

# **Music for a Catholic Wedding**

## **Choosing the Music**

A list of suggested selections can be found on the back of this sheet. There are six parts of the ceremony that you will need to choose music for. These are the bridesmaids' procession, the bridal procession, the responsorial psalm, the offertory piece, the communion hymn, and the recessional piece. A song, or solo, during a veneration of Mary is optional as well. In addition, the responsorial psalm is sung. Common psalms are psalms 33 and 34.

If you wish to have other hymns or songs not listed, please contact the Music Director for approval.

While there are many hymns and songs appropriate for the wedding ceremony, there are many that are not. If you would like a song that is not appropriate for the wedding ceremony, in order to ensure the Mass or ceremony is accompanied by only sacred music, it may be better to have this song played at a reception or luncheon.

## **Church Musicians**

The musicians at the church are well trained and capable of providing music for the wedding ceremony. It is preferred that the Music Director coordinates the musicians of the wedding. If you have chosen your songs already, or need help in doing so, reach out to the Music Director at the contact number or email on the back of this sheet.

## **Organist**

The Music Director is given the right of first refusal in deciding whether or not to play a wedding. The Music Director also may arrange for a substitute to play, if need be. The fee for an organist is \$250.00.

## **Guest Organist**

If you wish to have a guest organist play, they must be approved by the church Music Director. It is preferred that guest organists are not used, but exceptions may be made. In the event a guest organist plays, the church Music Director still must receive their fee.

## **Cantor**

In addition, a cantor is required for all wedding ceremonies and the Music Director will furnish a vocalist. Unless you wish to have a guest sing, the fee for the cantor is \$150.00. If you would like for a guest to sing part, or all, of the wedding ceremony, please reach out to the Music Director as soon as possible in order for details to be worked out. A guest cantor should be familiar with the Catholic Mass, a trained vocalist, and able to lead a congregation. Only trained singers should serve as cantors in the wedding ceremony.

If the Music Director must rehearse with a guest cantor on a separate day from the wedding ceremony, a \$75.00 fee will need to be paid to the Music Director. This is only to ensure that things run smoothly and effectively.

## Payment

Payment should be made to the Music Director in cash at least one week before the wedding, or check at least two weeks before. This payment should include the fee for the organist and cantor (\$400.00). You can deliver a sealed envelope to the parish secretary and have it addressed to "Joseph O'Brien."

## Suggested Music

For the music listed below, there are recordings attached. These were made available by other organists, using various arrangements and varying instruments. The recordings provide an accurate representation of the pieces, songs, and hymns, although at your ceremony they will be performed by only the organ at the church and a cantor if needed.

### Bridesmaids' Processional

(Recordings: [https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLo2Aj\\_fXrYEW\\_f7s1ZN3v0BlmNtb57ZD](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLo2Aj_fXrYEW_f7s1ZN3v0BlmNtb57ZD))

"Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring" – J. S. Bach

"Canon in D" – Pachelbel

### Bridal Processional

(Recordings: [https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLo2Aj\\_fXrYEb4sUa0yM8fL\\_BRWcZFTVWP](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLo2Aj_fXrYEb4sUa0yM8fL_BRWcZFTVWP))

"Bridal Chorus" – Wagner

"Trumpet Voluntary" – Clarke

"Musique Royale" – Delalande

"Serenade" – Clarke

"Processional Rigaudon" – Campra

"Trumpet Tune" – Purcell

### Offertory Music

(Recordings: [https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLo2Aj\\_fXrYEZsJdINI6Z88MXVds8RRWJ8](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLo2Aj_fXrYEZsJdINI6Z88MXVds8RRWJ8))

"The Gift of Love" – Hopson

"Love Goes On" – Farrell

"O God, You Search Me" – Farrell

"I Have Loved You" – Joncas

"Hear Us Now, Our God and Father"

"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

## Communion Music

(Recordings: [https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLo2Aj\\_fXrYEBGngQuBPWEQJ5n253yEIFM](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLo2Aj_fXrYEBGngQuBPWEQJ5n253yEIFM))

“Gift of Finest Wheat”  
“Panis Angelicus” – Franck  
“One Bread, One Body” – Foley  
“Taste and See” – Moore  
“Hear Us Now, Our God and Father”  
“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

## Recessional Music

(Recordings: [https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLo2Aj\\_fXrYEBlxmbyJNeOLvFCytQBI30E](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLo2Aj_fXrYEBlxmbyJNeOLvFCytQBI30E))

“Te Deum” – Charpentier  
“Rondeau” – Mouret  
“Marche Royal” – Lully  
“Ode to Joy” – Beethoven  
“Wedding March” – Mendelssohn  
“Trumpet Voluntary” – Clarke  
“Processional Rigaudon” – Campra  
“Trumpet Tune” – Purcell  
“Hornpipe” – Handel

## Approved Responsorial Psalms

Psalms 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.”

Please reach out if you need help!

Joseph O’Brien, Music Director  
(215) 327-0400  
[jobrien@holyfamilychurch.org](mailto:jobrien@holyfamilychurch.org)