

## 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