

**The Dissolution of Marriage  
in Favor of the Faith**

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**Formally, the Favor of the Faith is defined as:**

A marriage entered by parties, of whom at least one is not baptized, can be dissolved by the Roman Pontiff in favor of the faith, as long as the marriage itself had not been consummated after both spouses received baptism.



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**A Favor of the Faith broadens the scope of the Pauline Privilege**

The Church has always believed, from earliest times, that it had the authority to grant the Pauline for the salvation of souls and to **define the limits**, as well as **to interpret** the privilege in a broader sense, thus giving...

A true freedom to the baptized party to enter a new marriage!



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### What's the difference? Pauline Privilege or Favor of the Faith?

- ▶ Pauline Privilege can be invoked only in the case of a marriage of (2) *certainly* non-baptized persons in a non-sacramental marriage – to allow for a subsequent sacramental marriage to a baptized Christian.  
However, in a Favor...
- ▶ If only (1) party is *certainly* non-baptized and the other party's baptism is doubtful, the case may be referred to the Holy See to request a dissolution in Favor of the Faith.
- ▶ NOTE: If both parties' baptismal status is doubtful, the case is addressed as a Formal case.

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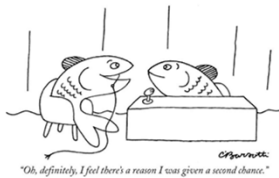
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Another type of marriage which may be presented for a FAVOR is:

*Marriages between two certainly unbaptized persons which for some reason cannot be treated as a Pauline Privilege case (e.g., Petitioner could not get the cooperation of the Respondent).*

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### Three Non-Negotiables

- ▶ There is no possibility of resuming the partnership of conjugal life (i.e., the couple is divorced).
- ▶ The Petitioner was not exclusively or predominantly the culpable cause of the breakdown of the conjugal life.
- ▶ The intended spouse is not at fault in provoking the separation of the spouses.

**PROOFS  
REQUIRED**




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### What Qualifies for a Favor?

*Marriages between a baptized non-Catholic and an unbaptized person*

- › The baptized non-Catholic party is the Petitioner (and is to be received into the Catholic Church)
- › The baptized non-Catholic party is the Petitioner (and does not wish to be received into the Catholic Church) but wishes to marry a Catholic
- › The unbaptized party is the Petitioner (and is to be baptized) and wishes to marry a Catholic
- › The unbaptized party is the Petitioner (and is not to be baptized). In this case, the favor is granted for the good of the Catholic party and any children that may be born of that union.

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### What Qualifies for a Favor?

*Marriages between a Catholic and an unbaptized person*

- › The Catholic party is the Petitioner (and intends to wed a baptized person)

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### Who grants the dissolution?



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**A Favor is a dissolution of a  
valid, natural,  
non-sacramental bond**

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