

How to read a marriage record

Column 1: Surnames of the bride and groom

Column 2: Date of marriage

Column 3:

Ego infrascriptus _____ missis _____ denuntiationibus et mutuo contrahentium consensus habito, per verba de praesenti

(I, the undersigned priest, without any impediments and with mutual consent, joined in marriage)

matrimonio conjunxi _____ ex loco _____

(Groom's name)

(from)

(Place of birth)

Filium _____ et _____

(son of)

(Names of groom's parents)

(and)

(Bride's name)

ex loco _____ Filiam _____

(from)

(Place of birth)

(daughter of)

(Names of bride's parents)

Praesentibus testibus _____ (Name of Witness)

(Witnesses to marriage)

_____ (Name of Witness)

_____ (Name of Priest)

Column 4: Space left for priest to record any comments regarding the marriage, i.e., any dispensations that had to be obtained before the marriage could take place. A dispensation is an act of excusing from the observance of a law of the Church, which is granted when there are special circumstances to justify non-observance of the law in a particular case.

Ex.,

Dispensazione a banns – dispensation from the required announcement of marriage banns

Dispensazione a cultus – dispensation obtained when either the bride or groom has requested to marry a non-baptized person