

Wedding Music at St. Anthony

The following policies for music in Catholic wedding liturgies at St. Anthony Church have been created based on documents of the Bishops Committee on the Liturgy (BCL): Music in Catholic Worship and Liturgical Music Today. These are parallel to the liturgical policies in place at the Diocesan Office of Worship of St. Cloud.

1. Music will be chosen with the consultation of the Director of Music and Liturgy. All music chosen for the wedding must be sacred in nature. Secular pop, rock or country songs will not be allowed.
2. St. Anthony has trained vocalists, accompanists and instrumentalists (organ, piano, guitar, violin and cello) who are regular parish musicians. They are experienced in the liturgy and can provide you with quality music acceptable for Catholic wedding liturgies. Outside musicians are only allowed upon approval of the Director of Music and Liturgy. At least one musician from St. Anthony must be used because they are familiar with the space, instruments, sound system and order of St. Anthony wedding liturgies. If outside musicians are used in addition, they must be familiar in Catholic liturgy and have served as a regular accompanist/cantor.

GUIDELINES FOR CHOOSING MUSIC FOR CATHOLIC WEDDINGS

As in any celebration, music in a wedding Mass or ceremony is a very important element. It is a most powerful communicator. Great care should, therefore, be taken to choose music that is highly fitting and proper to this holy and sacred occasion. The following guidelines are provided to help you along the road toward achieving the most prayerful and meaningful celebration possible. Questions not answered here may receive further clarification during your wedding music consultation with the liturgist.

(1) *Certain music is inappropriate for Church use.* Music with no religious significance is not allowed before or during a wedding Mass or ceremony. Though a song or piece of music may be popular on the secular scene, may genuinely speak to you, and be replete with references to love, it nevertheless has no place at divine worship. ***“What is being brought to expression in a wedding liturgy is the mystery of human love as a covenant relationship. Songs which express the religious dimension of love explicitly, of course, have pride of choice. Songs which imply this religious dimension are also suitable. But a song which denies this dimension either explicitly or implicitly must be avoided at all costs, for it belies the mystery: it is falsehood in liturgy.”*** MR # 26

Here is a small sampling of songs inappropriate for liturgy:

“All My Life”, “Annie’s Song”, “Because You Love Me”, “Endless Love”, “Evergreen”, “From This Moment”, “I Cross My Heart”, “It’s Your Love”, “Me & You”, “My Heart Will Go On”, “Sunrise, Sunset”, “The Rose”, “Wind Beneath My Wings”, etc....

The songs of the liturgy should express praise of God and speak of the love of the Lord for God's people; songs that focus only on the love of the couple for each other do not express the love of God in the same way. Follow the general rule that just as religious songs are inappropriate at your reception, so popular romantic songs are inappropriate at a religious wedding ceremony.

When choosing music, consider these questions:

- *Is the music appropriate to the liturgy and celebration?
- *Is the music an integral part of a liturgical service whose primary concern is the worship of God?
- *Can you pray the words of the text?

(2) Church regulations require that the "Our Father" be sung or recited by the entire congregation.

(3) The Responsorial Psalm must always be sung and it must be from a musical setting that allows participation from the assembly.

(4) Taped music is not allowed.

(5) Instrumental music:

Instrumental music can be used as prelude music, at the processional and recessional as well as at certain times during the liturgy such as the sign of peace. The "soap opera" wedding is not a good model for the Christian marriage liturgy. For example "Here Comes the Bride" and Mendelssohn's "Wedding March" even in their original context have nothing to do with Christian marriage. There are literally thousands of appropriate pieces of instrumental music to choose from; the liturgist can help you in your musical decisions.

Approved Music for Weddings

The following songs are all pre-approved for use during Liturgy. This list is composed of the more popular and well known songs for weddings. It is by no means all inclusive. The Director of Music and Liturgy will assist you with music selection.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm Number: Title	Composer
Psalm 19: Lord, You Have the Words	Haas
Psalm 25: To You, O Lord	Haugen
Psalm 34: Taste and See	Haugen
Psalm 66: Let All the Earth	Haugen
Psalm 98: All the Ends of the Earth	Haas/Haugen
Psalm 100: We Are God.s People	Haas
Psalm 103: The Lord Is Kind and Merciful	Haugen
Psalm 116: Our Blessing Cup	Haugen
Psalm 118: Let Us Rejoice	Haugen
Psalm 128: Blest Are Those Who Love You	Haugen
Psalm 145: I Will Praise Your Name	Haas

Communion Procession

Title	Composer
At That First Eucharist	Turton/Monk
Blest Are They	Haas/Joncas
Eat This Bread	Batastini/Berthier
Eye Has Not Seen	Haugen
I Have Loved You	Joncas
In the Breaking of the Bread	Hurd
Let Us Be Bread	Porter
One Bread, One Body	Foley
Servant Song	Gillard
Song of the Body of Christ	Haas
Taste and See	Moore
We Are Many Parts	Haugen
We Have Been Told	Haas
We Walk By Faith	Haugen
When Love Is Found	Wren/West
You Are Mine	Haas

Vocal Solos: The following selections are approved for use during the prelude or as a Communion meditation.

A Nuptial Blessing	Joncas
Bridal Prayer	Copeland
By My Side	Porter
Come and Journey With Me	Haas/Cotter
The Gift of Love (solo or duet)	Hopson
God, a Woman, and a Man	Green
He Has Chosen You For Me	Terry
How Beautiful (liturgies with Eucharist)	Paris
I Will Be Here	Chapman
In Love We Choose to Live	Cotter
In This Very Room	Harris
One Hand, One Heart	Bernstein
Only God Could Love You More	Liles/Borop
Panis Angelicus (liturgies with Eucharist)	Franck
Set Me As A Seal	Maher
The Prayer	Foster/Sager
Wedding Song (There is Love)	Public Domain
Wherever You Go	Norbert
Whither Thou Goest	Schuetz

**A Marian hymn/solo, while not a part of the Marriage rite, may be used as a prelude song or as a Meditation song *if* the couple has a strong devotion to Mary.

Instrumental Music

This is only a small sampling of the music available

Title Composer

A Little Fall of Rain	Schonberg/L. Line
Air from Suite #3 in D	J.S. Bach
Allegro Maestoso	G. F. Handel
Arioso	J.S. Bach
Beyond a Dream	L. Line
Canon in D	J. Pachelbel
Come to My Garden	Simon/L. Line
Hymn to Joy (Ode to Joy)	J.S. Bach
Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring	J.S. Bach
Joyful, Joyful	Beethoven/ L. Line
Largo	G. F. Handel
March Jubliant	L. Line
Minuet in G	J.S. Bach
Prelude in Classic Style	G. Young
Prince of Denmark's March, The (Trumpet Voluntary)	J. Clarke
Processional in C	M. Hopson
Psalms 19	B. Marcello
Queen For a Day	L. Line
Rigaudon	Campra
Rondeau from 'Simphonies di Fanfare'	J. Mouret
Rondo	J. Bull
Spring from "Seasons"	A. Vivaldi
Terms of Endearment	Gore/L. Line
The Wedding Song	Kenny G./W. Afanasieff
Threads of Love	L. Line
Trumpet Tune	J. Stanley
Trumpet Tune	J. Clarke
Walking With You	L. Line
Water Music Suite (various titles: Hornpipe, Air)	G. F. Handel