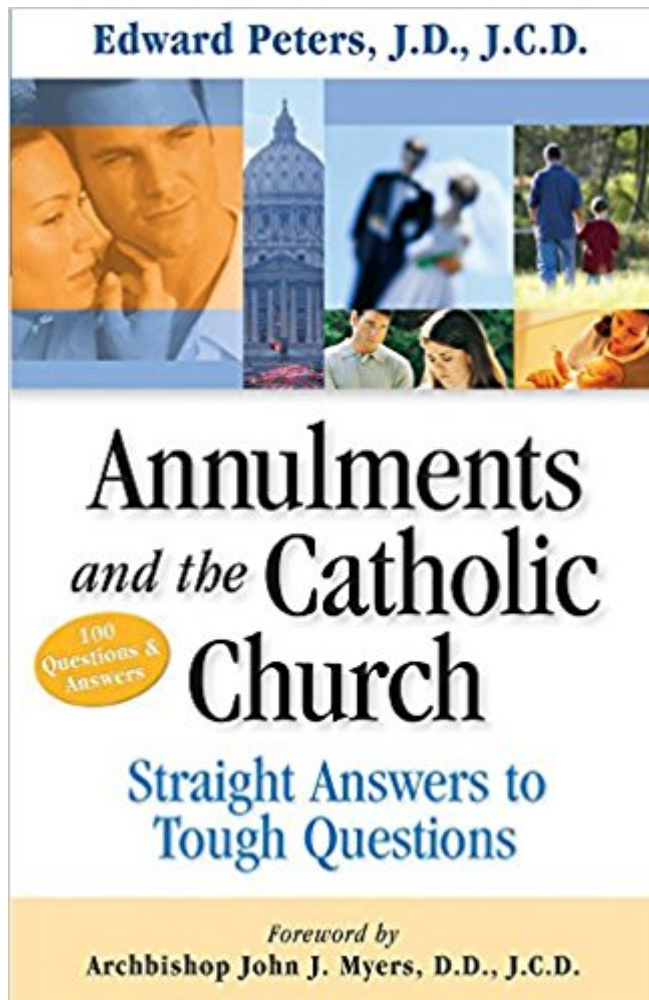


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# Annulments & The Catholic Church



## Synopsis

Few topics in the Catholic Church are more misunderstood than annulments. In *Annulments & the Catholic Church*, canon and civil lawyer Edward N. Peters answers common questions on annulments including: How is an annulment different from a divorce? Are there too many annulments granted today? Does the length of a marriage affect an annulment case? How do people begin the annulment process? Does a wedding between a Catholic and a non-Catholic require an annulment? Is alcoholism or physical abuse grounds for an annulment? Many questions abound regarding annulments, which unfortunately touch the lives of many in the Church. *Annulments & the Catholic Church* provides concise answers from an expert on this difficult and misunderstood topic.

## Book Information

Paperback: 168 pages

Publisher: Ascension Press (June 26, 1905)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1932645004

ISBN-13: 978-1932645002

Product Dimensions: 8.5 x 5.5 x 0.4 inches

Shipping Weight: 10.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.9 out of 5 stars 18 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #810,248 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #121 in Books > Law > Family Law > Divorce & Separation #2092 in Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Christian Living > Marriage #7123 in Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Catholicism

## Customer Reviews

I highly recommend this work as a text for Catholic high school marriage courses and for Pre-Cana programs. --Fr. Peter M.J. Stravinskis, S.T.D., Ph.D., Founding Editor, The Catholic Answer  
This is the 'must-read' book on annulments. It is the best book on the subject, bar none. --Jimmy Akin, Director of Apologetics and Evangelization, Catholic Answers

Dr. Edward N. Peters received his civil law degree from the University of Missouri at Columbia and his doctoral degree in canon law from the Catholic University of America. He has held a number of teaching and administrative posts, including Director of the Office for Canonical Affairs for the Diocese of San Diego as well as Defender of the Bond and collegiate judge on diocesan and

archdiocesan appellate tribunals. He currently is professor of canon law for the Institute for Pastoral Theology in Ypsilanti, Michigan. A frequent guest on Catholic media apostolates, Dr. Peters' articles and reviews have appeared in a wide variety of Catholic and secular publications. He maintains a canon law website, and serves as a consultant to many ecclesiastical institutions and persons. He and his wife Angela are raising six children.

Very helpful book! It was great to help me in writing an annulment as well as understanding the process of the Catholic Church.

Marriage Annulment in the Catholic Church affects a great number of Catholics on a very personal and painful way. It is not just the parties themselves who are affected, but their families, their friends, their fellow parishioners. This author, as both a canon lawyer and a civil lawyer, is uniquely qualified to deal with an explanation of the process. He outlines and explains. He hypothesizes and analyzes. The hypotheticals are the best part of this book. There does not seem to be a situation Dr. Peters does not touch on. This is an important book to have if you are considering entering into this annulment process either as a Petitioner, Respondent or Witness. The Glossary is very useful in going through the book, so have your finger tucked into it while you are going through the questions. Read all of the questions and answers before you enter into the process. Taken as a whole, they give you a feel for the legal system involved. Read the Introduction first. It sets a good stage for the rest of the book. I differ with Dr. Peters in one point that is an important one. He asserts that there is no blame attributed in an annulment process. In a perfect Catholic world that would be the case. But there are grounds for the annulment and they came from somewhere. It is true that the Church would prefer not to have this be a contentious process like a divorce. But in the end, it can be. Here however, it is an equal opportunity fault finder and both parties can be held to some accountability. As an Appendix, Dr. Peters has an essay on Annulments in America. It is clear that it is his opinion based on his vast experience. It is well-written and completely separate from his Q and A segment. It is interesting and should be taken for what it is. Considering Dr. Peters qualifications and experience, it is a valuable addition to this book.

The book covered all the important aspects of annulments. I just wish that more coverage was given to the reasons, or "grounds," that are accepted for granting an annulment. The book did have a section about this....I just thought it would be a little more extensive on this part.

After the wife of my youth left me I purchased this book to better understand the process I would be going through. I was so impressed with it that I bought additional copies for my witnesses and even the wife of my youth so that they would understand it as well. Ed Peters has managed to distill into simple questions and answers all the important information on this oft-misunderstood process. In addition to explaining the basic process this book also dispels most common misunderstandings regarding annulments. Annulments are NOT "Catholic divorce" as many mistakenly claim. This book will help you understand and correct such errors and explain why there is a fundamental and essential difference between divorce and the investigation into the validity of a marriage that the Catholic Church performs. Divorce is a grave matter and the acceptance of it by the ecclesial communities of our separated brethren in clear contradiction to our Lord's express commands is a great scandal. This book will better equip you to explain the truth. This book will also help to assuage concerns over alleged "abuses" of the process, especially here in the USA. After reading this book I no longer wonder if there might be something wrong in the process because of the high number of marriages found to be invalid here in America; instead I now wonder what is wrong with our culture that produces so many invalid marriages. Again, I cannot recommend this book highly enough. Buy it.

Important topic for Catholics - and others could use the correct information

A really useful book.

I am late to Catholicism and have no intention on remarrying. I sought an annulment just to get my past better organized. My local parish advocate was not very helpful and I got this book to self guide the process. Comprehensive guide to the process.

If you need to know, this will answer your questions.

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