

WEDDINGS AT ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

Congratulations on your engagement! I am so happy for you and look forward to guiding you through the process of helping you choose music for your wedding.

As the Director of Sacred Music at St. Mary's, I am here to help you in a couple of ways. First of all, I can help guide you in selecting music for your wedding mass or ceremony via an initial meeting and then email or phone. Secondly, if you wish, I can serve as your pianist/organist/cantor for your wedding or I will secure other professional musicians who can serve as your musicians.

MUSICIANS AND PAYMENT

The typical setup of musicians is an Organist/Pianist and a Cantor. The fee for these musicians is:

Organist/Pianist- \$200

Cantor- \$125

If the Organist/Pianist serves as the Cantor, they will be paid the full \$325. If you desire to have additional instrumentalists or vocalists at your wedding such as a violinist, flutist, etc., there will be an additional cost for each musician.

If you choose to use musicians from outside St. Mary's, the cost will be at their discretion. However, there will be a \$150 fee to St. Mary's staff to ensure that someone will be there to unlock the church, operate the sound system and parish instruments, and make sure things run smoothly during your wedding.

Typically, the music is not rehearsed at the wedding rehearsal. This time is meant for those in your family and wedding party to be instructed on how to move through the ceremony by the Wedding Coordinator. Musicians will rehearse outside of this time and will not be present at this rehearsal.

Payment for St. Mary's musicians is due by the rehearsal to either the priest or the wedding coordinator. Cash or check is accepted. Payment can also be dropped off ahead of time to the Parish Rectory, attn: Beth Luther.

PARTS OF THE MASS THAT NEED MUSIC

Prelude- Instrumental or sung music that begins 10-15 minutes before the start of Mass or ceremony. Usually chosen by pianist/organist unless specified otherwise.

Family/Bridal Party Processional- One or two instrumental songs to accompany parents, grandparents, bridal party, flower girl, ring bearer, etc. The size of your family/bridal party usually determines how many songs are played.

Bridal Processional- One song, about a minute in length, to accompany the bride as she walks down the aisle.

Gloria- I usually choose the setting that is most comfortable for musicians unless you have a strong preference. This will be omitted if not a full Mass.

Responsorial Psalm- There are seven Psalms from which to choose for a wedding in the Catholic Church.

Gospel Acclamation- This is the short song that prepares our minds and hearts for the Gospel reading. Most of the time this is prescribed unless you have a strong preference.

Presentation Hymn- This is the time following the Liturgy of the Word where the priest prepares the altar for Communion. At a wedding, this is a relatively short time, so we try to place a shorter hymn or instrumental music here. If you are not celebrating a full mass, this can be omitted.

Eucharistic Mass Parts- I usually choose whatever mass parts are most comfortable for musicians. There are many settings of these texts, and they can be omitted if not celebrating a full Mass.

Holy Communion- This is a song while the congregation is receiving Holy Communion. Usually a Communion Antiphon or a song whose text focuses on Communion is suggested.

Presentation to the Blessed Virgin Mary- This is optional. Often, the couple or the bride takes a moment to pray to Mary during the meditation time after Communion. A Marian hymn is appropriate here.

Recessional- This is the song that is played when the bride, groom, and wedding party process out of the church.

Postlude- This is an optional 10-15 minutes of instrumental music that is played while guests are leaving the church.

CHOOSING MUSIC

You have the option of choosing music on your own or I am happy to assist you by planning the music for you. There are guidelines given to us by the Church that we must keep in mind as we plan. Because Holy Matrimony is a Sacrament, the music we use must be of sacred style. If there is a secular song that you would like to incorporate, it can be played as an instrumental piece as a prelude before Mass begins, or you can incorporate it into your reception celebration after Mass.

Songs that best suit the wedding day are those with texts focused on love, love of God, praise, thanksgiving, and unity/communion. The following are some musical suggestions, and many of these songs can be placed in a different spot than specified.

Processionals

Adagio in G Minor (Albinoni)

Jesu, Joy of our Desiring (J.S. Bach)

Canon in D (Pachelbel)

Prelude in C (J.S. Bach)

Air on the G String (J.S. Bach)

Bridal Chorus (Wagner)

Sarabande from French Suite V, BWV 816 (J.S. Bach)

Trumpet Tune (Purcell)

Hymns for Processionals/Recessionals/Presentation

Be Thou My Vision (Trad.)

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling (Trad.)

O God, Beyond All Praising (Trad.)

All Creatures of our God and King (Trad.)

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee (Trad.)

Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow (Trad.)

Psalms

Psalm 33- *The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord.*

Psalm 34- *I will bless the Lord at all times.*

Psalm 103- *The Lord is kind and merciful.*

Psalm 112- *Blessed the man who greatly delights in the Lord's commands.*

Psalm 128- *Blessed are those who fear the Lord.*

Psalm 145- *How good is the Lord to all.*

Psalm 148- *Let all praise the name of the Lord.*

Marian Songs for Presentation to the Blessed Virgin Mary

Ave Maria (Schubert)

Ave Maria (Bach/Gounod)

Ave Maria (Lindley)

Ave Maria (Arcadelt)

Ave Maria (Dvorak)

Songs/Hymns for Communion

Ubi Caritas (Trad.)

Panis Angelicus (Aquinas)

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus (Trad.)

Ave Verum Corpus (Mozart)

Down in Adoration Fall (Tantum Ergo) (Aquinas)

Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord (Maher)

Fairest Lord Jesus (St. Elizabeth)

Father, We Thank Thee Who Hast Planted (Trad.)

Soul of My Savior (Trad.)

One Bread, One Body (Foley)

I Am the Bread of Life (Toolan)

Recessionals

Prelude in F (J.S. Bach)

Bourree (J.S. Bach)

Fantasia in D minor (Handel)

March in D (Van den Plas)

Prelude in C (Vogler)

Te Deum Prelude, H. 146 (Charpentier)

Wedding March (Mendelssohn)

Praeludium in Eb, BWV 815a (J.S. Bach)

WEDDING MUSIC FORM

Name of Bride & Groom _____

Date of Wedding _____

We would like to hire a St. Mary's musician to be our Organist/Pianist:

Yes No

We would like to hire a St. Mary's musician to be our Cantor:

Yes No

We would like to hire an additional musician:

Yes No

If yes, please indicate what instrument/voice _____

Please indicate if you would like to coordinate with the Director of Music to choose the music for your wedding OR if you would simply like to give your general preferences and then let the Director of Music choose the specifics.

_____ We would like to choose some or all of our own music.

_____ We would like to give our general preferences and then have the music set for us.

We would like to have the Presentation to the Blessed Virgin Mary in our wedding:

Yes No

Please return this form *no later than 6 weeks prior to your wedding date* to Beth Luther either by email (music@stmarysminooka.com), text (773.895.5051), or by dropping it off at the Parish Rectory, attn: Beth Luther. Thank you, congratulations, and I look forward to working with you to provide beautiful music for your wedding!