

Dear Newly Engaged,

On behalf of Saint Charles Borromeo Parish, I join your family and friends to congratulate you on your engagement in marriage. Our marriage preparation program is designed to remind you that God is involved in bringing the two of you together and will be present through the stages of your union from romance to parenting to companionship and growing up together to growing old together and offering an example of marital love to others.

This booklet will give you an overview of the marriage preparation program. As you would expect, we are far more interested in your marriage, which lasts for a lifetime, than in your wedding, which lasts for a day. We are delighted to assist you, and any Saint Charles Borromeo parishioners or guests, along this process. This booklet is packed with information, but I hope that you find it easy to follow and digest.

The major components include an initial meeting with me to discuss the Church's understanding of a Christian Marriage (you will want to do this at least nine months before your wedding). It is followed by your taking a Pre-Marriage Inventory (FOCCUS), and meeting with facilitators to discuss the strengths and liabilities of your relationship (about nine months before the wedding). Engaged couples are asked to sign up for *THRIVE!* which is found online. *THRIVE!* focuses on marital unions by presenting scientifically proven research-based relationship development information and practices. In addition, you will be introduced to the Church's teachings on sexual morality through Natural Family Planning.

Along the way, you will want to contact the parish Liturgy Planner and Wedding Coordinators to plan your wedding ceremony and discuss details about the church and liturgy (about six months before the wedding). Their contact information is found in this booklet. Also contact the Parish Office to discuss a date and time for your wedding ceremony. Finally, we will meet again to complete petition papers for a Sacramental Marriage (one or two months before your rehearsal and wedding). Feel free to contact me anytime during your engagement. After you read through the booklet, contact me to get the process moving.

Let us pray for one another in our vocations of service and in our commitments to honor God in the most important decisions of our lives.

Yours in Christ,

Father Sunoj Thomas, Pastor

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Contact Information

Pastor: Fr. Sunoj Thomas.....	(816) 436-0880 ext. 503
Parish Office: Edie Ferrara or Sarah Simon...	(816) 436-0880 ext. 201
Liturgy Planner: Parish Office.....	(816) 436-0880
FOCCUS Facilitators: Dcn. Vic & Cathy Quiason	(816) 679-7189 VictorQuiason@gmail.com
Rehearsal/Ceremony Coordinators:	
Cathy Quiason.....	(816) 309-5028 cquiason@gmail.com
Carol Clifton.....	(816) 718-6875 carol.clifton20@yahoo.com

Marriage Preparation Process

Every person is unique; therefore, marriage preparation can vary with each couple. However, the program usually includes:

1) Initial Interview

After you become engaged, please contact the parish office to schedule a meeting with Fr. Thomas to speak about marriage with you and your fiancée. At the initial meeting, issues such as previous marriages, age requirements, and a general outline of the preparation process will be discussed. You will also complete the Marriage Preparation form. Allow approximately one hour for this meeting.

2) Determining who (Priest/Deacon) will preside at your Wedding

If you are going through the marriage preparation process through SCB and/or your wedding will take place at SCB, we will provide a priest or deacon to serve as ecclesial witness to the Sacrament. **If you wish for a particular priest or deacon to be present, you must personally secure that commitment from him. Determine whether you want a full Mass or just a wedding ceremony.**

Please confirm your wedding date with the priest/deacon who is presiding. If the wedding will take place at SCB, call 436-0880 x201, and ask for the Office Manager to reserve the church for the date on the parish calendar.

3) The Marriage Preparation Session

As part of your Marriage Preparation at Saint Charles Borromeo, you will work with trained facilitators of the FOCCUS pre-marriage inventory.

FOCCUS is a relationship inventory that you will complete with Vic and Cathy Quiason. The inventory will compare your individual beliefs and perspectives with those of your future spouse in a minimum of eleven important categories. It will identify and affirm your relationship strengths as a couple, and any areas that need more attention and growth. In your feedback session with the Quiasons, you will go over all the FOCCUS results, and have the opportunity to address any of the challenges or growth areas that were identified.

Fee for the Session:

There is a \$50 fee for FOCCUS which includes your meeting with your facilitators and the other administrative costs.

Our goal is to partner with you and provide supportive, quality services that will help you build a strong foundation for your marriage and a healthy, happy relationship and future together.

4) “THRIVE!”

(Engaged couples MAY make their own arrangements to attend NFP orientation. It is NOT a requirement. NFP is included in *THRIVE!*)

THRIVE! is an online option for engaged couples to prepare for marriage. The dual focus on human and spiritual development makes this program different than others now available as it presents scientifically proven research-based relationship development and women’s health. The engaged will learn about cutting edge brain science and positive psychology, in addition to the theological vision of marriage, insights from Theology of the Body, practical guidance for managing finances, developing a life of prayer and virtue, and making intentional decisions about how they make their new home a domestic church in which everyone *THRIVES!*

Cost: \$200 per couple. Paid on Website – KCSJ/family.org/Thrive

Natural Family Planning is included in Thrive.

OPTIONAL- Natural Family Planning: There are many advantages of Natural Family Planning (NFP). This highly effective method is 100% natural with no health risks as it involves no potential harmful birth control drugs or devices and increases health awareness. NFP costs significantly less than other forms of family planning and is helpful for achieving pregnancy. Most couples report that NFP has a positive effect on their marriage. You can take the Natural Family Planning training. It is offered here locally. Two organizations offer it so check both websites for locations, dates, and cost. **Costs range \$120 - \$175**.** Visit the websites: www.ccli.org and www.fertilitycarekc.com to find the program that best fits your schedule.

5) Reconciliation

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is recommended for every Catholic prior to marriage. The beginning of a life together is a turning point, it is fitting that this new beginning is celebrated with hearts fully free from sin.

6) Marriage Registration Form

In the Catholic Church there is a testimony each marriage party must give to the priest or deacon who will witness their union. It is a testimony, under oath, which states your freedom and desire to be married in the Catholic Church, your understanding of the duties and responsibilities of marriage, and your understanding of the Catholic Church’s teaching on children in marriage. This testimony must be completed before the marriage takes place. You will meet a second time with your priest 6-8 weeks before your wedding to complete your Marriage Registration Form.

If your marriage is between a Catholic and a non-Catholic or unbaptized person, additional time will be required for permission from the diocese or other jurisdictions.

7) Wedding Liturgy

Your wedding should be seen as a liturgical celebration and a public expression of your love for each other and God. Hence, it is a sacred event. It is the joyful celebration of a sacrament – one of seven ways in which God’s special grace is manifested to us in the Church. For this reason, it is essential that it takes place in a church, follows sound liturgical principles and is in good taste. We suggest that our own parish musicians or musicians active in another Catholic community be used for the liturgy. The Catholic Rite of Marriage as celebrated at Saint Charles Borromeo invites you to make careful selections of readings, music, prayers, and other options. A liturgy planning resource will be given to you as a guide. At least two months prior to your wedding schedule a meeting with our Liturgy Coordinator, 816-436-0880 x213 to plan your wedding liturgy, including music.

8) Final Wedding Ceremony Plans: You will meet with Cathy Quiason and Carol Clifton, Wedding Coordinators, to finalize plans for wedding ceremony, i.e. church seating, wedding party staging areas, rehearsal date and time.

Documents You Will Need

1. **Baptismal Certificate.** Each Catholic needs a **new** copy of his/her baptismal certificate issued no more than **six months** before the date of the wedding and signed by the current pastor of the parish. Older copies or the original cannot be accepted. You may obtain this by contacting the parish in which you were baptized. For a baptized non-Catholic, a certificate (even a copy) of Christian baptism is likewise needed for our file. This document must be obtained from the parish where baptized or from the Diocese if parish is closed.

2. **Marriage license from the state of Missouri.** You can contact any county in the state of Missouri to obtain a marriage license good for a wedding anywhere in the state. Both parties must appear together at the Recorder of Deeds office. There is no longer a required blood test or a three-day wait; however, the license is only valid for thirty days.

In Clay County, there are two locations at which you can apply in person: 1 Courthouse Sq, in Liberty and 1901 NE 48 St, in Kansas City. The county information line for wedding licenses is 816-407-3550 or

[www.claycountymo.gov/Recorder of Deeds/Marriage License](http://www.claycountymo.gov/Recorder_of_Deeds/Marriage_License)

When you apply you must have a valid federal identification or a passport and your social security number. The fee for a marriage license is \$51.00 and may be paid by cash, credit card (except American Express) or debit card at the time of the application. If the bride chooses to have her name changed after the wedding ceremony, a certified copy of the marriage license may be purchased for an additional \$10.00. The certified copy is needed by the bride to present to agencies such as the Drivers License Bureau and Social Security Administration to affect a name change.

You should bring your license to the wedding rehearsal. It will be signed by the maid/matron of honor and the best man after the wedding.

3. **Marriage Registration Form**-You will meet with the priest or deacon 6-8 weeks prior to your wedding to complete this form.

4. **Annulments and Dispensations (If applicable.)** If an annulment or dispensation is required certain documents are necessary for a sacramental marriage to take place. Fr. Thomas and/or Deacon Vic and Cathy Quiason will address this at their first meeting with you.

Wedding Guidelines

Liturgy

In the Catholic Church, we observe the sacraments through liturgical celebrations. It is natural that people who are in love see their love as a gift from God and want to celebrate it through signs and symbols. The celebration of Christian marriage is an opportunity for the whole family of faith to experience the presence of the Lord through the power of these symbols. As the assembly gathers and responds in prayerful participation, we acknowledge the Lord's presence among us. In the love of husband and wife, we come to see the reflection of God's love for us. These signs and symbols are invitations to us to respond in faith to the Lord of our lives. For this reason, careful planning should take place in preparation for the liturgy. Those attending the celebration are not merely guests to be entertained, but part of the liturgical assembly called to active participation in prayer and song. Planning should take this into account.

Time, Place, Officials

Marriages are celebrated at Saint Charles Borromeo for registered parishioners and non-registered guests. Saint Charles Borromeo is a vibrant parish serving over 900 families. The church is the center of our community and full of activity. We have daily Mass, rosaries, adoration, baptisms, funerals, funeral visitations, and, on Saturday, Reconciliation at 3:00 PM, along with 4:00 PM Mass. Understandably, people request baptisms and funerals on Saturday when families can come together.

We suggest these wedding times so that we can provide you with time in the church for environment decorations and photographs: Friday afternoon or evening or on Saturday between 10:30 AM and 1:30 PM. We hope to provide you one hour before and one hour after your ceremony in the church. Call the parish office to reserve the day and time. A deposit must be made to hold your wedding date.

The church observes the Sabbath from Saturday evening (Sunday vigil) through the last Mass on Sunday and there should be no other liturgy (Mass) during this time. If you strongly desire a Saturday night wedding one of our deacons would be able to preside at a service. We suggest 6:30PM, with the church available after the Vigil Mass.

A priest or deacon of the parish is the normal witness of the marriages in the parish. If you have a relative or a close family friend who is a priest or deacon, you can get permission for him to witness the marriage. Please contact the Pastor.

The **maid of honor** and the **best man** are not required to be Catholic. The **lectors**, while not required to be Catholic, should be capable of proclaiming the scripture with clarity and understanding. **Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion** must be ministers in their home parishes.

Rehearsal

The rehearsal *usually* takes place the evening before the wedding and should last no longer than one hour. A smooth, well-ordered rehearsal will result in a less stressful wedding ceremony. Our Rehearsal Coordinators, Cathy Quiason and Carol Clifton, will assist you. They will guide you through the wedding rehearsal and wedding. The Rehearsal Coordinators oversee the rehearsal and will see that all necessary preparations are made. An outside wedding consultant may be present at the rehearsal to assist. All payments for musicians and other stipends such as for altar servers, wedding coordinators and use of church should be paid before or at this time.

*While a rehearsal time is placed on the calendar, the time/location could change. All members of the wedding party, including flowers girls and ring bearers, should attend the rehearsal. Those who do the Readings and the Prayers of the Faithful, and those who carry the Gifts, should also be present as well as any visiting priests or deacons, if applicable.

Alcohol Policy

At your wedding, you will participate in a solemn sacrament and will enter into your marriage. Your attendants will likewise be asked to sacramentally and legally witness this most important event. It is appropriate that you and all members of your wedding party be alert. Therefore, alcoholic beverages should not be used before the wedding ceremony while on church property. Likewise, your rehearsal is a time of prayer and preparation, taking place in a sacred space, with the same guidelines. Please encourage your family and friends to wait until after the ceremony/rehearsal to begin any celebrations that include alcohol.

Ceremony

When both bride and groom are Catholic, it is appropriate that the Sacrament of Matrimony be celebrated within the Mass. When only one party is Catholic, we recommend that the wedding is celebrated according to the Rite of Marriage Outside of Mass with respect for varying faith traditions.

The minister of the non-Catholic party is welcome to participate in the wedding liturgy if the couple so wishes. The invitation is extended by the couple after discussing it with the priest or deacon. The role that the minister will take is determined by the priest or deacon and the couple, while respecting as much as possible the wishes of the minister.

A Catholic may be married in a non-Catholic church witnessed by a minister of that church if there is good reason and the Catholic party obtains a dispensation (proper permission). All of the preparations required by the Catholic Church must be completed by the couple in addition to those expected by the other church. The Catholic official (Priest or Deacon) must be present as an officiant for the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony.

Readings and Prayers of the Faithful

The ceremony will include Readings from Sacred Scripture. The Gospel reading is always proclaimed by an ordained minister. Readings from the Hebrews and Christian Scriptures as well as the Prayers of the Faithful can be read by a layperson. It is an honor to offer this to a special family member or dear friend. The lectors should be prepared to practice their readings at rehearsal. The readings should be from the Bible. See *Together for Life* for examples (pages 14-85)

The couple is encouraged to write their own Prayers of the Faithful. They should be brought to the rehearsal. There are examples in the *Together for Life* book (pages 91-92).

Vows

The exchange of consent in the wedding vows is a liturgical celebration and certain formulas are required by the church. Couples may choose vows from one of the options in *Together for Life* (pages 87-89).

Communion

When the Nuptial Mass is celebrated, communion is usually given under the form of bread and wine. Guests who are not members of the Catholic faith are not permitted to receive Holy Communion.

Photographer and Videographer

Wedding pictures can provide treasured keepsakes of this most special occasion. They will be viewed for many years and will help to rekindle these cherished moments. The wedding ceremony is a worship service, and all photographers and videographers should reverence the ceremony and the place. During the ceremony itself, the photographer and videographer are asked to remain as unobtrusive as possible. They should not interfere with any aspect of the procession, liturgy, or recessional. Video equipment must remain stationary. Photographers are not permitted in the sanctuary (the area from the base of the stairs on up) or any other place deemed inappropriate by parish staff.

We allow for 30 minutes after the ceremony to take posed shots at the altar. Casual photos are permitted before the ceremony outside and in the preparation areas. After the wedding procession, we ask that photographers and videographers remain respectful of your family and guests and keep a low profile.

The couple will make arrangements for photographs with a photographer and videographer of their choice. Video lighting and flash are not permitting during the liturgy (Call to Prayer through the end of the Recessional music). Photo and video lighting racks are not permitted.

Church Facilities

Staging Areas

Reserving the Church for a wedding includes the use of staging areas for the bride and bridesmaids (usually Borromeo West) and for the groom and groomsmen (a room in Borromeo Hall). Rooms should be cleaned after they are used. **Please appoint** someone to collect floral vases and boxes, water bottles, etc. These rooms should be returned to their previous condition as we do not have weekend custodial staff and they are used heavily on Sundays.

Clean-up Appointee

We ask that you appoint someone to dispose of all wedding programs, bows, greenery, and other items left in the aisles, sanctuary, and gathering space. This is an important detail as we do not have a custodian on our weekend staff.

Rental of Borromeo Hall

The rental of Borromeo Hall for your reception is by separate contract at specified rates as arranged through our parish office. If you are interested in booking Borromeo Hall, contact the parish office for reservations.

Offerings and Costs

"Give and it shall be given to you...For the measure you measure with will be measured back to you." (Luke 6: 38)

Stewardship is an opportunity to give back, a transformation of the heart, a part of our vocation, a covenant between God and us, and finally, it is giving lovingly to others through time, talent and treasure, what God has given to us.

The biblical call of stewardship indicates a 10% tithe in appreciation to God for all that God has given us. One tenth of the total cost of a wedding (the gowns, tuxedos, the reception, flowers, invitations, limousine, photographer, and so on) can be a large amount. Rarely would a couple offer to pay 10% of the cost of a wedding for the use of the church.

Parishioner(s): If one or both of the engaged couple are active, tithing parishioners of SCB, there is no charge for them to marry at SCB. We call this monetary tithe, "*Treasure*". If you want to join St. Charles Borromeo and become a tithing parishioner(s) please call our Office Manager at 816-436-0880 x201 and she will walk you through the process.

Frequently asked question: "*My parents are parishioners at SCB, and I grew up in this parish, but I am not an active, tithing parishioner. What is the cost to marry at SCB?*" The answer is to tithe according to the cost of your wedding or the best you can.

Services include use of the church for the rehearsal and wedding date, wedding coordinator at rehearsal and date of wedding, planning of the liturgy and music with the Director of Music and Worship, marriage preparation and required paperwork. Please note that if the couple participates in the marriage preparation programs sponsored by the diocese such as *Thrive!* or the Engaged Encounter weekend and the NFP classes, these fees are the responsibility of the couple.

"Time and Talent" are the other two components we hope you develop as members of SCB. As an engaged couple we ask that you look at your individual talents as well as talents you have together and become involved in one or more ministries SCB has to offer. There are also a multitude of opportunities not associated with SCB with which you may become involved.

We know that the time of engagement is exciting and busy with many commitments, but we are far more interested in your marriage and what it means to be part of a parish, *Time, Talent and Treasure*.

Non-Parishioner(s): If neither the bride nor groom is a member of St. Charles Borromeo, you can offer a tithe of the total wedding cost or a minimum of \$1000. Five hundred dollars (\$500) is due at the time of booking the date for the wedding and \$500 is due two weeks before the wedding. Services include our Lead Couple program, use of the church for the rehearsal and wedding date, planning of the liturgy and music with the Director of Music and Worship, marriage preparation and required paperwork. Please note that if the couple participates in any marriage preparation programs sponsored by the diocese such as *Thrive!* or the NFP classes, these fees are the responsibility of the couple.

Additional Costs: All wedding coordinators, musicians and cantors have their own fees which are NOT included in the cost to marry at SCB. Please see the "Wedding Fee Schedule" sheet for suggested stipend amounts.

Decorating Guidelines

You will want to keep your wedding tasteful and spiritual. The simpler the decorations the more attention is focused on the worship experience. We request you avoid large-scale changes to church decorations already in place for our Sunday Masses.

Saint Charles Borromeo is decorated throughout the year to correspond with the changing liturgical seasons. We offer the following overview of liturgical seasons and their corresponding colors to help you and your florist coordinate a color scheme:

- Advent (the 4 weeks before Christmas): Purple, Violet, Dark Blue
- Christmas through Epiphany (January 6th): White, Gold, Red, Green
- Lent (the 6 weeks before Easter): Purple, Violet (Note: Though weddings are discouraged during the forty days of Lent, low-key ceremonies are permitted.)
- Easter (the 6 weeks after Easter Sunday): White, Gold, Pastels
- Ordinary Time (the remainder of the Church year): Green

We also offer the following guidelines for your wedding decorations:

1. You are always welcome to request a white altar cloth when there is another color or pattern on the altar.
2. Please do not place floral arrangements or other items on the altar table.
3. To avoid conflicts with other ceremonies, ask your florist to confer with the church secretary about when the church will be available to decorate for your wedding. Decorating the church should not disrupt other scheduled church events. If your wedding is on the same day as another, you may be wise to coordinate with the other couple.
4. Plants, pots, vases, hangings, and floral arrangements should not be moved or removed, nor should you change the existing church decorations unless prior arrangements have been made with the head of Liturgical Art/Environment, 816-436-0880 x213.
5. Sanctuary furniture should not be moved or rearranged. Please ensure that your photographers, videographers, or anyone else associated with your wedding is aware of this.
6. All candles must be **dripless**. Place them in candelabras that catch and contain any extraneous wax. Please protect the Church and sanctuary floors. Your florists and other decorators will be responsible for cleaning wax from all surfaces.
7. Do not attach pew bows and floral arrangements in any way that damages or changes the finish of church furniture. Please do not use pins, glue, nails, staples, florist's clay, tape, or tacks.

8. Nothing may be dropped, scattered, blown, or thrown inside or outside the Church before, during, or after the wedding ceremony. Nothing may be dropped or scattered in the aisle (including sparkles, flower petals, or artificial flowers). No confetti, rice, birdseed, balloons, bubbles, sparklers, or any other material may be thrown, scattered, ignited, dropped, freed, or blown inside or outside the church.
9. Remove decorations immediately following the ceremony. You are welcome to donate your floral arrangement if you do not take them to your reception.
10. Please leave Saint Charles Borromeo in the condition in which you find it. You will be responsible for any damage and necessary repairs that result from sidestepping these guidelines.
11. If you have chosen the option of a unity candle, we will provide a table draped in white or a stand. You provide candles and holders; you can usually get this through your florist.

Planning the Wedding Liturgy

The role of the parish liturgy coordinator for weddings at Saint Charles Borromeo is to consult with couples about choices and decisions for their wedding liturgy. Contact the coordinator to meet and review the possibilities in detail for your wedding liturgy. The liturgist will assist as needed with musicians, readings, prayers, and other options.

To encourage participation at the ceremony, couples will often choose to create a worship aid (program) for their celebration. While the Liturgist will be happy to review a draft copy of your program, the design and printing of the program are the responsibility of the couple.

The Wedding Mass consists of five parts

1. Introductory or Gathering Rites: preludes before Mass, processional music for the wedding party, and the opening prayers of the Mass
2. The Liturgy of the Word: readings from Scripture, music, and homily
3. The Marriage Rite: exchange of consent, vows, blessing and exchange of rings.
4. The Liturgy of the Eucharist: If you choose not to have a Wedding Mass, this part is omitted and the other four are celebrated.
5. Concluding Rites: final prayers and recessional

Music to be Sung

Diocesan guidelines regarding music in wedding liturgies are provided. Saint Charles Borromeo offers additional suggestions for your consideration. Use appropriate sacred music during the wedding liturgy. Your music should encourage participation by the assembly and include:

- Responsorial Psalm
- Gospel Acclamation (Alleluia)

If your wedding includes Mass, additional music includes:

- Sanctus
- Memorial Acclamations
- the Great Amen
- Lamb of God
- Communion Song

Music for Your Wedding

1. **Preludes** (instruments, organ music, singers(s), or a combination)
(Keep in mind that all liturgical music should be good, but not all good music is appropriate for the liturgy.)
2. **Essential music**
 - **Weddings with Mass**
 - Psalm
 - Service Music
 - Alleluia
 - Holy, Holy (Sanctus)
 - Memorial Acclamation
 - Great Amen
 - Lamb of God
 - **Weddings without Mass**
 - Psalm
 - Alleluia
3. **Processions**
4. **Other appropriate times:**
 - Gathering Song after the wedding procession
 - Preparation of the Gifts
 - Communion Song
 - During Candle Lighting or the procession with flowers to Mary

Wedding Music Lists

Service Music

Service music includes parts of the Wedding Liturgy that involve congregational singing, similar to what is provided at a Sunday Mass. If sung, these parts are not to be co-opted by a soloist to the exclusion of the congregation.

Mass settings

We recommend “Mass of the Resurrection”, “Mass of Renewal”, “Heritage Mass”, or “Mass of Creation..”

Any of these are in the regular parish repertoire here at Saint Charles.

Gospel Acclamations

Many wedding planning sheets provide for the choice of an Alleluia verse for their Wedding Liturgy. Depending on the musical selection chosen for the Alleluia this may or may not be possible to use. Sometimes people who wrote the music did not use the specific words from the liturgy. Consult your singer and musicians about this possibility. The following choices are popular and easy to sing.

Respond and Acclaim, pg 139
Celtic Alleluia 258

Owen Alstott
Fintan O’Carroll/Christopher Walker

Psalms

The Psalm is an integral part of the liturgy of the word, the Psalm is sung, not recited. You may choose any of the following psalms:

Psalm: 33:12 and 18, 20-21, 22 refrain: *The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord.*

Psalm: 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9 refrain: *I will bless the Lord at all times.*

Psalm: 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9 refrain: *Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.*

Psalm: 103:1-2, 8 and 13, 17-18a refrain: *The Lord is kind and merciful.*

Psalm: 103:1-2, 8 and 13, 17-18a refrain: *The Lord’s kindness is everlasting to those who fear him.*

Psalm: 112:1bc-2, 3-4, 5-7a, 7b-8, 9 refrain: *Blessed the man who greatly delights in the Lord’s commands.*

Psalm: 112:1bc-2, 3-4, 5-7a, 7b-8, 9 refrain: *Alleluia*

Psalm: 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 refrain: *Blessed are those who fear the Lord.*

Psalm: 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 refrain: *See how the Lord blesses those who fear him.*

Psalm: 145:8-9, 10 and 15, 17-18 refrain: *The Lord is compassionate toward all his works.*

Psalm: 148:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-13a, 13c-14a refrain: *Let all praise the name of the Lord.*

Psalm: 148:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-13a, 13c-14a refrain: *Alleluia.*

Hymns from Gather Comprehensive:

Hymns may be programmed just after the entrance procession or at communion. Many of these hymns may also make nice prelude choices. Brief songs may be used during the unity candle or as the gifts are brought up for the Eucharist.

A Nuptial Blessing 870	No Greater Love 628
Blessing the Marriage 871	Now Thank We All Our God 565
Blest are They 659	Now The Silence 754
Canticle of the Sun 496	On Eagle's Wings 611
Come My Way My Truth My Life 577	One Bread, One Body 830
Glory and Praise 522	Sing Out, Earth and Skies 499
God is Love 629	Taste and See 814
I have Loved You 504	The Love of the Lord 702
In Love We Choose to Live 873	The Servant Song 669
Joyful, Joyful 528	We Have Been Told 699
Love Divine 622	We Praise You 541
Love One Another 422	We Will Serve The Lord 869
Love is The Sunlight 866	When Love is Found 865
Love One Another 630	You Are Mine 649

Vocal Music for solos, duets, groups, or choirs

The selections listed below are good choices for prelude pieces. Any vocal music sung at a parish wedding should reflect a Christian view of marriage. Though it is not essential for God to be mentioned explicitly in every prelude song, couples should take care to discern which music is better for church and which music would be better at the reception.

All I Ask of You – Norbet & Callahan	One Hand, One Heart – Bernstein
Ave Maria – Schubert	Our Father – Malotte
Ave Maria – Bach/Gounod	Sacred Trust – Kreutz
Ave Maria – Chant 789	The Gift of Love – Hopson
Bridal Prayer – Copeland	The Unity Candle Song – Haan
By My Side – Porter	The Wedding Song – Stookey
Come and Journey with Me – Haas	This Day – Alexander
Gaelic Blessing – Rutter	Walk in Love – Powell
Hail Mary, Gentle Woman – Landry	Walk With Them, Lord – Besig
How Beautiful – Paris	Wedding Hymn – Handel
Irish Blessing – Stookey	Wherever You Go – Haas 867
O perfect Love – Kreutz	Wherever You May Go

Instrumental Music

Instrumental music accompanies the major processions as well as the quieter moments before and during the liturgy. Many of these suggestions will be in your musicians(s)* repertoire, but other appropriate instrumentals can be used at appropriate times.

Processional Music.....*The big stuff.*

Te Deum	Charpentier
Little Prelude in C	Bach
Little Prelude in G	Bach
Hymn to Joy (from Symphony no. 9)	Beethoven
Trumpet Voluntary (Prince of Denmark's march)	Clarke
Triumphal March	Grieg
Fanfare from Water Music	Handel
Festal March from Rinaldo	Handel
Hallelujah Chorus	Handel
Hornpipe from Water Music	Handel
Processional	Handel
The Rejoicing	Handel
Love Divine, All Loves Excelling	hymn tune
Psalm XIX	Marcello
Wedding March	Mendelssohn
Trumpet Tune and Air	Purcell
Wedding Processional	Rodgers
Processional in G Major	Stanley
Allegro from Sinfonia #12	Vivaldi
Spring from the Four Seasons	Vivaldi
Prelude in Classic Style	Young

Attendants, Seating of parents/special family members, interludes, etc.....

More mellow and quiet stuff.

Air from the D Major Suite	Bach
Arioso	Bach
Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring	Bach
When Thou Are Near	Bach
Pastorale and Sarabande	Corelli
Panis Angelicus	Franck
Solemn Processional from Water Music	Handel
Allegretto Cantabile from String Quartet	Haydn
Larghetto from Clarinet Quintet	Mozart
Rondeau	Mouret
Canon in D	Pachelbel
Largo from Guitar Concerto	Vivaldi