

THE CHURCH OF IRELAND

GENERAL SYNOD 2009

ACT

To carry into effect a Resolution of the General Synod 2008 to amend Marriage One and Marriage Two in *The Book of Common Prayer* (2004)

WHEREAS a Resolution to amend *Marriage One and Marriage Two* in *The Book of Common Prayer* (2004) was duly passed in full Synod in Galway in the year 2008, by the required majorities and was duly transmitted to the Secretaries of all Diocesan Synods;

AND WHEREAS it is expedient that the said resolution should be carried into effect by a Statute;

AND WHEREAS in accordance with the provisions of Section 26(1) of Chapter I of the Constitution, leave was given for the introduction of a Bill in the General Synod of 2009;

BE IT ENACTED by the Archbishops and Bishops and the Clergy and Laity of the Church of Ireland in General Synod assembled in Armagh in the year 2009, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

In *The Book of Common Prayer* (2004) those parts entitled *Marriage One and Marriage Two* shall be amended in the following terms:

MARRIAGE ONE

- On page 406 under "*The priest says to the congregation*" delete the last two lines
"Therefore if any man ...hold his peace"
- On page 406 the rubric "*The minister says to the couple*" to read
"The minister may say to the couple".
- On page 406 after "*neither is their matrimony lawful*" insert the following rubric:
"[RI] Unless the declarations of no civil impediment have already been made by the couple prior to the marriage in the presence of the Registered Solemniser and the two witnesses the man and the woman each make the required declaration now."

I solemnly declare that I do not know of any civil impediment to my proposed marriage with ...”

- On page 415 delete “*On the day... costs incurred*” and insert the following:

“A couple must produce a Schedule of Marriage (NI) or a Marriage Registration Form (RI) to the officiating priest before a marriage can take place.”

MARRIAGE TWO

- On page 419 under the heading “THE MARRIAGE” delete the first two paragraphs “*The minister says to the congregation...you must declare it now*”.
- On page 419, following deletion of the first two paragraphs under the heading “*THE MARRIAGE*”, “*The minister says to the congregation... you must declare it now*” insert the following:

“The minister may say to the couple:

God, the judge of all
knows the secrets of our hearts;
therefore if either of you knows any reason
why you may not lawfully marry
you must declare it now.

[RI] Unless the declarations of no civil impediment have already been made by the couple prior to the marriage in the presence of the Registered Solemniser and the two witnesses the bride and bridegroom each make the required declaration now.

I solemnly declare that I do not know of any civil impediment to my proposed marriage with ...”

- On pages 429 and 430 delete “On the day of the marriage..... Marriage Law in the Republic of Ireland
- On page 429 and 430, following the deletion of ‘*On the day of the marriage...Marriage Law in the Republic of Ireland*’ insert the following:

“A couple must produce a Schedule of Marriage (NI) or a Marriage Registration Form (RI) to the officiating priest before a marriage can take place.”