WEDDING MUSIC GUIDELINES

Marriage is a sacrament, a visible sign of God’s grace. This is the day you affirm your love and commitment not only to each other, but also to the parish community. It is not a private ceremony, but a liturgy (a work of the people) in the truest sense of the word – one that involves your families and friends. May it ring with joyful song!

Because of the solemnity of this sacrament, only sacred, liturgical music is acceptable for your wedding ceremony or Mass. Show tunes, pop music, secular love songs, operatic songs, etc., are not considered appropriate for your wedding ceremony. Save them for the reception!

MUSIC FOR THE MASS/CEREMONY

MOTHERS/GRANDMOTHERS & BRIDAL PARTY PROCESSIONAL

Most selections will sound great with other instruments. Please choose one selection for the mothers/grandmothers processional and another for the bridal party processional. You may use the same selection for both if there is less than three bridesmaids. Please indicate your choice(s) here, by inserting the number 1 in the appropriate box for the mothers/grandmothers selection and the number 2 in the box for the bridal party (if using two pieces).

☐ Canon in D J. Pachelbel
☐ Air on a G String J.S. Bach
☐ Prelude to the Te Deum M. Charpentier
☐ Arioso (from Cantata No. 156) Bach
☐ Largo George F. Handel
☐ Jesu, Joy of Man’s Desiring J.S. Bach
☐ Spring (first movement: Allegro) Vivaldi
☐ Thanks Be To Thee Handel
☐ Air (from Water Music) Handel

BRIDE PROCESSIONAL – These can all be preceded by a trumpet fanfare if trumpeter is hired. Please choose one selection for bride’s processional.

☐ Trumpet Voluntary J. Clarke
☐ Trumpet Tune H. Purcell
☐ Prelude to the Te Deum M. Charpentier
☐ Joyful, Joyful L. van Beethoven
☐ Jesu, Joy of Man’s Desiring J.S. Bach
☐ Rondeau J. Mouret
☐ Trumpet Tune Stanley
RESPONSORIAL PSALM – The psalm between the two readings is sung by the cantor and the congregation. All of the choices are appropriate for other instruments to join in. Here are a few choices:

- Psalm 24. “I Have Loved You”  
  REFRAIN: I have loved you with an everlasting love, I have called you and you are Mine

- Psalm 33. “The Earth is Full of the Goodness of the Lord” 
  REFRAIN: The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord.

- Psalm 34. “Taste and See, the Goodness of the Lord.” 
  REFRAIN: Taste and see the goodness of the Lord, the goodness of the Lord.

- Psalm 103. “The Lord is Kind and Merciful” 
  REFRAIN: The Lord is kind and merciful; the Lord is kind and merciful. 
  Slow to anger, rich in kindness, the Lord is kind and merciful.

- Psalm 118. “This is the Day the Lord Has Made; Let Us Rejoice and Be Glad.” 
  REFRAIN: This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.

- Psalm 128. “Blest are Those Who Love You.” 
  REFRAIN: Blest are those who love you, happy those who follow you, blest are those who seek you, O God.

- Psalm 145. “I Will Praise Your Name, My King and My God.” 
  REFRAIN: I will praise your name, my King and my God. (2x)

PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS – This music occurs after the General Intercessions in the Mass. If there is no Mass, do not select from this category.

Solo selections: (choose one)
- [ ] Bist du bei mir. Johann Sebastian Bach
- [ ] Bridal Prayer. Roger Copeland
- [ ] The Gift of Love. Hopson

OR congregational hymn: (choose one)
- [ ] When Love is Found
- [ ] Make Me a Channel of Your Peace

OR choose one selection from Mothers/Bridal party selection list above:
My selection from the “Bridal Party Processional” list above is: ____________________

OR [ ] Musician’s choice: (If this option is chosen, all musicians will choose an appropriate selection)
COMMUNION HYMN – (skip if you are not having a full Mass) – A congregational hymn with a refrain is appropriate here. A vocal solo would also be a possibility as well. Please choose one:

**Congregational Hymn:**
- [ ] Taste and See
- [ ] Eat this Bread
- [ ] One Bread, One Body
- [ ] Gift of Finest Wheat
- [ ] You Satisfy the Hungry Heart
- [ ] You Are Mine
- [ ] On Eagle’s Wings

**OR**

**Vocal Solo:**
- [ ] Panis Angelicus Cesar Franck
- [ ] The Prayer Sager/Foster
- [ ] How Beautiful Twila Paris
- [ ] Ave Verum Corpus W.A. Mozart

**FLOWERS TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY** (optional)

_____ Yes, we are taking flowers to Mary’s altar.  _______ No, we’re not.

If you plan on making a visit to Mary’s altar, it will take place after the post-communion prayer, (or after the Nuptial Blessing if you’re not having a full Mass). Music during this moment is usually a setting of the Ave Maria or other appropriate hymn to Mary. If you answered “yes” here, choose one.

- [ ] Ave Maria. Franz Schubert
- [ ] Ave Maria. Parkinson
- [ ] Ave Maria. Gregorian Chant
- [ ] Ave Maria. Bach-Gounod

**RECESSIONAL –**

This is usually the wedding liturgy’s most festive and joyous of musical expressions. Please indicate one choice here.

- [ ] Rondeau J. Mouret
- [ ] Water Music: Hornpipe G F Handel
- [ ] Joyful, Joyful L van Beethoven
- [ ] Now Thank We All Our God J.S. Bach
- [ ] Psalm XIX B Marcello
- [ ] Trumpet Voluntary J Clarke
- [ ] Trumpet Tune H Purcell
- [ ] The Rejoicing Handel

* Anything NOT listed on this guide that is classical/secular may also be chosen.