimation of the sincerity and truthfulness of the interviewee using the form provided.