

Wedding Music

Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church
Lawton, Oklahoma
580-355-2054

Contact Information

The following staff members can be contracted through the parish office (Monday-Friday 9:30am-5:30pm). Additional contact information is provided below.

Pastor

Rev. Brian Buettner
frbrianokc@gmail.com

Director of Music/Organist

Kurt Lichtenstein
Kurt.lichtenstein@gmail.com

Catholic Weddings

The lifelong bond established by the marriage covenant between a man and woman derives its force from creation. Jesus Christ has raised this natural covenant to a higher dignity as a sacrament of the new and eternal covenant. According to the Latin tradition, the spouses as ministers of Christ's grace mutually confer upon each other Sacrament of Matrimony by expressing their consent before the Church.

Therefore, while the celebration of marriage concerns the spouses and their families, it is not only a private matter. Since their consent is given in the presence of the Church, the celebration of marriage is governed by the appropriate liturgical norms. The Church desires that your wedding day be filled with joy and grace.

The Marriage Ceremony, whether celebrated within Mass or alone, is a divine sacrament of the Church. Music chosen must be appropriate in dignity to the serious yet joyful covenant proclaimed. Any music not worthy to be used during Mass, should NEVER be considered at a wedding. While the couple may rightly be involved in the selection of music for their wedding, they must be led to realize that the Church demands certain standards which must be upheld.

All music before and during the ceremony must reflect the reverence and dignity of the occasion, intensify the Christian meaning of the liturgical service and dignify and enhance the sacredness of the liturgy. Secular music, even though it may emphasize the love of the spouses for one another, is not appropriate for the Sacred Liturgy. Popular music or music of a questionable nature is best saved for the reception. Keep in mind that the architecture of our parish church lends itself to more traditional styles of music.

The following must not be used:

- Any music that is purely secular in nature and, as such, neglects the sacred union of the couple, not only to one another, but also to Christ.
- Popular, operatic or Broadway musical favorites which merely recall sentimental and personal associations; such music should be reserved for the wedding reception.
- No pre-recorded music.

Music

The following outline provides options and recommended selections for the wedding ceremony. The Director of Music will guide you in assisting appropriate music for your wedding.

WEDDING WITHIN MASS

- **PRELUDE:**
 - *Aria in F* (G.F. Handel)
 - *Air on the G String; Suite No. 3, BWV 1068* (J. S. Bach)
- **BRIDAL PARTY ENTRANCE:**
 - *Canon in D* (Johann Pachelbel)
 - *Jesu, Joy of Our Desiring* (J.S. Bach)
- **BRIDE ENTRANCE:**
 - *Prince of Denmark's March* (Jeremiah Clarke)
 - *Prelude to a Te Deum* (M.A. Charpentier)
- **GLORIA: Missa de Angelis**
- **RESPONSORIAL PSALM** (Sung by cantor)
 - Psalm 33: "The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord."
 - Psalm 34: "Taste and see the goodness of the Lord."
 - Psalm 103: "The Lord is king and merciful."
 - Psalm 128: Blessed are those who fear the Lord."
- **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**
 - "Alleluia" (sung by cantor)
 - Verse:
 - "Everyone who loves is begotten of God and knows God." (1 Jn 4:7b)
 - "God is love. If God loved us, we also must love one another." (1 Jn 4:8b,11)
 - "If we love one another, God remains in us and his love is brought to perfection in us." (1 Jn 4:12)
 - "Whoever remains in love, remains in God and God in him." (1 Jn 4:16)
- **RITE OF MARRIAGE** (Typically no music)
- **OFFERTORY** (Option of antiphon, hymn, or musician solo)
 - Antiphon (sung by cantor)
 - "In you, O Lord, have I hoped. I said, you are my God; my times are in your hands." (Ps 30:15-16)
 - Hymn
 - All People That on Earth Do Dwell
 - Love Divine, All Loves Excelling
 - Praise to the Lord
 - Musician Solo

- *Ave Maria* (Franz Schubert)
 - *Ave Maria* (J.S. Bach / Gounod)
 - *The Call* (Ralph Vaughan Williams)
 - *Panis Angelicus* (Cesar Franck)
- MASS SETTING
 - *Missa de Angelis* (Sanctus, Mortem Tuam, Agnus Dei)
 - The Lord's Prayer (Our Father) is recited, not sung
- COMMUNION: (Antiphon is always sung with one hymn or musician solo)
 - Antiphon (sung by cantor)
 - "Christ loved the Church and handed himself over for her, to present her as a holy and spotless bride for himself." (Eph 5:25-27)
 - Hymns
 - Prayer of St. Francis
 - The King of Love
 - Ubi Caritas
 - Musician Solo
 - *Ave Maria* (Franz Schubert)
 - *The Call* (Ralph Vaughan Williams)
- DISMISSAL MUSIC (EXIT)
 - *Wedding March* (Felix Mendelssohn)
 - *Ode to Joy* (Ludwig van Beethoven)
- RECESSIONAL MUSIC
 - Organ Voluntary

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Outside Musicians

Guest/professional musicians are welcome to assist at the wedding, but only with the approval of the Director of Music. Professional musicians must adhere to these guidelines and are contracted by you. Most require four to six months advance notice for booking. Outside professional musicians may not be hired in lieu of the parish organist and cantor.

Non-professional musicians (such as friends/family) may be asked to sing (or play) one or two solos at either Preparation of the Gifts or after Communion (if celebration takes place within a Mass), provided the music and their manner of singing does not call attention to themselves but rather assists in the contemplation of the sacred mysteries being celebrated. Soloists shall be given the music in advance, expected to learn it on their own, and be at the rehearsal to practice. The Director of Music shall determine if additional rehearsals are needed to ensure a high-quality rendering. There is a fee of \$50 per additional rehearsal.

Many parishioners are highly skilled on various solo instruments such as trumpet, harp, etc. If you are interested, ask the Director of Music. There is a fee of \$100 per instrumentalist.