

WEDDING MUSIC GUIDELINES

Church of St. Mary - Closter, NJ

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INTRODUCTION

Congratulations on your wedding! The Church of St. Mary is pleased to offer the highest quality sacred music for your wedding Mass or ceremony. You are able to draw from a wealth of sacred and classical music that spans from Gregorian chant to contemporary compositions. Please note, that in keeping with guidelines issued by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), no secular or recorded music is permitted during any church ceremonies, including weddings.

As part of the church fees for your wedding, you are guaranteed an organist/pianist and a singer, whose joint role is to lead the congregation in song. The Director of Music can also arrange for additional musicians, including a choir or instrumentalists, such as a violinist, flautist, trumpeter, or harpist, subject to availability and additional fees.

If you are interested in supplying your own organist, pianist, singer, choir, or instrumentalists, you are obligated to seek approval from the Director of Music before contracting with other musicians. Please note, that if you bring in your own keyboardist, you are required to pay the Church's organist, regardless. However, the Director of Music is more than willing to arrange for family members or close friends to play or sing at an appropriate point during the Mass, for no extra cost, with all musical selections made with the Director's approval.

If you are unsure if your congregation is familiar with Catholic liturgy or music, the Church is glad to provide worship bulletins to those in attendance, tailored specifically for your wedding. Please speak with the Director of Music if you are interested, so that the Music Office can provide you with the format and a draft for your approval before the worship bulletins are printed. We only ask you to cover the cost of paper. If you are having an outside wedding planner or consultant print worship aids, such aids must be proofread for liturgical correctness and approved by the Director of Music before they are printed.

In preparation for your wedding, the Music Office has prepared a list of approved organ and vocal music. If you would like to hear live samples of the music to help you decide, the Director of Music is glad to meet with couples at a mutually agreeable time. If there is a piece or song that is not on the list, but that you would like sung, please inquire. All requests will be evaluated for compliance with the USCCB's guidelines and for theological correctness. Please complete the attached music selection sheet and return it to the Music Office no later than one month before your ceremony.

Lastly, please note that the fees for your wedding must be provided to the priest by the wedding rehearsal. If the fees have not been provided to the musicians prior to the start of your wedding, the musicians will not play. If you have any questions or concerns regarding your wedding or the music, please contact the Director of Music via phone or email.

CONTACT INFO

Date and Time of Wedding	
Bride's Name	
Groom's Name	
Preferred Phone Number	
Preferred E-Mail	

CIRCLE ONE: MASS OR CEREMONY

ARE YOU HAVING WORSHIP AIDS PREPARED? _____

MUSIC SELECTIONS

Optional Instrumental Music for the Mothers/Bridesmaids (from Section A)	
Instrumental Music for the Bride (from Section B)	
Gathering Hymn (from Section C)	
Responsorial Psalm (from Section D)	
Offertory (Mass Only, from Section E or C)	
Communion Song (Mass Only, from Section F)	
Flowers to the BVM (from Section G)	
Recessional March (from Section H)	

MUSIC OPTIONS

Below is a list of instrumental pieces and hymns that are commonly used and appropriate for weddings. We encourage you to select hymns from the pew hymnals, *Breaking Bread*, to facilitate the congregation's ability to participate in song and prayer.

Section A- Optional Instrumental Music for the Mothers/Bridesmaids

Bach- *Air on the G String*

Handel- *Largo*

Bach- *Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring*

Pachelbel- *Canon in D*

Section B- Instrumental Music for the Bride

Bach- *Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring*

Purcell- *Trumpet Tune*

Clark- *Prince of Denmark's March*

Stanley- *Trumpet Tune in D*

Mouret- *Rondeau*

Wagner- *Bridal Chorus (Here Comes the Bride)*

Pachelbel- *Canon in D*

Section C- Hymn and Songs

All creatures of our God and King

Love divine, all loves excelling

Amazing Grace

Morning has broken

For the Beauty of the Earth

Now Thank We All Our God

Hear us now, O God our Father

O God, Beyond All Praising

Joyful, joyful, we adore thee

Praise to the Lord

Section D- Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 34: Taste and see the goodness of the Lord

Psalm 112: Blessed the man who greatly delights in the Lord's commands

Psalm 128: Blest are those who love you

Section E- Offertory

Prayer of St. Francis

The Servant Song

The King of Love, My Shepherd Is

Where There Is Love

Section F- Hymns and Songs Appropriate for During Communion

Eat this Bread

I am the Bread of Life

Gift of Finest Wheat

One Bread, One Body

Here I am, Lord

Section G- Flowers to the Blessed Virgin Mary

Ave Maria- Gounod

Ave Maria- Schubert

Section H- Recessional

Clark- *Prince of Denmark's March*

Mouret- *Rondeau*

Handel- *Hornpipe*

Mendelssohn- *Wedding March*

Handel- *The Rejoicing*

Purcell- *Trumpet Tune*

Marcello- *Psalm XIX*

Stanley- *Trumpet Tune in D*