

**Complementary Norm with Regard to Canon 1083 §2
and the Minimum Age of Marriage**

Can. 1083 §1 A man cannot validly enter marriage before the completion of his sixteenth year of age, nor a woman before the completion of her fourteenth year.

§2 The Episcopal Conference may establish a higher age for the lawful celebration of marriage.

Complementary Norm

In accordance with the prescriptions of can. 1083 §2, the Irish Episcopal Conference hereby decrees that the minimum age for the lawful celebration of marriage in the Catholic Church in Ireland shall be eighteen years for both parties.

In particular cases, the local Ordinary may dispense from this decree after having consulted with the pastor(s) of the Catholic party or parties (cf. can. 88), and being in receipt of the necessary civil permission.

*This decree was promulgated through publication in ‘**Intercom**’ May 2013.*