

WEDDING MUSIC GUIDELINES AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH

After your initial meeting with the priest and when your date and time have been confirmed, it is your responsibility to immediately contact The Director of Music and Organist, Barb Glockner, at 354-1539. No music arrangements may be made before this time. Please do this no later than 3 months before your wedding date. At this time the Director of Music will email *Procedure*, *Wedding Music Liturgy Planner* and *Music Selections*. The General Instruction on the Liturgy indicates the Responsorial Psalm and the Gospel Acclamation should be sung. The Cantor sings the liturgy as well as music during the prelude.

It is important that only trained musicians from St. Mary's Church participate in your wedding because of their familiarity with the liturgy, experience in the church space and ongoing working relationship with the staff and clergy.

Because the church wedding is a sacred rite invoking the blessing of God on the union of bride and groom, all music during the liturgy must be sacred in nature, reflecting the sacrament that is to take place. An example of this is "God, Who Created Hearts To Love". Popular, secular music or music from the theater is reserved for the wedding reception and not permitted during the Sacred Liturgy. An example is "Phantom of the Opera". All wedding music must be approved by the Director of Music. The Director of Music will assist you in every way toward fulfilling these guidelines as you select the music for your wedding.

The so-called "traditional wedding marches" by Wagner and Mendelssohn are not to be used. Both are "theater" pieces which have nothing to do with the Sacred Liturgy. The Congregation for Divine Worship and the Sacraments issued a document in 1971 forbidding the use of R. Wagner's "Lohengrin," or as most know it, "Here Comes the Bride." This piece of music may not be used.

Prerecorded music or music from a CD is never permitted at St. Mary's Church.

Please note that the fees for musicians are to be sent to the church office no later than 2 weeks before the wedding. The Director of Music will inform you of these fees. All music selections must be submitted no later than 3 weeks before the wedding.

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Listed below are those times in a wedding liturgy accompanied by music:

PRELUDE

Prior to the wedding liturgy there is a musical prelude consisting of 15 minutes of vocal and instrumental music. Music during this time encompasses a combination of pieces that reflect the festive nature of the occasion as well as God's steadfast love.

PROCESSIONAL

The Processional is usually played by the organ alone. It is customary at St. Matthew Church to choose only ONE selection of music that is a continuous piece of music for the entire procession. This music will be embellished as the bride enters; it does not change to another selection.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

The Responsorial Psalm is sung by the Cantor and Assembly. As this must be a psalm from the Lectionary, please refer to *Together for Life* by Joseph Champlin for your selection. Please bring your choice to the meeting with the Director of Music.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Before the Gospel reading, an Alleluia is sung (except during Lent). This will be sung by Cantor and Assembly.

PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS (Mass only)

This takes very little time, so a short organ solo is appropriate here. It is recommended that this selection be left to the organist.

EUCCHARISTIC ACCLAMATIONS (Mass only)

The Eucharistic Acclamations are sung by Cantor and Assembly.

LORD'S PRAYER

The Lord's Prayer is spoken.

SIGN OF PEACE

Since the Sign of Peace involves speaking on the part of the Assembly, it is not appropriate to have music.

LAMB OF GOD (Mass only)

The Lamb of God is sung

COMMUNION HYMN (Mass only)

The Communion Hymn is sung by Cantor and Assembly

VISITATION TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY (optional)

This is sung by the Cantor.

RECESSIONAL

The Recessional is a festive and joyous musical expression to accompany the bridal party out of the Church.

Please sign and return a copy to the St. Mary Church Office.

Barb Glockner, Director of Music
St. Mary Church
524 Sixth Street
Portsmouth, OH 45662

I have read and agree to abide by the Wedding Music Guidelines of St. Mary Church

for the wedding scheduled at _____ o'clock on this date _____

Signed: _____

Print Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

After you have returned this agreement, please contact Barb Glockner