

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)
Largo in G-Vivaldi
Canon in F-O'Neil Bros.
Spring-Vivaldi
Sheep May Safely Graze-Bach
Cello Suite No. 1 in A-Bach
Rigaudon

Canon in D-Pachelbel
Orchestral Suite No. 3-Bach
Jesus Joy of Our Desiring
Rondeau
Trumpet Tune*
Fanfare*
Grand Choeur Dialogue*
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

Ubi Caritas (Where love is, there is God)

Where Charity and Love Prevail

Where There Is Love

You Are Mine

The Servant Song

Set Me as a Seal

The King of Love My Shepherd Is

The Summons

Be Thou My Vision

Prayer of St. Francis

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