



Order of Celebrating Matrimony: Music Guidelines
Our Lady, Queen of the Most Holy Rosary Cathedral
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This informational packet includes music guidelines for Celebrating Matrimony at Rosary Cathedral. Kindly read them before beginning to select music for your wedding. Listen to the various music suggestions by clicking on the links on the list below. Then fill out the online planning form. An email confirmation that your selections have been received will be sent to you. It is best to complete your selections at least 6 to 8 weeks before your wedding

The music suggestions are in a variety of styles - classical, folk melodies and contemporary - but you will note that all of the words are either from the bible or other sacred texts. *While the musical suggestions are not the only ones permitted for weddings at the cathedral they represent the type of music that is appropriate.*

If you wish to have additional instrumentalists, such as trumpet or strings, please indicate this on the form. The earlier a request for *additional* musicians is made, the better.

If you have any questions as you plan, please contact Paul Monachino, cathedral Music Director at (419) 244-5182. A planning meeting can be scheduled if you wish.

- ❖ The marriage ceremony is a liturgy of the Church. The nature and focus of all Catholic liturgy is the community gathered to celebrate God's presence. Before the gathered assembly, the couple celebrate a *sacrament of the Church* which is a reflection of Christ's everlasting love for the world.
- ❖ Music chosen must be appropriate to a *liturgical* celebration. The music enhances but does not interrupt the rites. Only sacred texts set to artistically sound music will serve to enhance the liturgical action. This includes the prelude music that prepares those assembled for worship.
- ❖ Secular love songs focus on romantic love between two people and not the fundamental symbol of Christian marriage, God's love for us. Also, the personal dialog implied in these songs ignores the communal nature of liturgy. These

songs are better suited to the atmosphere of the reception and are not permitted for the wedding liturgy.

- ❖ Popular inspirational songs from movies, stage or recordings are often beautiful and uplifting but not specifically sacred in nature and are not suited to a liturgical celebration.
- ❖ Consult with the cathedral Music Director about musical selections you are considering before making any final decisions.
- ❖ The *Bridal Chorus from Lohengrin* by Richard Wagner and the *Wedding March from A Midsummernight's Dream* by Felix Mendelssohn may not be used for weddings at the cathedral.

Musicians for your wedding

Rosary Cathedral provides an organist and cantor for wedding liturgies. Their services are included in the cathedral wedding fee. The cathedral Music Director schedules all musicians.

Organist

The organist provides music during the prelude, processional and recessional, accompanies the cantor on the organ or piano and leads the congregation in the musical parts of the liturgy.

Cantor

The cantor sings the musical portions of the wedding liturgy and assists the assembly in their sung responses. Additionally, they provide vocal solos before and during the ceremony.

Other Instrumentalists

While the cathedral pipe organ is suitable for all the instrumental music at your wedding liturgy, the use of additional instruments can add another musical dimension to the ceremony. The use of the trumpet is especially festive, but other instruments such as harp, strings, flute or oboe are also very effective. The organist can accompany additional instrumentalists on the organ or piano (Fees: \$125.00 - 150.00)

*(Instrumentalist's fees vary and should be discussed and agreed upon when you book the musician. The cathedral Music Director can assist you with these arrangements. Payment for the services of additional musicians are **not** included in the cathedral wedding fee.)*

Vocal Solos for the Wedding

(If desired, you may choose 2 or 3 selections to be sung during the prelude)

[The Gift of Love](#)

[God In the Planning](#)

[Bridal Prayer](#)

[Bow Down Your Ear](#)

[Love Is the Sunlight](#)

arr. by Hal Hopson

(SLANE) John Bell

Roger Copeland

Aaron Miller

Gaelic melody (Morning Has Broken)

The Introductory Rites

The couple and wedding party process to the altar accompanied by instrumental music.

[Procesion Alégre](#)

[Air](#) from Suite # 3 ('on the G string')

[Lyric Procesion](#)

[Trumpet Voluntary](#)

Garry Cornell

J.S. Bach

Raymond Haan

Jeremiah Clarke

In place of instrumental music, an Entrance Song may be sung during the procession.

If you wish to include this option the Director of Music can suggest appropriate selections.

After a greeting by the priest the **Glory to God** is sung if the wedding is celebrated **within Mass**.

The Liturgy of the Word

This part of the liturgy consists of readings from scripture, a responsorial psalm, the wedding rite and the prayer of the faithful.

The **Responsorial Psalm** is a response to the first reading, with verses sung by a cantor and a brief refrain to be sung by all. The appointed psalms from the *Order of Celebrating Matrimony* are found on page 5 & 6 of this packet.

The **Gospel Acclamation** is a sung "alleluia" announcing the proclamation of the Gospel reading and is sung by the cantor and assembly.

[Alleluia in C](#)

[Festival Alleluia](#)

[Chant mode VI](#)

[Celtic Alleluia](#)

Howard Hughes

James Chepponis

traditional

Fintan O'Carroll

Following the Consent and Giving of Rings, all present may sing a hymn expressing praise and joy.

If you wish to include this option the Director of Music can suggest appropriate selections.

The Liturgy of the Eucharist

If your wedding is celebrated within Mass, the liturgy continues with the Eucharistic Prayer and Communion Rite. The Sanctus (Holy, Holy), Mystery of Faith and Amen are sung by all.

The communion rite is the "coming together as one" to receive the Body and Blood of Christ. The "Lamb of God" is sung. During the communion procession a song is sung by all. Here are some suggestions:

[God Is Love](#)

[Ubi Caritas](#)

[Love One Another](#)

[As the Bread of Life Is Broken](#)

Richard Proulx

Taize/Berthier

James Chepponis

THAXTED/Chepponis

Recessional

The recessional accompanies the procession of the wedding party out of the church at the conclusion of the liturgy.

Rondeau
Hornpipe
Hymn of Joy

Jean Joseph Mouret
George Frederick Handel
Michael Burkhardt

Preparing a Worship Program for the Wedding Ceremony

Some couples chose to have a worship aid printed to be used at the wedding ceremony. If properly prepared, a worship aid encourages active participation in the spoken and sung prayers of the liturgy and helps those who are unfamiliar with the Catholic liturgy to understand its basic structure. A worship aid also provides a thoughtful remembrance of the occasion.

When preparing the worship aid:

- The entire worship aid, including the cover, should reflect the sacred nature of the ceremony.
- avoid printing too much, as the worship aid may then become confusing. Do not print the texts of prayers, readings, or vows. These should be listened to, not read by the assembly. Print major headings in bold or decorative type so they stand out. A smaller print may be used for the elements of each rite under the major headings. (*see the following page for an example*).
- The Order of Matrimony is to be printed first, since this is the most important part. Avoid printing the names of any ministers within the Order of Matrimony. The list of ministers, such as members of the wedding party, readers, musicians, and family, is printed on the last page.
- An invitation might also be placed at the very beginning of the worship aid inviting the assembly to join in the sung and spoken prayer of the wedding ceremony.
(Example) *We are happy that you have joined us for the celebration of our wedding. We invite you to pray with us in speech and song as you witness and support the covenant we make today.*
- To encourage everyone to sing, print both the words and the music of hymns, refrains, and acclamations.
- Any time music and/or words to hymns are printed, copyright permission needs to be secured. Permission to reprint music from the major Catholic publishers can be secured through *OneLicense.com*. The parish musician will be able to assist couple with the permission process.
- It is recommended that the music director or some other knowledgeable person proofread the program before it is printed. This will help avoid any mistakes.
- On the following page is the standard Order of Celebrating Matrimony Within Mass and Without Mass. Consult the Director of Music or the priest or deacon officiating your wedding if you have any questions about the exact order.

**Order of Celebrating Matrimony
Within Mass**

Prelude Music

INTRODUCTORY RITES

Entrance Procession
Sign of the Cross & Greeting
Glory to God (sung)
Opening Prayer

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Old Testament Reading
Responsorial Psalm (*print response*)
New Testament Reading
Gospel Acclamation
Gospel Reading
Homily

Celebration of Matrimony

Consent (*Vows*)
Blessing and Giving of Rings
Hymn or Canticle of Praise (*optional*)
Universal Prayer
Response: Lord, hear our prayer.

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Presentation of the Gifts (*Offertory*)

Eucharistic Prayer
Holy, Holy
Mystery of Faith
Amen

Lord's Prayer
Nuptial Blessing
Sign of Peace
Distribution of Holy Communion
Communion Song
Prayer after Communion

CONCLUDING RITES

Blessing
Recessional

**Order of Celebrating Matrimony
Without Mass**

Prelude Music

INTRODUCTORY RITES

Entrance Procession
Sign of the Cross & Greeting
Opening Prayer

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Old Testament Reading
Responsorial Psalm (*print response*)
New Testament Reading
Gospel Acclamation
Gospel Reading
Homily

Celebration of Matrimony

Consent (*Vows*)
Blessing and Giving of Rings
Hymn or Canticle of Praise (*optional*)
Universal Prayer
Response: Lord, hear our prayer.
Nuptial Blessing

CONCLUDING RITES

Blessing
Recessional

C-1
Psalm 33

Response:
The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord.

Blessed the nation whose God is the Lord,
The people he has chosen as his heritage.
Yes, the Lord's eyes are on
 those who fear him,
who hope in his merciful love.

Response
Our soul is waiting for the Lord.
He is our help and our shield
In him do our hearts find joy.
We trust in his holy name.

Response
May your merciful love be upon us,
as we hope in you, O Lord.

Response

C-2
Psalm 34

Response:
Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

I will bless the Lord at all times,
praise of him is always in my mouth.
In the Lord my soul shall make its boast;
the humble shall hear and be glad.

Response
Glorify the Lord with me:
together let us praise his name.
I sought the Lord, and he answered me;
From all my terrors he set me free.

Response
Look toward him and be radiant;
Let your faces not be abashed.
This lowly one called; the Lord heard,
and rescued him from all his distress.

Response
The angel of the Lord is encamped
Around those who fear him, to rescue them.
Taste and see that the Lord is good.
Blessed the man who seeks refuge in him.

Response

C-3
Psalm 103

Response:
The Lord is kind and merciful.

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
And all within me, his holy name.
Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and never forget all his benefits.

Response
The Lord is compassionate and gracious,
slow to anger and rich in mercy.
As a father has compassion on his children,
The Lord's compassion is on
 those who fear him.

Response
But the mercy of the Lord is everlasting
upon those who hold him in fear,
upon children's children his righteousness,
For those who keep his covenant.

Response

C-4
Psalm 112

Response
Happy are those who do what the Lord commands.

Blessed the man who fears the Lord,
Who takes great delight in his
 commandments.
His descendants shall be powerful on earth;
The generation of the upright will be blest.

Response
Riches and wealth are in this house;
His righteousness stands firm forever.
A light rises in the darkness for the upright;
He is generous, merciful, and righteous.

Response
It goes well for the man who deals
 generously and lends,
Who conducts his affairs with justice.
He will never be moved;
Forever shall the righteous be remembered.

Response
He has not fear of evil news.
With a firm heart, he trusts in the Lord.
With a steadfast heart he will not fear;
He will see the downfall of his foes.

Response

Openhanded, he gives to the poor;
His righteousness stands firm forever.
His might shall be exalted in glory.

Response**C-5****Psalm 128****Response**

Blessed are those who fear the Lord.

Blessed are those who fear the Lord,
and walk in his ways!
By the labor of your hands you shall eat.
You will be blessed and prosper.

Response

Your wife shall be like a fruitful vine
in the heart of your house;
you children like shoots of the olive
around your table.

Response

Indeed, thus shall be blest
the man who fears the Lord.
May the Lord bless you from Zion
All the days of your life!
May you see your children's children.

Response**C-6****Psalm 145****Response:**

How good is the Lord to all.

Compassionate to all his creatures.

Response

All your works shall thank you, O Lord,
and all your faithful ones bless you.
The eyes of all look to you,
and you give them their food in due season.

Response

The Lord is righteous in all his ways
and holy in all his deeds.
The Lord is close to all who call him,
who call on him in truth.

Response

The Lord is kind and full of compassion,
slow to anger, abounding in mercy.
How good is the Lord to all,

C-7**Psalm 148****Response:**

Let all praise the name of the Lord.

Praise the Lord from the heavens,
praise him in the heights.
Praise him all his angels,
praise him all his host.

Response

Praise him sun and moon,
praise him shining stars.
Praise him highest heavens
and the waters above the heavens.

Response

All mountains and hills,
all fruit trees and cedars,
beasts, wild and tame,
reptiles and birds on the wing;

Response

Let them praise the name of the Lord,
for he alone is exalted
The splendor of his name
reaches beyond heaven and earth.

Response