

## **PLANNING A WEDDING LITURGY AT ST. MARY'S**

Congratulations on your upcoming wedding! Here are some details to help you with planning a beautiful, prayerful wedding liturgy at St. Mary's.

All music, from prelude to postlude, should be that of a Sacred and Liturgical Nature. "Secular music, even though it may emphasize the love of the [husband and wife] for one another, is not appropriate for the Sacred Liturgy. Songs that are chosen for the Liturgy should be appropriate for the celebration and express the faith of the Church" (Sing to the Lord, USCCB, no. 220). This applies to both the Divine Liturgy (The Mass) as well as the Rite of Marriage outside of Mass.

As you prepare for the Sacrament of Marriage, you are encouraged to assist the Director of Sacred Music (Director) in the selection of music for the Liturgy. To this end, a list of music is provided that is especially suited to Liturgy of the Mass and to the Rite of Marriage. All music not on this list is subject to approval of the Director and the Pastor of St. Mary's Parish and the Divine Mercy AFC. All congregational hymns used for the Mass must be found in the Parish Hymnal - Breaking Bread, Edition 2024.

### **1. Planning Meeting**

- a. Contact Nicholas Liese, the Director of Sacred Music, to set up a meeting to plan wedding music and talk through other details for the ceremony/Mass. This meeting will take 30-45 minutes, and should be completed at least 3 months prior to your wedding date. If necessary, this can take place over phone call or video chat. Both the bride and groom should be present for the meeting.

### **2. Hire Musicians**

- a. Nicholas is available to play organ for most weddings. The organist fee is \$200 and via cash or check by the date of your wedding rehearsal.
- b. A cantor is required. Nicholas can assist you with hiring one of our parish cantors. Fees range from \$75-\$100. Cantors are paid by check or cash by the date of your wedding rehearsal.
- c. Additional musicians, such as trumpet, violin, or flute, are also available. Fees vary, but are generally \$75-100.
- d. If you wish to have a choir sing, this can also be arranged (fee depends on number of singers).

### **3. Choose Music and Readings**

- a. Planning sheets and wedding music options are available here:  
<https://sites.google.com/sesmschool.com/sesm-weddingmusic/home>
- b. Readings are available in the black and yellow "Together for Life" marriage prep book, which you can pick up at the parish office. An partial version of this book (readings only, no commentary), is available online here:  
<https://www.foryourmarriage.org/readings/>

## WEDDING MUSIC SELECTIONS – St. Mary, Help of Christians

---

### **“The Bridal Chorus” (Wagner) and “The Wedding March” (Mendelssohn)**

*\*These two pieces of music come from two operas and the music accompanies the actions of a forced marriage with an unwilling partner. The marriage ends in murder and suicide; and a staged, illicit marriage of two people committing their lives to each other in Christian love. Both operas mock what we understand as Christian marriage and the music that accompanies them is in no way proper for weddings in the Catholic Tradition. These pieces of music will not be allowed.\**

### **SEATING OF THE PARENTS**

*[Parents/grandparents who are not escorting the bride and groom down the aisle will be seated before the procession of the wedding party.]*

- |  |                   |
|--|-------------------|
| • Air on the G String from Suite No. 3 | J.S. Bach         |
| • Arioso                               | “                 |
| • Prière à Notre Dame                  | Leon Boellmann    |
| • Largo from Xerxes                    | G.F. Handel       |
| • Andante from Sonata VI               | Felix Mendelssohn |

### **INTROIT**

*[Sung by the cantor while the priest processes to the altar]*

“God in his holy dwelling place; the God who causes us to dwell together, one at heart, in his house; he himself will give power and strength to his people.”

### **PROCESSIONALS (choose 1)**

*[Played for the procession of the wedding party, including the bride and groom]*

- |  |                        |
|--|------------------------|
| • Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring              | J.S. Bach              |
| • Sonata No. 3 in D Minor, Mvt 2           | J.S. Bach              |
| • Pièce d'Orgue (BWV 572)                  | J.S. Bach              |
| • Voluntary No. 1, Largetto (D Major)      | William Boyce          |
| • Entrée du Cortege                        | Theodore Dubois        |
| • Canon in D                               | Johann Pachelbel       |
| • Rhosymedre                               | Ralph Vaughan Williams |
| • O God Beyond All Praising (Hymn, BB 545) |                        |

### **OFFERTORY ANTIPHON (wedding Mass only, choose 1) \*denotes a solo piece**

*[chanted by the cantor alone]*

- OPTION 1: “The Angel of the Lord shall encamp round about those who fear him and shall deliver them; taste and see how good the Lord is.”
- OPTION 2: “In you have I put my trust, O Lord; I said “You are my God, my destiny is in your hands.”

## WEDDING MUSIC SELECTIONS – St. Mary, Help of Christians

---

### **OFFERTORY HYMN (wedding Mass only, choose 1)**

*[sung after the Offertory Antiphon, while the gifts of bread and wine are brought forward and the altar is prepared]*

- Love Divine, All Loves Excelling
- For the Beauty of the Earth
- Ubi Caritas (chant)\*
- Where Charity and Love are Found
- Come Down, O Love Divine
- The Call\* Ralph Vaughan Williams
- Laudate Dominum\* Mozart

### **COMMUNION ANTIPHON (wedding Mass only, choose 1)**

*[sung by the cantor while the priest receives Holy Communion]*

- OPTION 1: “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God; blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God; blessed are those who suffer persecution for the sake of justice, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.”
- OPTION 2: “Seek first the kingdom of God, and all the rest will be given to you in addition, says the Lord.”

### **COMMUNION HYMN (wedding Mass only, choose 1) \*denotes a solo piece**

*[sung during the reception of Holy Communion; larger weddings may require two selections]*

- Adoro te Devote
- I Received the Living God
- Gift of Finest Wheat
- O Sacrament Most Holy
- Lord, I Am Not Worthy
- Soul of My Savior
- Jesus, My Lord, My God, My All
- Panis Angelicus\* Cesar Franck
- Anima Christi\* Marco Frisina
- Thanks Be to You, O Lord\* Pawel Bebenek

### **PRESENTATION OF FLOWERS TO MARY (choose 1) – this is optional**

- Ave Maria\* Schubert
- Ave Maria Bach/Gounod
- Ave Maria Chant
- O Sanctissima (Hymn, BB 699)
- Hail Mary: Gentle Woman Carey Landry

## WEDDING MUSIC SELECTIONS – St. Mary, Help of Christians

---

### **RECESSIONALS (choose 1)**

*[Recessional is played as the couple and wedding party processes out of the church]*

- |                                       |                          |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| ● Toccata in G                        | Theodore Dubois          |
| ● Prelude on the Te Deum              | Marc-Antoine Charpentier |
| ● A Festive Trumpet Tune              | David German             |
| ● Tuba Tune                           | C.S. Lang                |
| ● Fanfare in D                        | Jacques Lemmens          |
| ● Allegro Maestoso (Sonata II)        | Felix Mendelssohn        |
| ● Rondeau                             | Jean-Joseph Mouret       |
| ● Toccata from Symphony V             | Charles-Marie Widor      |
| ● Finale from Symphony I              | Louis Vierne             |
| ● Spring from the <i>Four Seasons</i> | Antonio Vivaldi          |



## Wedding Mass Liturgy and Music Selection

Bride \_\_\_\_\_

Groom \_\_\_\_\_

Wedding Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Rehearsal Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Presider Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Organist: \_\_\_\_\_ Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Vocalist: \_\_\_\_\_ Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Other: \_\_\_\_\_ Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

### Special Seating

### Procession of the Clergy

#### Introit [sung by the cantor] - Simple English Propers

God in his holy dwelling place; the God  
who causes us to dwell together, one at  
heart, in his house; he himself will give  
power and strength to his people.

### Processional Music

#### Order of Procession:

\_\_\_\_\_ # Couples in Wedding Party  
\_\_\_\_\_ Flower Girl(s)/Ring Bearer(s)  
\_\_\_\_\_ Groom with \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Bride with \_\_\_\_\_

Gloria *Heritage Mass (Breaking Bread #890)*

Old Testament Reading (B) Scripture: \_\_\_\_\_ Read By: \_\_\_\_\_

Responsorial Psalm (C ) \_\_\_\_\_

New Testament Reading (D) Scripture: \_\_\_\_\_ Read By: \_\_\_\_\_

Alleluia (E) *Mode VI Alleluia*

Gospel Reading (F) Scripture: \_\_\_\_\_ Read By: \_\_\_\_\_

### Homily

### RITE OF MARRIAGE

#### Statement of Intentions

#### Exchange of Vows

#### Blessing of Rings

#### General Intercessions

Read By: \_\_\_\_\_

### Offertory Antiphon [sung by the cantor] - Simple English Propers

☐ OPTION 1

The Angel of the Lord shall encamp

round about those who fear him and shall

deliver them; taste and see how good the

Lord is.

☐ OPTION 2

In you have I put my trust, O Lord; I

said "You are my God, my destiny is in

your hands."

### Offertory Hymn

**Eucharistic Acclamations**

*Holy, Holy*  
*Memorial Acclamation*  
*Amen*

*Heritage Mass (BB #891)*  
*Heritage Mass (BB #894)*  
*Heritage Mass (BB #895)*

**The Lord's Prayer**

**Nuptial Blessing**

**Sign of Peace**

**Lamb of God**

*Heritage Mass (BB #896)*

**Communion Antiphon** *[sung by the cantor] - Simple English Propers*

☐ OPTION 1

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they  
shall see God; blessed are the  
peacemakers, for they shall be called  
sons of God; blessed are those who  
suffer persecution for the sake of justice,  
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

☐ OPTION 2

Seek first the kingdom of God, and all  
the rest will be given to you in addition,  
says the Lord.

**Communion Hymn** \_\_\_\_\_

**Presentation of Flowers to Mary** *(optional)*

☐ Ave Maria (Bach/Gounod)

☐ Ave Maria (Schubert)

☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Recessional** \_\_\_\_\_

**Location of the Receiving Line**

☐ North Entrance

☐ Outside

☐ Reception Hall

**Number of guests expected:** \_\_\_\_\_