
Holy Matrimony



The Canon of the Church requires that before matrimony is effected the following conditions should be met.

1. Both couples should be Christians to obtain the grace of God.
2. Both should belong to the Orthodox Tewahedo Church. If any one of them is not a member, he/she should first be a member of the Church.
3. No pre-marital sexual relationship is permitted.
4. Both should consent to be united in marriage.
5. No marriage is allowed within seven generation so as not to break the rule of kinship that forbids marriage between close family relations. (Lev. 18:6-21; Deut. 7:3-4).
6. As the marriage of Christians epitomizes the unity between Christ and the Church, it shall not be broken. (Eph. 5:32).
7. In our Church one to one marriage only is allowed.

8. Re-marriage cannot be conducted by any one of the two partners unless divorce is effected because of adultery or one of the partner dies. (Mt. 19:6-9).
9. The Sacrament of Matrimony is celebrated by bishops and priests.
10. Matrimony is not performed without Holy Communion. (Fetha Negest Article 24:899).
11. Parents should be consulted and their consent should be secured.