

To the Bride & Groom,

Congratulations on your upcoming marriage! We at Sacred Heart are thrilled to help you make your matrimony both beautiful and memorable. In this process, I ask that you fill out the information on the attached form concerning music ministry at the celebration. Below are explanations to help you in your planning.

1. **Music Liturgy Planning Form** - If you are unsure of your plans to celebrate the Liturgy of the Eucharist (Holy Communion) within your marriage celebration, please consult with the presiding Priest or Deacon.
 - a. Rite of Marriage with Mass
 - Use this form if you DO plan to celebrate the Liturgy of the Eucharist (Holy Communion) within your marriage celebration.
 - b. Rite of Marriage without Mass
 - Use this form if you DO NOT plan to celebrate the Liturgy of Eucharist (Holy Communion) within your marriage celebration

2. **Music Selections List** - The list of song selections (also found on the website) is laid out by track so that you can hear examples of each song for selection. You will follow the link to a youtube song list to preview each work. This list is not comprehensive, and you may choose alternate songs. However, any song choices must be sacred in nature (pertaining to/connected to God), and appropriate for the sacred space of church. If desired, you may choose to use appropriate popular or contemporary christian works as selections. We look forward to working with you on this selection process.
 - a. Wedding CD #1 -
 - Processional: Choose one song for the entrance of all members of the wedding party including the Bride with parents and the Groom with parents.
 - Recessional: Choose one song for the exit of the Bride/Groom and wedding party. This may be instrumental or sung.
 - Gathering Hymn: Choose one song to be sung by the entire congregation after the processional. It may be best to choose a song that is familiar to ensure participation from the whole congregation.
 - Responsorial Song: Choose one song to be sung between the first and second readings. This song is a call-and-response between the cantor and assembly.
 - b. Wedding CD #2
 - Communion Hymn: Choose one song to be sung by the entire congregation after the processional. It may be best to choose a song that is familiar to ensure participation from the whole congregation.

- Additional Solo & Assembly Songs: These selections can be used for the Placing of the Lazo or the Veil, prelude and postlude options. Often at least one prelude is chosen by the couple to be played during the procession of special guests (grandparents or others).

- 3. Programs** - You will be responsible for drafting and printing your wedding programs. I have attached examples in different styles. If you would like, you may send me a draft for review before final printing. In your program, please be sure to include Breaking Bread missal song numbers for congregational songs and names of composers/arrangers for any instrumental or solo music.
- 4. Musicians** - For the celebration, it is best to have **both** a cantor and an accompanist. An outside soloist or musician is welcome to provide select songs in the Mass. For Marriage within the Mass (with communion), we suggest using a cantor and accompanist from the Sacred Heart Music Ministry list (attached) for the Mass setting and congregational hymns. If you need assistance in the process, please let me know!

Once you have had a chance to look through this information and make some initial decisions concerning your music selections, please call or e-mail me to make a planning appointment. Once again, congratulations! I look forward to hearing from you and collaborating on this exciting celebration!

Grace and Peace,

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