

Wedding Fact Sheet

(Couples Resident Abroad)

Because you are living abroad (domiciled) and intend to remain so after the wedding, the marriage documentation has to be processed where you are living. The following are clear guidelines as to how to manage this documentation.

1. We recommend that you contact the **Registrar of Marriages in Castlebar** in advance.
2. The Parish Priest in Ballyhaunis should be given your **date of birth** and the **date on which Ballyhaunis ceased to be your permanent address** (this does not include college years). He will in turn send you your **Baptism (a) and Confirmation (b) certs** along with your **Letter of Freedom (c)** from this parish. This has to take place within one year of the wedding. Your fiancé/fiancée will need to do the same in his/her original home parish.
3. You will need to get a sworn affidavit from a Solicitor that both of you have never been married before. This document is called a **“Statutory Declaration Form” (d)**.
4. Your local priest will help you organise a **pre-marriage course**, after which you will receive a cert, and he will also help you to complete a **pre-nuptial inquiry form (or equivalent) (e)**.
5. Your local priest then collates the **documents, (a), (b), (c), (d), (e)**, and forwards them to your local chancery or **Bishop’s office**, where you are currently living.
6. These documents will be approved by your local Bishop’s office. From there they will be forwarded to **Sr. Mary Lyons, Chancellor, c/o Archbishop’s House, Tuam, Co. Galway** who will in turn forward them to the parish where the wedding ceremony is taking place.

If you have any further queries please contact ballyhaunisparish@gmail.com