WEDDING MUSIC PLANNER

Bride’s Name: ________________________________________________________________

Groom’s Name: ________________________________________________________________

Contact Phone #’s: _____________________________________________________________

E-mail address(es): _____________________________________________________________

Date & Time of Wedding: ________________________________________________________

Priest Celebrating: _____________________________________________________________

Will grandparents be seated, if so how many? ______________________________________

Will parents be seated, if so how many? __________________________________________

Flower Girl or Ring Bearer: _____________________________________________________

Number of bridesmaids: ________________________________________________________

Number of groomsmen: _________________________________________________________

How will the wedding party be processing in (together, separate, etc.): __________________________________________________________

Fees are at a base of $125 per musician. Please contact the music director for any special requests. An advance receipt of a post-dated check is expected to reserve the musician(s) for the wedding day. This pre-payment is due no fewer than 4 weeks prior to the wedding and will be cashed after the ceremony.

Music selections should be communicated at least 4 weeks prior to the wedding. If you need to make changes, please contact the music director to make those arrangements.

Timothy Remsen, Music Director/Organist
1003 E. Victory Dr.
Savannah GA 31405
516-455-7579
Please review the following pages for assistance in preparing and selecting the music for your wedding ceremony. Complete this page and the first and submit to the music director as soon as possible.

Prelude Song(s) Desired *(optional)*:

______________________________________________________________________________

Seating of the Grandparents & Parents *(optional)*:

______________________________________________________________________________

Procession of Wedding Party *(can be same as parents’ seating)*:

______________________________________________________________________________

Bride’s Entrance:

______________________________________________________________________________

Responsorial Psalm:

______________________________________________________________________________

Gospel Acclamation Verse:

______________________________________________________________________________

Presentation of Gifts:

______________________________________________________________________________

Communion Song(s):

______________________________________________________________________________

Hymn to Mary *(optional)*:

______________________________________________________________________________

Recessional:

______________________________________________________________________________

*If you need any further assistance or have any other questions regarding appropriate music or suggestions, the music director is happy to help (contact information on page one of this guide).*
SELECTING AND PREPARING MUSIC FOR WEDDINGS INSIDE MASS

Principles for selecting appropriate Music for Weddings: The Musical, Liturgical, and Pastoral Judgments. The 1972 document, “Music in Catholic Worship,” provides guidelines for selecting appropriate music for any liturgical celebration. “To determine the value of a given musical element in a liturgical celebration, a threefold judgment must be made: musical, liturgical, and pastoral” (MCW 25). These principles may be summarized as follows:

I. **The Musical Judgment** Is the music itself of good quality? Does it have integrity as a piece of music? “Although all liturgical music should be good, not all good music is suitable to the liturgy” (29).

II. **The Liturgical Judgment** “Is the music’s text, form, placement and style congruent with the nature of the liturgy?” (LMT 29). Does the music “correspond to the sacred character of the celebration and the place of worship” (40)

III. **The Pastoral Judgment** “Does [this] music enable these people to express their faith, in this place, in this age, in this culture?” (39).

These principles, then, exclude many popular love songs. The suitability of texts sung at your wedding is an important consideration, as the words sung in the liturgy should “... always be in conformity with Catholic doctrine. Indeed, they should be drawn chiefly from Sacred Scripture and from liturgical sources” (Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy, 121.3). In addition, “the music selected must express the prayer of those who celebrate, while at the same time guarding against the imposition of private meanings on public rites” (Liturgical Music Today, 12).

“Married Christians share in the mystery of the unity that exists between Christ and his Church” (Rite of Marriage, 33, Nuptial Blessing).

Popular love songs often stress the couple only and exclude God and the Church community. While they may say good things, they often don’t say enough about the Author of Love and God’s ongoing role in a Christian marriage. The following principles may be used to judge the appropriateness of any text.

**Processional Music**
Multiple processional songs may be picked for the use of the seating of the parents and grandparents in addition to the processional for the entrance of the wedding party and bride.

**Sample Processionals**

| Trumpet Voluntary (Prince of Denmark's March) | Canon in D-Pachelbel |
| Largo in G-Vivaldi | Orchestral Suite No. 3-Bach |
| Canon in F-O'Neil Bros. | Jesus Joy of Our Desiring |
| Spring-Vivaldi | Rondeau |
| Sheep May Safely Graze-Bach | Trumpet Tune* |
| Cello Suite No. 1 in A-Bach | Fanfare* |
| Rigaudon | Grand Choeur Dialogue* |
| Canon in D-Pachelbel | Air from Water Music |

*might also be suitable as a recessional*
The Responsorial Psalm
The Responsorial Psalm immediately follows the First Reading. Since a psalm is a song, it is normally sung. Please note, the psalm is from Scripture and may not be replaced by a “song”.

Sample Responsorial Psalms
Psalm 24: Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face
Psalm 33: 12 and 18, 20-21, 22 The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord.
Psalm 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9 I will bless the Lord at all times. OR Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.
Psalm 40: Here am I Lord, I come to do your will
Psalm 89: Forever I will sing the goodness of the Lord
Psalm 98: All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God
Psalm 103:1-2, 8 and 13, 17-18a The Lord is kind and merciful. OR The Lord’s kindness is everlasting to those who fear him.
Psalm 113: Blessed be the name of the Lord forever
Psalm 116: Our blessing cup is a communion with the Blood of Christ
Psalm 118: Give thanks to the Lord for He is good, His love is everlasting
Psalm 145: I will praise your name forever, my King and my God OR The Lord is compassionate toward all his works

The Gospel Acclamation
This acclamation is always sung. The verse for the acclamation usually relates to the gospel.

Sample Gospel Acclamation verses
1 John 4:7b Everyone who loves is begotten of God and knows God.
1 John 4:8b, 11 God is love. If God loved us, we also must love one another.
1 John 4:12 If we love one another, God remains in us and his love is brought to perfection in us.
1 John 4:16 Whoever remains in love, remains in God and God in him.

Hymn for the Presentation of the Gifts
During this time, instrumental music may be played or a hymn may be sung by the assembly. The time required for this rite is brief, so you might choose a piece of appropriate length.

Sample Presentation Hymns
Lord of All Hopefulness Set Me as a Seal
Ubi Caritas (Where love is, there is God) The King of Love My Shepherd Is
Where Charity and Love Prevail The Summons
Where There Is Love Be Thou My Vision
You Are Mine Prayer of St. Francis
The Servant Song Deep Within

Communion Hymn(s)
The Communion Procession is one of the major processions of the Mass. While we process, we sing. This is a sign of our unity as we receive the sacrament of unity. We sing from the moment the priest first partakes of Holy Communion until the last person receives. Depending on the size of the assembly, one or more hymns may be required.
**Sample Communion Songs**

Blest Are They  
Bread of Life  
Bread for the World  
Come to the Banquet  
Come and Eat  
This Living Bread  
Eat This Bread  
Eye Has Not Seen  
Gift of Finest Wheat (You Satisfy the Hungry Heart)  
How Beautiful  
Love One Another  
One Bread, One Body  
Take and Eat  
Taste and See  
The Supper of the Lord  
Ubi Caritas  
Panis Angelicus  
Now We Remain

**Hymn to Mary**

Although giving flowers to Mary during the wedding is not a part of the Rite, many couples who have a devotion to Mary want to take a moment before the conclusion of the liturgy to offer prayers to Mary as they begin their life together. Couples often bring a flower to the statue of Mary in the church and offer prayers asking for her intercession. This beautiful act can be accompanied by a hymn to Mary.

**Sample Marian Songs**

Ave Maria  
Hail Mary, Gentle Woman  
Salve Regina  
On this Day, O Beautiful Mother  
Holy is His Name

**Recessional Music**

Recessional Music may accompany the procession of the bride and groom, the bridal party, and the liturgical ministers.

**Sample Instrumental Recessionals**

O God Beyond All Praising  
A Horn Pipe-Walton  
Minuet Finale-Handel  
Ode to Joy-Beethoven  
Prelude in Classical Style-Gordon Young  
Crown Imperial-William Walton  
Entracte to Act III of Saul-G.F. Handel  
Fanfare-Jean-Joseph Mouret  
Finale from Symphony #6-Charles Widor  
Finale from Symphony #1-Louis Vierne  
Hornpipe from Water Music-G.F. Handel  
Sinfonia to Cantata #29-J.S. Bach  
Toccata in G Toccata from Symphony #5-Charles Marie Widor  
Toccata in Seven-John Rutter  
Trumpet Voluntary- Purcell or Stanley  
Trumpet Tune #1-Aaron David Millier  
The Arrival of the Queen of Sheba-Handel  
The Rejoicing-Handel  
Te Deum-Charpentier