

Wedding Music

Guidelines & Suggestions



Introduction

Welcome to St. Ann Parish! Planning a wedding may appear a huge task at times. Even the best multi-tasker can feel intimidated by all the work that needs to be accomplished before saying “I do”. I created this guide to assist you in making some of the very important decisions about the most significant part of the wedding journey- the sacrament. The policies and guidelines are in accordance with liturgical norms and standards as set forth in the General Instruction on the Roman Missal; hymn/music suggestions are selections from our hymnal or from other liturgical sources and are deemed appropriate by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. I hope you find this guide helpful.

Peace,

Brian M. Kozlowski
Director of Music & Liturgy

Policies

Music Selection: Vocal pieces should be religious in nature, based on scripture. Secular music expressing a couple’s romantic feelings for each other should be reserved for use at the wedding reception. These pieces may not be included as a part of the wedding liturgy/ceremony. Recorded music of any kind is deemed inappropriate for use during the liturgy as it lacks the authenticity required for a living liturgical assembly; admitting recorded music to the liturgy is viewed as introducing the cheap, the trite, or the musical cliché which cheapens the liturgy and exposes it to ridicule. The liturgy includes the entrance procession through the recessional procession.

Music Consultation: A meeting to discuss music selections should be scheduled with the Director of Music no later than one month prior to the scheduled wedding date but not earlier than three months prior to the wedding date. Contact the Parish Office to set up the appointment at 708-895-6700 ext. 21.

Rehearsals: Rehearsal with the musician or music director is an option; a fee of \$100 per 45-minute rehearsal is payable prior to or at the rehearsal. This includes any day-of-wedding rehearsal time more than 60 minutes prior to the actual wedding services. The music director does not attend wedding rehearsals unless requested.

Fees: The musician fee is \$250 which includes a cantor to lead in song. The fee is payable to the musician and cantor three weeks prior to the wedding date.

Sections of the Mass/Ceremony

***Denotes a section only in a Mass**

Preludes

The purpose of prelude music is to set the tone as the congregation gathers together in church. The music may be instrumental and/or vocal.

Mothers/Parents

Some couples wish to have music when the mothers/parents are ushered up the aisle. This music may be instrumental or vocal.

Processional

Couples often select one piece of music as the wedding party processes in and a second piece as the bride is ushered in. Music for both can be instrumental (traditional or contemporary march) or vocal.

Responsorial Psalm

Following the first reading, the congregation joins together in prayer lead by a cantor or reader. **Psalms selected from the marriage preparation books often do not have a coordinating musical setting- the settings listed in this booklet most closely reflect the tenor of the psalm printed in “Together for Life”.**

Unity Candle

(Optional) The symbol of the unity candle lighting is a brief action during the wedding; it is recommended that this music is instrumental.

*Presentation of Gifts**

Music will be played as the gift bearers offer the bread and wine to commence the Liturgy of the Eucharist. This piece may be instrumental or vocal, congregational or solo.

Sign of Peace

(Optional) If the couple elects to extend the sign of peace to family and congregation, music would be a good complement to maintain the spiritual and reverent atmosphere of the liturgy. Music may be instrumental or vocal.

*Communion**

Music is played as the couple and congregation receive the Holy Eucharist. A reflective piece may be used and should encourage communal participation.

Prayer to the Holy Family

(Optional) The bride and groom spend time in prayer and reflection to the Holy Family. Traditionally, a hymn to Blessed Mother was sung but hymns requesting a blessing for both the bride and groom would be appropriate.

Recessional

Instrumental or Vocal, Traditional or Contemporary march as the bride and groom, wedding party, and priest process out of church.

Music Selections

Following are approved suggestions and first line/refrain of the songs.

Mothers/Parents

Ave Maria

Hail Mary Gentle Woman *

Soft instrumental music selected by the musician

Responsorial Psalms (C numbers correspond with psalm in "Together for Life)

C1 Psalm 33 "The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord"

The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord – Howard Hughes

C2 Psalm 34 "Taste and see the goodness of the Lord."

Taste and See – James Moore*

C3 Psalm 103 "The Lord is kind and merciful"

The Lord is Kind and Merciful – Marty Haugen

C5 Psalm 128 "Blest are those who fear the Lord."

O Blessed are Those – Paul Inwood

C6 Palm 145 "The Lord is compassionate."

I Will Praise Your Name – David Haas

Above psalm settings may not read exactly as they appear in the "Together for Life" booklet but are the most common setting approved by ICEL.

Unity Candle

God Is Love – David Haas

"God is light, come live in the love of the Lord."

I Have Loved You – Michael Joncas

"I have loved you with an everlasting love, I have called you and you are mine."

Wherever You Go – Gregory Norbert *

"Wherever you go, I will go, wherever you live, so shall I live."

Sign of Peace

Bring Us Back To Your Peace – Julie Howard *

“Bring us back to your peace. Give us new life again.”

Let There Be Peace on Earth – Miller, Jackson *

“Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me...”

Peace is Flowing – Gregory Norbert

“Peace is flowing like a river, flowing out through you and me”

Prayer of St. Francis – Sebastian Temple *

“Make me a channel of your peace...”

Presentation of Gifts/Communion

Blest are They – David Haas*

“Rejoice and be glad, yours is the kingdom of God.”

Blest Are We – Vince Ambrosetti *

“Blest are we who hear the word of God...”

God is Love – David Haas

“God is love and all who live in love live in God...”

I Have Loved You – Michael Joncas

“I have loved you with an everlasting love, I have called you and you are mine.”

In the Breaking of the Bread – Michael Philip Ward*

“In the breaking of the bread, He is here with us again.”

Loving and Forgiving – Scott Soper*

“Loving and forgiving are you O Lord; slow to anger, rich in kindness”

Morning Has Broken – Eleanor Farjeon*

“Morning has broken like the first morning.”

Not for Tongues of Heaven’s Angels – Michael Joncas *

“May love be ours Lord...”

Taste and See – James Moore *

“Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.”

The Greatest Gift – James Marchionda *

“There are three things that last: faith, hope & love; the greatest is love.”

We Have Been Told – David Haas *

“Live in my love with all of your heart.”

You Are Near – Dan Schutte

“Yahweh, I know you are near, standing always at my side”

Prayer to the Holy Family

Ave Maria – Franz Schubert

Hail Mary Gentle Woman – Carey Landry

Processionals and Marches - Entrance and Recessional

All Creatures of Our God and King – Kirchengesänge, Draper

Canon in D – Pachelbel

Jesu Joy of Man's Desiring – Bach

Joyful Joyful We Adore Thee – Beethoven

Now Thank We All Our God – Rinckart, Crüger

Praise to the Lord - Gesangbuch

Prelude in D – Vandal

Trumpet Tune – Purcell

Trumpet Voluntary – Clarke

The common, popular wedding marches by Wagner and Mendelssohn have been banned by the Catholic Church in the U.S. for many years. The Wagner piece is associated with a bedroom scene and murder in the opera Lohengrin; the Mendelssohn piece was composed for “A Midsummer Night's Dream” which is a pagan comedy involving adulterous affairs. These compositions fail to achieve and reflect the sacred nature required in a sacramental liturgy. As such, we do not offer these compositions as an option.

Saint Ann Catholic Parish

A Future Full of Hope

3010 Ridge Road • Lansing, IL 60438

www.saintanncatholicparish.com