



## *Our Mother of Good Counsel Parish*

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### **WEDDING MUSIC**

Dear Wedding Couple,

Congratulations on your upcoming wedding. The music and audio facilities of our parish are open to you.

Since the diocese of Joliet has set up certain guidelines for music at weddings, you must consult our music director before picking any music for your ceremony. This will avoid any problems or misunderstandings as your wedding plans proceed.

If you choose our music director to play for your wedding, please contact him as soon as possible. This service includes a meeting for choosing music. If your wedding will take place at a Mass, a cantor will also need to be present at your ceremony. A soloist and other musicians are also available and set their own fees. If you choose to use someone else, the music director will act as consultant/liason for your wedding ceremony. Both of these services are more fully outlined on the following page.

Should you wish to use the music resources of someone other than those of our parish that is perfectly fine. In that case, outside musicians must consult the music director to learn the capabilities and restrictions of our church.

You can contact our music director through the parish at (708) 301-6246 or by e-mail at [www.omgc.org](http://www.omgc.org).



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### Parish Wedding Music:

wedding music meeting  
wedding ceremony consultation  
processional/recessional music  
songs, psalms, acclamations, Mass propers  
special musical requests  
organist/pianist  
cantor  
soloist  
instrumentalist (flute, trumpet, etc.)  
attendance at wedding rehearsal (if necessary)  
audio tape of wedding ceremony

Fees: Organist: \$      Cantor: \$      Instrumentalist: \$      Soloist: \$


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### Wedding Music Consultation:

meeting/consultation on music selections  
meeting with musicians prior to wedding ceremony  
keyboard instruments provided (piano/synthesizer)  
use of microphones and audio system  
assistance in music/audio set-up  
attendance at wedding rehearsal (if necessary)  
attendance at wedding to act as host/church manager  
audio tape of wedding ceremony

Fee: \$

Don Luksetich  
music director  
(June, 2006)

AUGUSTINIAN  PARISH



## *Our Mother of Good Counsel Parish*

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### **IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS FOR YOUR WEDDING:**

The Church is decorated according to the liturgical season. These decorations are not to be removed. You may supply decorations and/or flowers for your wedding ceremony. Please make sure the church will be open at the time of your florist's arrival. Tape or wire may not be used to affix decorations to the chairs. However, we can supply a chair "hook" which may be used for chair decorations. The florist (or person in charge of decorations) should remove any wedding decorations you wish saved immediately following the ceremony. Prayer booklets/programs should also be collected and removed.

The release of balloons, the throwing of rice, birdseed, confetti, the dropping of flower petals or use of bubbles is not permitted inside or outside the church. Besides the obvious clean-up problems, these can create safety hazards and be injurious to the environment.

If a runner is desired, it must be affixed to the carpet before the wedding ceremony. A rope barrier will be placed so that it remains in place before the wedding service begins. The main aisle is 47 feet long. If a unity candle is to be used, the couple needs to supply the candle and holder. Please bring it to the rehearsal. If a printed program is planned, a rough draft should be submitted to the priest prior to printing so that it can be reviewed for proper order.

Photography and videography is allowed as long as it does not interfere with the wedding ceremony itself. Please consult the priest or parish liaison for guidelines. Picture taking in church may not exceed 30 minutes after the wedding ceremony. This time may vary depending on the next event. The total time for the wedding event should not exceed 1 hour and 30 minutes.

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The priest will conduct the wedding rehearsal. Please make sure all participants (wedding party, parents, readers) are in attendance 10 minutes before the scheduled rehearsal time. The rehearsal will last approximately 1 hour.

Donations and fees should be discussed with the appropriate individuals (priest, musician, etc.) and paid at the rehearsal.

The consumption of alcoholic beverages in the church or anywhere on church property is not allowed. Alcohol should not be consumed prior to the rehearsal or the wedding. Smoking is not permitted inside the church.

The bride and her attendants are welcome to use the large meeting room prior to the wedding ceremony. If you wish this room locked during the ceremony, please see the parish liaison. If the room is locked, it cannot be opened until after the ceremony. A separate waiting area off the Narthex is available for the groom.

AUGUSTINIAN  PARISH

# WEDDING MUSIC SUGGESTIONS

## Processional:

Trumpet Tune (Clarke)  
Trumpet Voluntary (Clarke) – [Prince of Denmark]  
Bridal Chorus (Wagner) – [Here'e come the bride]  
Canon in D (Pachelbel)  
March from "Scipio" (Handel)  
Jesu, joy of man's desiring (Bach)  
Promenade from "Pictures at an exhibition" (Moussorgsky)  
Air from "Water Music" (Handel)

## Psalm:

Every morning in your eyes (Cooney) – Psalm 33/34  
Taste and see (Moore or Hurd or Dean) – Psalm 34  
Loving and forgiving (Soper) – Psalm 103  
O blessed are those (Inwood) – Psalm 128  
This is the day (Joncas) – Psalm 118  
I will praise your name (Haas) – Psalm 145

## Gospel Acclamation & Verse:

E-1: God is love; let us love one another as he has loved us.  
E-2: If we love one another, God will live in us in perfect love.  
E-3: Those who live in love, live in God; when you live in God, god lives in you.  
E-4: Everyone who loves is born of god and knows him.

## Lighting of unity candle:

Wedding song (Sebastian) – [Stookey]  
One hand, one heart (Sondheim/Bernstein)  
Wherever you go (Norbert/Callahan)  
And on this day (English)  
The gift of love (Hopson)  
Where/When love is found (Haas/Cotter)  
Lives brought together (Schutte)

## Service Music:

Mass of Creation (Haugen)  
Mass of the Angels and Saints (Janco)

## WEDDING MUSIC SUGGESTIONS (page 2)

### Hymns during Mass:

I have loved you (Joncas)  
You are mine (Haas)  
One in body, heart, and mind (Walker)  
Let there be peace on earth (Miller/Jackson)  
Now thank we all our God (Nun Danket)  
Morning has broken (Bunessan)  
Here I am, Lord (Schutte)  
Sing a new song (Schutte)  
Joyful, joyful we adore thee (Beethoven)  
One bread, one body (Foley)  
Bread of life (Farrell)  
Peace is flowing like a river (Landry)  
Prayer of St. Francis (Temple)  
This bread that we share (MacAller)

### Presentation of flowers to Our Lady:

Ave Maria (Schuber or Bach/Gounod)  
O Mother of Good Counsel (Luksetich)  
Hail Mary, gentle woman (Landry)

### Recessional:

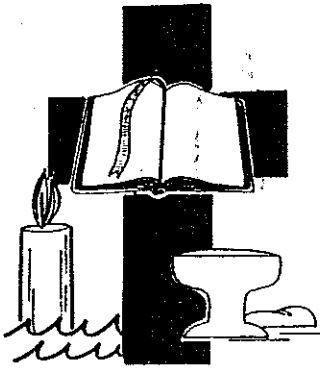
Wedding March (Mendelssohn)  
Rigaudon (Campra)  
Ode to joy (Beethoven)  
Rondeau (Mouret)  
Te Deum (Charpentier)

### Other examples and sound bites:

Set your search engine for "wedding music"

[www.wedalert.com](http://www.wedalert.com)

[www.stclementchurch.org/weddings](http://www.stclementchurch.org/weddings)



**GUIDELINES FOR MUSIC**  
**IN THE**  
**CELEBRATION OF CHRISTIAN MARRIAGE**  
**DIOCESE OF JOLIET**

One of the important times in the life of any family is the occasion of a wedding. This is true not only for the individual domestic family, but for the broader family of the Church, God's people. Whenever we celebrate these significant moments in our lives, it is only natural to want to express the religious dimension of the occasion as well. Since the Wedding Liturgy is an official act of worship of the Church, competent judgements must be made regarding the liturgical, musical, and pastoral appropriateness of the music being used in the ceremony. While careful attention is paid to each detail of the wedding, nothing is more important than the Wedding Liturgy itself. Therefore, the Office of Divine Worship for the Diocese of Joliet offers here a statement regarding the music used in the Wedding Liturgy.

**THE SACRAMENT OF CHRISTIAN MARRIAGE:**

Christian spouses, in virtue of the Sacrament of Matrimony, signify and partake of the mystery of that unity and fruitful love which exists between Christ and His Church (Ephesians 5:32). The spouses thereby help each other to strive for holiness in their married life and in rearing and educating their children. And so, in their state and way of life, they have their own special gift among the People of God (1 Corinthians 7:7). Vatican II, Dogmatic Constitution of the Church, #11.

**THE NATURE OF LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS:**

"Liturgical services are not private functions, but are celebrations of the Church, which is the 'sacrament of unity,' namely, a holy people united and organized under their bishops. Therefore, liturgical services pertain to the whole body of the church. They manifest it and have effects upon it; but, they also touch individual members of the Church in different ways . . . ." (Vatican II, Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy, #26).

Even though the various rites or liturgical celebrations of the Church have significant bearing on the lives of individuals, as is the case with the celebration of the Sacrament of Marriage, they nonetheless are expressions of the Faith of the whole Church each time they are celebrated.

The rites should be distinguished by a noble simplicity; they should be short, clear and unencumbered by useless repetitions. All liturgical celebrations in the Church are first, and foremost, acts of worship of God. These various rites, celebrated in the Church, may incorporate specific sacramental ritual.

### **MUSIC FOR THE WEDDING CEREMONY:**

Music at weddings is an integral part of the celebration and prayer of those gathered for this occasion. Music used in the Church is prayer, not just background "filler". All music, whether vocal or instrumental, whether before, during, or after the marriage liturgy, must be sacred, rather than secular. It must be music appropriate for Catholic worship. Music must be of sound theology, scripturally based, and appropriate to the liturgical celebration and season. The parish music minister can assist the couple in choosing lyrics and music that are liturgically appropriate.

When choosing music for the wedding ceremony, the couple must understand the role of the assembly. The assembly is a community of Christian witnesses gathering to offer praise and thanksgiving to Almighty God. Therefore, in order to allow for the exercising of this primary ministry of the assembly, it is most fitting that congregational music be included in the ceremony, especially after the processional and at communion.<sup>1</sup> As in any celebration of the Eucharist, the acclamations are to be sung. These include the following: the Gospel Acclamation, the Holy, Holy, the Memorial Acclamation, the "Great Amen" which concludes the Eucharistic Prayer, and the Doxology to the Lord's Prayer, especially when the Lord's Prayer is sung. In addition to these, the Responsorial Psalm which follows the First Reading should be sung.

(See Music in Catholic Worship #53-59, & #63).

<sup>1</sup> When Christians Marry, Worship Center,  
St. Paul, Minnesota (Pg.6)





## TEXTS AND MUSICAL SCORES

The pastor, presiding minister, parish music minister, and designated marriage preparation personnel need to be sensitive to texts and their meaning within the liturgical celebration, as well as to the artistic integrity of the liturgical music. Texts that are not in conformity with sound liturgical principles, no matter how beautiful or humanly relative, are not appropriate for liturgical celebrations of weddings or any other official liturgical celebration. The words and musical settings should support and enhance the Eucharist and the liturgical season. A song which has personal meaning for the bride and groom and expresses personal human love will be inappropriate if it fails to express a Christian view of love and worship. Texts should clearly reflect and affirm a relationship with God.<sup>2</sup>

Outright "pop music" e.g. from movies, shows, hit tunes, even if a religious text is set to the tune, distracts from the liturgical action and compromises the ministerial function of the music. This does not include genuine folk songs which express sound spiritual sentiments. Thus, such melodies as "One Hand, One Heart" from West Side Story, "Impossible Dream," "Hawaiian Wedding Song," "Sunrise, Sunset," "We've Only Just Begun," "Summer of '42," etc., are inappropriate for the liturgical ceremony. However, these melodies could very beautifully enhance the wedding rehearsal dinner and/or the wedding day reception.

"The musician has every right to insist that the music be good. But although all liturgical music should be good music, not all good music is suitable to the liturgy. The musical judgement is basic, but not final. There remain the liturgical and pastoral judgements." (#29 Music in Catholic Worship) It is good to discourage wedding marches of Mendelssohn and Wagner as well as the "Ave Maria" settings of Bach-Gounod and Schubert. Musicians and those who plan weddings should try to expose congregations to fresh musical experiences.\*

\*An excellent source for a listing of traditional and contemporary music, appropriate for weddings, can be found in PLANNING YOUR WEDDING CEREMONY, Publication No. 354-X, Office for Publishing and Promotion Services, United States Catholic Conference, 3211 Fourth Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. (1/800/235-8722)

## **CANTOR**

Because liturgy requires participation, those planning weddings should look beyond soloists to perform at their wedding liturgy and engage cantors to lead the sung prayer of the assembly.

A soloist is someone who, because of the excellence of his/her voice, is able to inspire the people by singing for them, as at the opera. At weddings, this has come to mean the soloist fills quiet times with lovely music for the enjoyment and inspiration of the audience.

A cantor, on the other hand, also has a finely trained voice (though not necessarily operatic). The cantor ministers to the faith community not by entertaining them but by helping them, by leading them in their participation.

Two key words in this distinction are audience and participants. A member of an audience has only one job - the job of listening - while a participant not only listens, but also interacts and contributes. A participant takes an active role rather than a passive one.

## **CONCLUSION TO THE GUIDELINES:**

Above all, when planning any aspect of the wedding ceremony, one must remember that Catholics regard marriage as a Sacrament. The Wedding Liturgy is a liturgical celebration, a gathering of the People of God joining together to offer praise and thanksgiving to the Father, through the Son, and in union with the Spirit.

These guidelines are meant to clarify the choice of wedding music. Feel free to contact the Office of Divine Worship for further assistance and/or clarification. (815/838-7098)

