

## Usual Format for Wedding Mass Music

### **Prelude Music**

(Unless other ideas, I generally use light baroque music to fill church with happy sound)

### **Entrance of the Mother(s) – (Grandmothers)**

(Since it is hard to gauge length, I suggest 'Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring' by Bach so I can add or subtract sections as needed to fill the time correctly)

### **Bridal Procession**

At St Francis, there is one procession for the entire bridal party... I do make a change in registration, volume and tempo for the Bride – but it is one piece of music.

### **Responsorial Psalm**

Once you have selected the Psalm you will have between the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> readings, I will find the appropriate musical setting – this is a Congregational Participation part of the Wedding.

### **Gospel Acclamation**

Generally, the 'Celtic Alleluia' is used and the verse paraphrases Matthew 19:5

### **Presentation of the Gifts\***

As the Bread and Wine are brought forward (in a Nuptial Mass) a song may be sung by the Cantor, or a Hymn may be sung by the Congregation. I like to suggest 'Bridal Prayer' by Copeland for a Solo, since the text most closely matches the liturgical action of a wedding.

### **Mass Parts are Sung/Lead by the Cantor\***

### **Communion\***

As with the Presentation of the Gifts, a Song may be sung by the Cantor or a Hymn by the Congregation. The appropriate music will speak directly to either the sacramental nature of the wedding, or to Eucharist, which (in a Nuptial Mass) is now consumed.

### **Recessional**

This is almost always an organ Postlude.

\*NB – In a wedding ceremony (where there will be no communion) the Mass Parts and Communion Song are deleted, and the music for the Presentation of the Gifts becomes a song sung after the exchange of vows and rings. Everything else stays the same musically.

## **MUSIC FOR PRELUDES AND POSTLUDES**

Baroque and up-tempo

TRUMPET TUNES (VOLUNTARIES) Purcell/Clarke/Stanley  
MOVEMENTS FROM HANDEL WATER MUSIC  
RONDEAU (Moret)

Formal and Orchestral

ELGAR 'Pomp and Circumstances #4 – Andante from the First Movement  
Handel 'Holy Art Thou'

Light and Orchestral

Canon in 'D' by Pachelbel

Traditional Wedding Marches

Bridal Chorus	Wagner
Bridal March	Mendelssohn

## **CONGREGATIONAL HYMNS FOR WEDDINGS**

#982 When Love Is Found\*\*

#983 God Of Love, Embrace Your People (Tune of 'Joyful, Joyful' Beethoven 9<sup>th</sup>)

#984 God in the Planning and Purpose of Live\*\*

#985 Love Had Brought Us Here Together

#986 Let's Praise the Creator who gave us each other\*\*

#987 This Is a Miracle-Moment (Tune of 'Praise to the Lord')

ANY APPROPRIATE COMMUNION HYMN IN OUR HYMNAL

## **SOLO SONGS FOR CANTOR**

Hymns starred above are also appropriate as Solo Pieces

Bridal Prayer Copeland

Wedding Song Stucke

Wherever You Go Landry

## **NOTES:**

- 1) The Cantor is used at All Weddings
- 2) Guest Singers may only sing at the Offertory and Communion and only at the approval of the Director of Music. They must provide copies of what they will sing and have learned to sing it prior to the wedding. They will rehearse with the organist 1 hour prior to the wedding time.
- 3) Except in rare circumstances, the Church and the Diocese do not sanction the playing/singing of 'Ave Maria' at weddings.