

Communications Office

30th December, 2011 136/2011

## CLARIFICATION

The Communications Office of the Archbishop's Curia denies the information published in an article on an online news portal which states that "since the introduction of divorce in Malta from 1 October 2011 couples are being asked if they agree with divorce and if they answer yes, they are told they are not fit for a Catholic marriage as the Church believes in the indissolubility of marriage."

It is common knowledge that the teaching of the Church states that marriage is for life. In the light of this teaching, during the pre-nuptial inquiries, spouses are asked whether they intend to live their marriage for life. This has been unchanged for many years and has not been changed since the introduction of divorce in Malta, as it has been stated online. Entering a Catholic marriage without the intention of living one's marriage for life renders the marriage null and void.