

Choosing the Music for your Wedding at St. Joseph Catholic Church

Congratulations on your upcoming wedding!

The Catholic Church speaks of the loving and sacred purpose of marriage:

“Since God created him man and woman, their mutual love becomes an image of the absolute and unfailing love with which God loves all.”

We realize that you have many tasks to complete to prepare for your wedding, so this guide is to help you choose your music.

Here is what you need to do:

1. Read this guide.
2. Enter your desired music on the *Wedding Music Selection Form*. (Available on Church website)
3. Give your payments for the organist (\$250) and cantor (\$150) to the wedding coordinator at your rehearsal. However, if your wedding has been paid for with *the “all inclusive” plan*, you do not need to pay the musicians separately.

Some FAQ

- Generally, music for the Wedding Liturgy is of a *sacred nature*, and the words of hymns should *address God and be of a sacred nature*. If you have questions about music you would like to have included, contact Dr. Gregory Hamilton, via e-mail (see below).
- For your music, you will need at least an *organist* and a *cantor*.
- Dr. Hamilton plays for all weddings at St. Joseph as organist, unless he appoints a substitute.
- All weddings must have a St. Joseph Cantor... our members of the Cantor Guild, are highly dedicated, skilled, and sing all year round at every parish mass as volunteers. Having a St. Joseph cantor at your wedding ENSURES that the liturgy and music will be sung beautifully. Although not primary, Income is a consideration. The income from weddings is a traditional part of the income of the parish cantors and music director/organist.
- However, we do allow a visiting singer to sing one or two selections during the mass, subject to approval from the music director.
- We allow and can certainly help procure, trumpet players, woodwinds etc.
- We can provide a choir if desired for an additional cost.

We are committed to providing a beautiful Liturgy for your wedding, and remind you, that we are here to help in any way for your wedding preparation.

Dr. Gregory Hamilton
ghmus7@hotmail.com
832-545-0900

Choice of Music *Any of these choices can be left to Dr. Hamilton.*

Note: There are two kinds of weddings in the Catholic Church - *Word Service* and *Mass*. For a Word Service, often called a Ceremony, there is no Communion, and it is without a Mass.

You will need music for the following categories:

SM: *Saint Michaels’ Hymnal*

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Procession

Processions for Bridal Party:

Kanon in D – Pachelbel: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lgh68Swuako>

Jesu Joy of Man's Desiring – Bach: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=poVkt2JnCuo>

Arioso – Bach: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CDHUyI2_yyk

Processions for Bride:

Bridal March – Wagner: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a4sNsGePgs8>

Trumpet Tune – Jeremiah Clarke: <https://youtu.be/IyCJETwOb7U>

Trumpet Tune – Purcell: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IyCJETwOb7U>

Fanfare – Jean-Joseph Mouret: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rZldaaUksmo>

Gloria – For a Full Mass, (Normally the one sung during the current Liturgical Season)

Psalm Response (You may also consult your wedding booklet *Together for Life*)

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.*

Psalm 103:1-2, 8 and 13, 17-18a: *The Lord is kind and merciful.*

Psalm 112:1bc-2, 3-4, 5-7a, 7b-8, 9: *Happy are those who do what the Lord commands.*

Alleluia verse (Chosen by Music Director)

Offertory (*only in full Mass liturgy*)

Hymns: SM #534 *God is Love*; SM #627 *Love Divine*; SM #653 *O Father, All Creating*;
SM #806 *Ubi Caritas*; SM #832 *Where Charity and Love Prevail*; **OR** organ
selections may be performed

Communion (*only in Full Mass*)

Hymns: SM #408 *Adoro te Devote*; SM #426 *Alleluia Sing to Jesus*;
#437 *At The Lamb's High Feast*; SM #528 *Gift of Finest Wheat*; #570 *Humbly*
We Adore Thee OR any Eucharistic hymn

Presentation to Mary (optional)

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Ave Maria (many versions, including Schubert, Gounod or Gregorian chant);
SM #462 *Bring Flowers to Rarest*; SM #700 *On this Day*; SM #739 *Salve Regina* (any
selection in the Hymnal under “Blessed Virgin Mary”

Recessional

Wedding March – Mendelssohn: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UxUsmAL2HOo>

Final from Water Music – Handel: https://youtu.be/_4kMyoDP2hk

Fanfare – Jean-Joseph Mouret: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rZltaaUksmo>