

**Guide to Music for the Rite of Marriage**  
**Ascension Catholic Church**  
**12700 Lanham Severn Rd**  
**Bowie MD 20720**  
Rev. Larry Young, Pastor

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Music for the Catholic wedding ceremony is strictly limited to Sacred Repertory and must be live (recorded music is not permitted). All music is to be approved by the Ascension Catholic Church Music Director and Pastor.

The celebration of the Sacrament of Marriage, which is rooted in the Church's regular worship life, is not a private family function, nor is it merely a social affair or a personal expression of your love for one another. Rather, it is an action of the entire church in whose presence you commit yourselves to one another. The liturgy is neither a show nor a performance.\*

Here are some suggested pieces- this is by no means a comprehensive list. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the music director.

**Suggested Preludes: usually a few of these pieces are played starting about 15-20 mins before the ceremony.** \*\*Please let me know if you either particularly 'like' or 'do not like' any of these :

Prière à Notre Dame: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=99XclxbNyJl>

Bach Chorale: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BYd7bLum4GM>

Canon in D: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OZRuqT\\_kRns](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OZRuqT_kRns)

Jesu Joy of Man's Desiring <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lm2kAvIQxHE>

SOLO Whither Thou Goest- Song of Ruth <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6Vjis2Pqeu0> (Flor Peeters)

Solo: Wedding Song (Whither Thou Goest- Song of Ruth [https://soundcloud.com/spsactmusic/artist-track-09-Heinrich Schüetz](https://soundcloud.com/spsactmusic/artist-track-09-Heinrich-Schuetz)

SOLO-Ave Maria (Schubert): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OukwdxMIWQo>

SOLO-Ave Maria (Bach/Gounod): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JoMg141ud04>

SOLO-Ave Maria (Arcadelt version): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NQ89Q8IHWjY>

SOLO: Laudate Dominum (Mozart) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xR4jcPBIPPE> (translation: *"Praise the Lord, all nations; Praise Him, all people. For He has bestowed His mercy upon us, And the truth of the Lord endures forever. Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and forever, and for generations of generations. Amen."*)

SOLO: Wedding Prayer (Dunlap): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=97tDfFagMpk>

**Responsorial Psalms-** choose one of these texts from this list (there are 7 options):<http://www.foryourmarriage.org/responsorial-psalms/>

**Suggested Hymns-** Offertory - choose one (or may select piece from above list of SOLO Preludes as Offertory- can be instrumental or vocal solo if desired):

O God Our Hope in Ages Past <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rsHlwXTjAOU>

O Father All Creating <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=opRPWWH9yNE>

Love Divine All Love's Excelling <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3SW4YtqYJUA>

Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ofp6rdAgRrY>

The Call <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G6mlKOv377Y>

Praise My Soul the King of Heaven [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L9X400-8h\\_A](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L9X400-8h_A)

SOLO-Ave Maria (Schubert): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OukwdxMIWQo>

SOLO-Ave Maria (Bach/Gounod): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JoMg141ud04> SOLO-Ave Maria (Arcadelt): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NQ89Q8IHWjY>

**Suggested Communion Hymns/Solo pieces- choose one**

SOLO: Panis Angelicus <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2m-M3QJtdOE>

SOLO Ave Verum Corpus <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=98wKOPNbMIU>

The King of Love <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d50KE9jMVWY>  
SOLO Whither Thou Goest- Song of Ruth <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6Vjis2Pgeu0>  
SOLO- Laudate Dominum: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xR4jcPBIPPE>

**Processionals/Recessionals-** Please choose one for the Bride's Processional and one for the Couple's Recessional out of the Church. You may also choose one for the Bridesmaids' Procession in.

Ode to Joy <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=soF5QK0HOig>  
Allegro Vivace <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B7jYaUpZvvg>  
Aria in F: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cd4B46NNFbE>  
Jesu Joy of Man's Desiring <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lm2kAvlQxHE>  
Trumpet (louder) Processionals (Bride) and Recessional (Couple)  
Jeremiah Clarke- Trumpet Voluntary ( Prince of Denmark's March): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bRrss4kBi2M>  
Processional on Westminster Abbey: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GXUT\\_dSNys](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GXUT_dSNys)

**Please choose One Mass setting from the following 3 (if having a Mass):**

**1. ICEL Chant Mass:**

Gloria <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tvKHvxQG3Z8>  
Holy Holy Holy: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Sc\\_6tl0wuk](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Sc_6tl0wuk)

Lamb of God: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6s0m-ecaDFI>

**2.A Community Mass:** start listening at the 45 second mark  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PgMHtGLc-6Q>

**3. Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena (words adapted to Roman Catholic Mass)**

Gloria: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\\_lwA-a1fhew](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_lwA-a1fhew)  
Holy Holy Holy: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FLNqBnvEymI>  
Lamb of God: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iv9r5xgqmxQ>

**About the Catholic Marriage Rite:** <http://www.foryourmarriage.org/saying-i-do-what-happens-at-a-catholic-wedding/>

\*\*Note: The popular "Here Comes the Bride" and "Wedding March" do not belong in beautiful Catholic wedding liturgy. Here are the reasons:

- a. The music originated from theatrical and pagan repertoire
- b. It portrays marriage in a way that differs from the Christian Church.
- c. The impression focuses on the bride alone.

Sources: \* [www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/sacred-art-and-music/index.cfm](http://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/sacred-art-and-music/index.cfm)

[www.ForYourMarriage.org](http://www.ForYourMarriage.org)

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