

HOLY NAME RECTORY
1689 Centre Street
West Roxbury, Massachusetts 02132-1292
Telephone 617-325-4865 ext. 206 • Fax 617-325-5571

WEDDING MUSIC GUIDELINES

Planning your wedding liturgy requires the same thought and reflection as securing the reception site or choosing the color of the attendant's dresses or even deciding which flowers will best enhance the beauty of your wedding. The Director of Music/Cantor, Thomas Manguem, and Organist, Stephanie Budway, (phone number above) will assist you in planning the music for your wedding.

Along with these guidelines, be sure to get a copy of the wedding music cd. You can call 617-352-4865, and the office staff will make it available to you.

When planning the music for your wedding liturgy there are some important elements to consider. First and foremost is the function and placement of music within the liturgy. The Bishops Committee on the Liturgy states this clearly in the document *Music in Catholic Worship*:

“Among the many signs and symbols used by the Church to celebrate its faith music is of preeminent importance. As sacred song united to the words it forms a necessary and integral part of the solemn liturgy. Yet the function of music is ministerial: it must serve and never dominate. Music should assist the assembled believers to express and share the gift of faith that is within them and to nourish and strengthen their interior commitment of faith. It should heighten the texts so that they speak more fully and more effectively. The quality of joy and enthusiasm which music adds to community worship cannot be gained in any other way. It imparts a sense of unity to the congregation and sets the appropriate tone for a particular celebration.”

The wedding liturgy is an act of public worship in which the bride and groom commit themselves to each other through the Sacrament of Marriage. It is a sacred event in which the focus is on God's unconditional love for His people as manifested in the love of husband and wife and in the love shared by the community of family and friends which has gathered to witness this union. The music, words, and actions should reflect this communal aspect of love. Therefore, the music, which is selected, should complement the liturgy and not compete with it. When considering choices for music, the most important consideration is appropriateness; that is, is this particular piece appropriate for this gathering, in this place, at this precise moment in the liturgy? Secular love songs, although they may have beautiful melodies and meaningful texts, are very often limited to a personal dialogue between two individuals and do not express the three-dimensional love of the Sacrament of Marriage. Therefore, they are not appropriate for a Catholic wedding liturgy. Songs of this nature are best performed at the wedding reception where the focus is on this more personal type of love.

In addition to having an organist and cantor/soloist at their wedding, some couples choose to include other instruments as well (such as trumpet, violin, flute, harp, etc.) The Director and Organist can assist you in securing professionally trained musicians from the area to play at your wedding. Requesting relatives or friends to provide the music can create problems: very often these people are not professionally trained and, as a result, the quality of music suffers. If you request a guest singer or instrumentalist, he/she must have the approval of the Director before being contacted. He/she should meet one or more of the following criteria:

1. Be a parish cantor (musician) at his/her own parish,
2. Have professional qualifications in church music,
3. Submit a cd of liturgical music (vocal/instrumental),
4. Audition in person.

All music planning should be done with the final approval of the Director and Organist. The Code of Ethics of the American Guild of Organists and parish policy do not permit the hiring of another organist or cantor/soloist without permission. In any case, both fees must be paid.

The following is a breakdown of the musical portions of the wedding ceremony when it is celebrated within a Mass. For a wedding ceremony, which is celebrated outside of a Mass, simply omit the sections with an asterisk (*).

PRELUDE MUSIC: Beginning about 15 minutes before the wedding liturgy, a variety of festive classical music is played and/or sung as the guests are seated.

SEATING OF THE MOTHERS: A special vocal or instrumental piece may be chosen to honor mothers of the bride and groom. Often a hymn to the Blessed Mother is chosen to liken their mothers' loving care to the Virgin Mary's maternal love.

PROCESSIONAL MUSIC: Music for the processional is most often an instrumental piece. A stately trumpet tune or march is the most effective. The addition of trumpets or other instruments can help to highlight the solemnity and the festivity of the moment.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: The psalm is sung by the cantor with a congregational response. Songs, which are not psalms, or based on psalm text, should not be used during this part of the liturgy.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: The "Alleluia" is a joyful acclamation, which prepares the assembly to the Gospel. We usually sing a setting that is both familiar and festive, such as the *Celtic Alleluia*.

***PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS:** As the gifts of bread and wine are brought forward and prepared at the altar, a vocal or instrumental piece may accompany the action.

*EUCCHARISTIC ACCLAMATIONS: The “Holy, Holy,” “Christ has died,” Great “Amen,” and the “Lamb of God” are sung at weddings at Holy Name. Marty Haugen’s *Mass of Creation* or Richard Proulx *Community Mass* are used most often.

*COMMUNION SONG: Vocal or instrumental music that highlight the communitarian aspect of the Eucharist should be chosen. One or two pieces may be selected depending on their length.

RECESSIONAL: The recessional, like the processional, is usually an instrumental piece. It should round off the celebration of the liturgy and act as a festive “send off.”

FEE SCHEDULE

Organist’s Fee \$200

Cantor/Soloist’s Fee \$200

Other Instrumentalist’s Fee Prices vary. Contact Thomas Manguem.

Note: These fees should be included in the one check made payable to *Holy Name Parish*.

☞☞The above fees include any planning meeting in addition to the wedding.

☞☞Any addition rehearsals with requested soloist/instrumentalist is \$25 per rehearsal (also to be included in the one check made payable to *Holy Name Parish*).

☞☞The check should be sent to the rectory (preferably with the marriage license) 2 weeks before the wedding.

Wedding Music Planning Sheet

Holy Name Parish, West Roxbury, MA

Thomas Manguem, Music Director and Cantor

Stephanie Budwey, Organist

617-325-4865 Extension 206

SEATING OF THE MOTHERS:

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------|
| *1 ___Ave Maria | Schubert |
| 2 ___On this Day | Lambillotte |
| 3 ___Gentle Woman | Landry |

PROCESSIONAL MUSIC: (Choose 1 for the entire wedding party or 1st for the wedding party & 2nd for the bride.)

- | | |
|--|-----------|
| 4 ___Trumpet Voluntary | Clarke |
| 5 ___Canon in D | Pachelbel |
| 6 ___Largo from <i>Xerxes</i> | Handel |
| 7 ___Bridal Chorus from <i>Lohengrin</i> | Wagner |
| 8 ___Rondeau | Mouret |

RESPONSORAL PSALM:

- | | |
|---|-----------------------|
| 9 ___Taste and See (Psalm 34) | Proulx/Geleneau |
| 10 ___May the Lord Bless Us (Psalm 128) | Chepponis |
| 11 ___We Praise You, O Lord (Psalm 128) | Balhoff/Ducote/Daigle |
| 12 ___Keep Us In Your Sight (Psalm 145) | Lisicky |

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------|
| 13 ___Celtic Alleluia | Walker |
| 14 ___Gregorian Alleluia | Traditional |

PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS:

- | | |
|---|-------------------|
| 15 ___The Gift of Love | Hopson |
| 16 ___Wedding Song | Stookey |
| 17 ___Prayer of St. Francis | Temple |
| 18 ___Irish Wedding Song | Scallon |
| 19 ___Lady of Knock | Scallon |
| 20 ___Love Is the Sunlight (Morning Has Broken) | Gaelic Melody |
| 21 ___Bridegroom and Bride | Bell/Irish Melody |

* denotes track # on Wedding CD

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