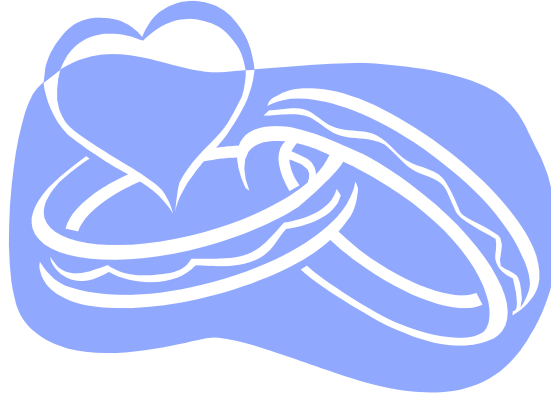


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(Rev. August 18, 2022)**



Selecting Music for Your Wedding

Congratulations on your engagement! This has been prepared to help you choose music for your wedding. Our goal has been to present several possibilities for each musical moment in the service, without overloading you with too many options. If you wish to include music not presented here, please contact me (email is the most convenient way) and we'll work out the details.

In its simplest form, music for a Catholic wedding can be just keyboard (piano and organ) and voice. It is always possible, however, to include additional musicians and singers to make your celebration even more joyous. Whether you use professional musicians or relatives and friends, please contact me with your plans and we'll work out the details together.

Catholics regard marriage as a Sacrament. The Wedding Liturgy is a liturgical celebration and music used in the Church is considered as prayer. All music, vocal or instrumental, must be sacred rather than secular, whether played before, during, or after the marriage liturgy. It must be music appropriate for Catholic worship. A song may be inappropriate if it fails to express an explicitly Christian view of love and worship. Texts should clearly reflect and affirm a relationship with God.

Music from movies, television, Broadway shows, favorite singers or bands, even if a religious text is set to the tune or if it is played as an instrumental, distracts from the liturgical action and the ministerial function of the music and are not permitted. However, these melodies could beautifully enhance the wedding rehearsal dinner or the wedding reception.

Prelude

This is music as people are entering the church before the wedding begins. Instrumental music is preferred for this time. Rather than listing specific songs, you may indicate “piano music” or if there is another instrument they would be included as well. If there is a sacred song you would like to include but that doesn’t fit elsewhere, it could be sung or played just before the ceremony begins.

Entrance of the Bridal Party

This music for the entrance of the bridal party and the bride may be used in two different ways. 1. Two pieces: There may be one piece of music for the bridal party and a second piece for the bride. This works particularly well if the bridal party is large. 2. One piece: In this case, it is played softly for the bridal party followed by a brief fanfare and a louder, more majestic version for the bride. This works best with medium to small groups.

Canon in D

Pachelbel

Without doubt, this is a most appropriate piece for the entry of the bridal party. If the bridal party isn’t too large, it can also be extended to include the entrance of the bride with the addition of a brief fanfare.



Jesu, Joy of Our Desiring

J.S. Bach

This classic will work here or at the presentation of the gifts.



Entrance of the Bride

Trumpet Voluntary

Clarke

This piece became very popular after its use in the wedding of Princess Diana and Prince Charles. It sounds very regal and stately.



Trumpet Tune

Purcell

Although similar in tone to *Trumpet Voluntary*, this equally magnificent piece is used less frequently. It may also be used for the recessional.



Solemn March

Handel

This piece by Handel is a stately alternative to the more commonly performed wedding marches.



Gloria

We use the Gloria from the Mass of St. Ann by Ed Bolduc.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 34: *Taste and See*

Moore

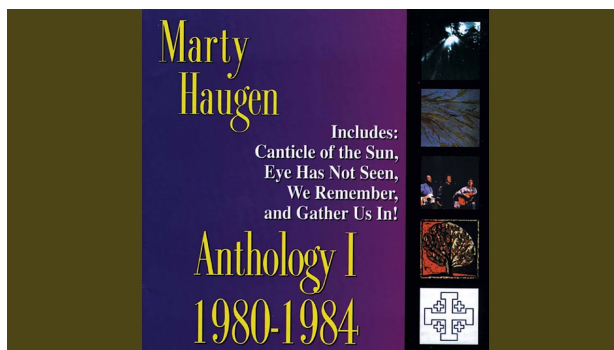
This well known setting of Psalm 34 makes it easy for everyone to join in on the refrain.



Psalm 34: *Taste and See*

Haugen

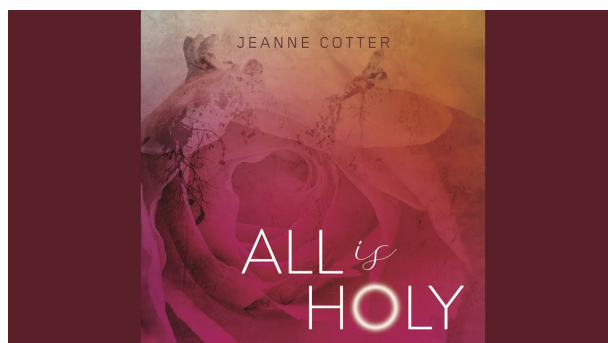
An equally attractive setting of the Psalm 34.



Psalm 103: *The Lord is Kind and Merciful*

Cotter

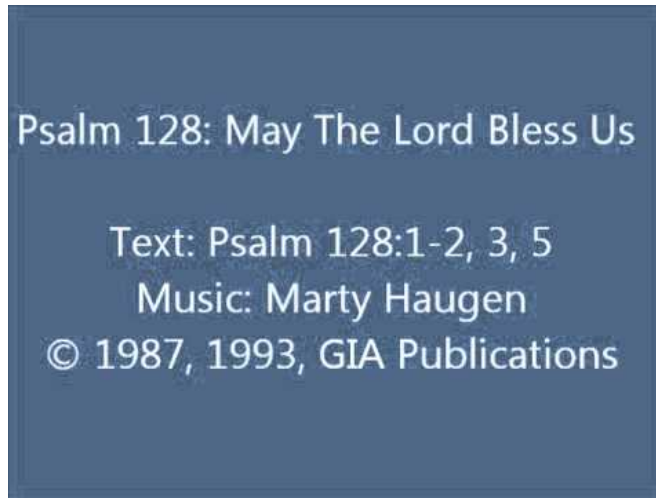
This Psalm is a lovely expression of gratitude to God.



Psalm 128: *May the Lord Bless Us*

Haugen/Kodner

This setting speaks of the blessings of family life. It may also be used with the refrain “Blest are those who love you, happy those who follow you, blest are those who seek you, O God.”



Psalm 145: *How Good Is the Lord to All*

LaRosa

A lovely setting!



Gospel Acclamation

Celtic Alleluia

O'Carroll/Walker

There are six verses to choose from in the “Together for Life” booklet. Please mark your selection E1-E6.

Presentation of the Gifts (only if the wedding is a Mass)

Jesu, Joy of Our Desiring

J.S. Bach

This well known piece by Bach works well here as an instrumental.



I Will Be Here

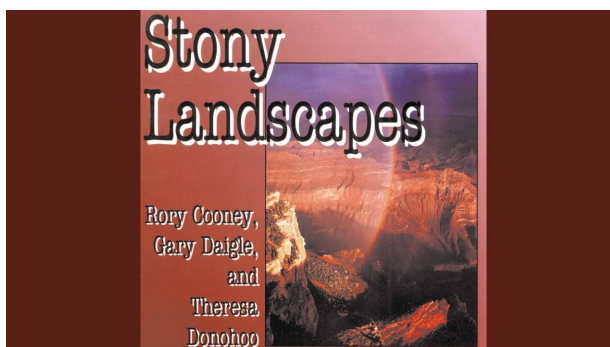
Steven Curtis Chapman

This song tells of God's faithful presence in our lives.



Every Morning In Your Eyes

Cooney



God in the Planning

Irish Melody



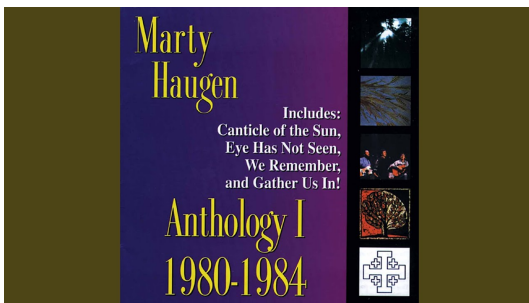
Mass (only if the wedding is a Mass)

Mass of St. Ann

Communion (only if the wedding is a Mass)

Any Communion song used at Mass will work here, but here a few possibilities.

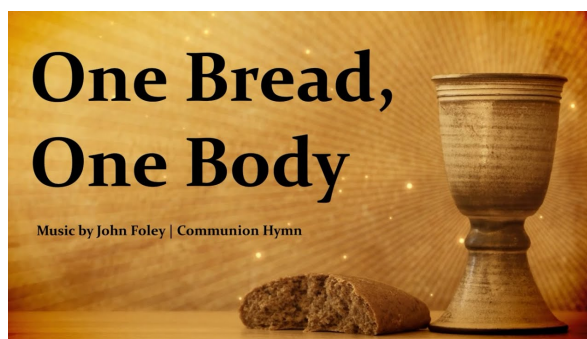
Taste and See (if not chosen as the psalm) Haugen or Moore



One Bread, One Body

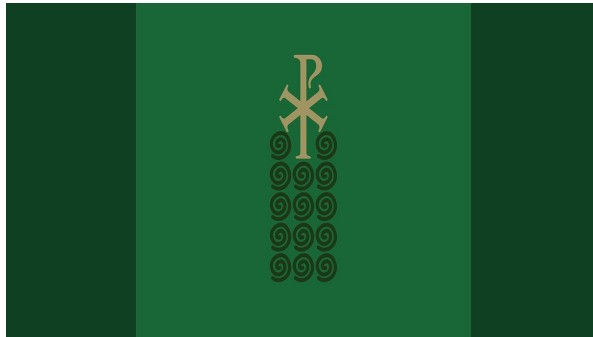


Foley



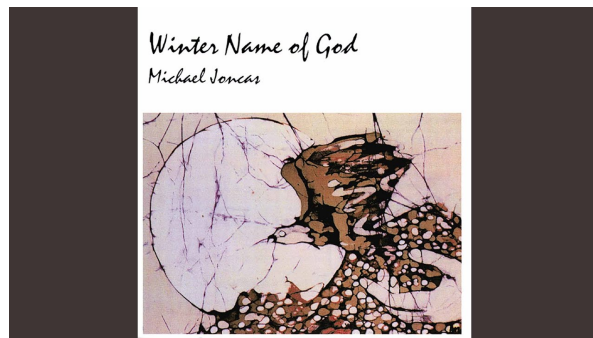
I have Loved You

Joncas



May Love Be Ours

Joncas



How Beautiful

Paris



Flowers to Mary

This is optional.

Ave Maria

Schubert



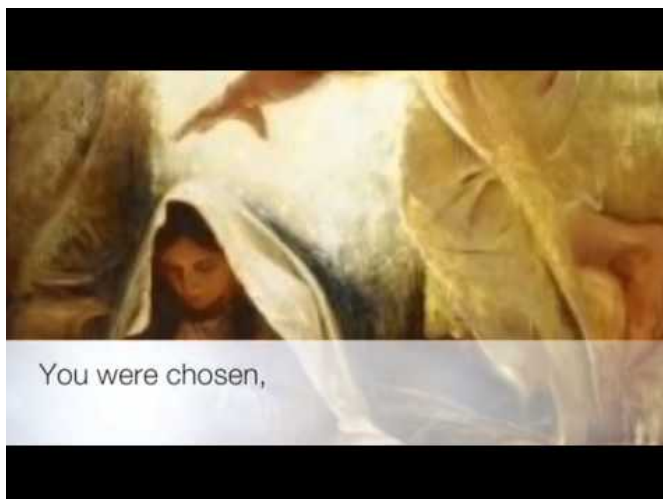
Ave Maria

Bach/Gounod



Hail Mary/Gentle Woman

Landry



Recessional

Rondeau

Mouret

This French piece dances you right up the aisle!



Wedding March

Mendelssohn

For some couples this is **the** essential recessional.



Finale (from Water Music)

Handel

Also known by other titles such as “Hornpipe” and “With Trumpets and Horns”, this is an exceptionally energetic recessional.



Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

Beethoven

This popular hymn tune is from Beethoven's 9th Symphony.



Spring (from the Four Seasons)

Vivaldi

A sprightly and enduring melody!

