

Wedding Music at St Mary's Star of the Sea, West Melbourne

Introduction

Thank you for taking the time to read our guide for wedding music at St Mary's Star of the Sea Church, West Melbourne. To avoid disappointment please read this document carefully prior to booking your wedding at St Mary's.

A Catholic wedding takes place within a formal ceremony governed by the laws of the Church and is considered a prayer from start to finish. This document outlines our processes, fees, deadlines, and approved music choices. For further information or clarification, please email our Director of Sacred Music, Dr Andrew Mariotti on music@stmaryswestmelbourne.org

Policies and Procedures

In accepting your booking for a wedding at St Mary's Star of the Sea, you agree to adhere the following music regulations and protocols:

- a) The Director of Music or appointed musician will only correspond directly with the bride and groom.
- b) The Parish Priest and the Director of Music are responsible for ensuring that music conforms to a Wedding Liturgy – they reserve the right to make all final decisions on these matters, and not external clergy.
- c) You are requesting to exchange your wedding vows within the context of the Sacrament of Matrimony – that which may only take place in a Catholic church. In accordance with the Second Vatican Council music must, therefore, be appropriate for use at St Mary's, satisfying liturgical and theological requirements.
- d) External musicians are not permitted to perform at weddings. Music is provided by professional church musicians organised by the Director of Music, who possess the necessary expertise in liturgical and other such requirements.
- e) Secular (i.e. non-religious) songs are not appropriate within this sacrament.
- f) The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference (ACBC) has approved a [list of hymns/songs for use in Australia](#). Therefore, at St. Mary's any specifically written instrumental only music must be sacred/religious music or classical music that has become part of the church's tradition (e.g. Bridal March). Besides, any hymns/songs played (instrumental or sung) must be on the [approved list by the ACBC](#), in [Catholic Worship Book II](#) or the Church's traditional [Latin-based hymns](#).
- g) Live music is only to ever be performed at St. Mary's. Recorded music (e.g. CDs, backing tracks) is not permitted.
- h) Instrumental soloists (except an organist) are not permitted for weddings
- i) The musicians do not attend wedding rehearsals.
- j) Due to time constraints one choice is allowed for each part of the wedding liturgy.
- k) In the event your wedding runs substantially behind schedule due to a late arrival or extended liturgy, we cannot guarantee the musicians will be available for the entire ceremony. An extra charge for the additional time may be required.
- l) The online wedding music form must be completed 6 months prior to your wedding
- m) If you choose to have a vocalist at your wedding the Gospel Acclamation will be sung. The mass setting (for a nuptial mass) may also be sung by the vocalist, as well as the psalm. Any music played during communion, must be Eucharistic

Approved Music List

The following music conforms to the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference guidelines. Please consult our Wedding Music [webpage](#) to listen to sound clips and YouTube links for the music list below.

Entrance

Air from Water Music (Handel)^a
Canon in D (Pachelbel)^a
Hear us now, our God and Father

Bridal March (Wagner)^a
God, who created hearts to love
Trumpet Voluntary (Clarke)^a

Offertory (Nuptial Mass ONLY)

A New Commandment
Ave Verum (Mozart)^b
Here I am Lord
Praise to the Lord, the almighty, the King
of creation
Where there is charity and love

Ave Maria (Arcadelt)^b
For the beauty of the Earth
Gift of finest wheat
See us Lord, about your altar

Communion (Nuptial Mass ONLY)

Ave Verum (Mozart)^b
Christians let us love one another
Eat this bread
I am the bread of life
Let all mortal flesh keep silence
One bread, One Body
Take and Eat
Sweet sacrament divine

Bread of life, hope for the world
Communion in G (Guilmant)^a
Godhead here in hiding
Jesus my Lord, my God, my all
O Lord, at your first Eucharist you prayed
Panis Angelicus (Franck)^b
Soul of my saviour

Signing of the register

Air from Orchestral Suite No. 3 (Bach)^a
Ave Maria (Caccini)^b
God is love, the source of goodness^c
I have loved you
Love divine, all loves excelling

Ave Maria (Bach/Gounod)^b
Ave Maria (Schubert)^b
God who blesses new beginnings
Jesu, Joy of man's desiring (Bach)^b
O perfect love

Recessional:

Arrival of the Queen of Sheba (Handel)^a
Minuet from fireworks music (Handel)^a
Trumpet Tune (Purcell)^a
Wedding March (Mendelssohn)^a

Hornpipe from Water Music (Handel)^a
Prelude from Te Deum (Charpentier)^a
Trumpet Voluntary (Clarke)^a

a. Organ only pieces; and b. Can be sung or organ only

Fees and Payment

Payment is via EFT and invoices will be issued a couple of weeks prior to the wedding. The music fee is **additional to the church fee**, paid directly to the musicians and **not** through the church account. Full payment for the music is required prior to your wedding date. Couples will be advised if a deposit is required.

Schedule of Fees: Organist \$350; Vocalist \$350; additional instrumentalist \$350; String Trio and Quartet \$POA; Choir \$POA