



**Order of Celebrating Matrimony: Music Guidelines**  
**Our Lady, Queen of the Most Holy Rosary Cathedral**  
**2535 Collingwood Blvd.**  
**Toledo, Ohio 43610**  
**Cathedral Music Office: (419) 244-5182**  
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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.

Do not make any final decisions concerning musical selections or musicians until your completed form has been returned and approved. 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), BUNESSAN*

## 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 Procession](#)  
[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](#)

Howard Hughes  
James Chepponis  
traditional

*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-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.*

The Lord is kind and full of compassion,  
slow to anger, abounding in mercy.  
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****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**