

# MUSIC FOR WEDDINGS

## The Rite of Marriage

A Christian wedding should be characterized by dignity, reverence and joy. It is not only the solemn exchange of vows by an engaged couple, but it is also an act of worship in which the bride and groom, along with their family and friends, come together to offer thanks and praise and to ask God's blessing on their life together as husband and wife. The music selected should be of a Scriptural nature, i.e. taken from the Bible or identifiable as a prayer. The text of the song should speak directly of the divine-religious dimension of love or clearly imply it. **The integrity of the Mass should be maintained, and a song which would not typically be heard at Mass on Sunday is doubtfully appropriate for use at a Nuptial Mass.** Please remember that the marriage rite is a sacrament which usually takes place during the Mass.

**PLEASE NOTE: The use of SECULAR/POP music as well as RECORDED MUSIC is strictly PROHIBITED.**

## MUSIC PLANNING

- \* Visit our Music for Weddings website [spc-church.org/weddingmusic](http://spc-church.org/weddingmusic), and download the **Planning Forms** (or print out the forms provided in this packet). As you listen to the music selections, fill out the Liturgical Planning Form and carefully complete the Contact Information Form. Places where music is needed are highlighted in **yellow**.
- \* Once completed, e-mail the completed forms to the Director of Music, Ed Eicker, at [edwardeicker@spc-church.org](mailto:edwardeicker@spc-church.org). Please return your completed forms **NO LATER** than **two months** prior to your wedding.
- \* **FEES:**
- \* **Organist/pianist:** \$300
- \* **Vocalist:** \$250
- \* **Additional instrumentalists (optional):** \$250-\$300 ea.

**GRATUITY:** Tips are not expected, but greatly appreciated.

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**Fees for musicians should be paid TWO weeks PRIOR to your Wedding date.**

- \* St. Paul of the Cross **REQUIRES** the use of its in-house accompanists (organ/piano). **Outside organists and pianists are not allowed.**
- \* **ALL** additional vocalists and instrumentalists (i.e. violin, trumpet, flute, etc.) shall be hired by the St. Paul music staff.
- \* In the situation that you wish to use a friend or family member as your vocalist, he or she **must** be an experienced cantor, familiar with the Catholic liturgy/repertoire. A rehearsal with the vocalist will be required, and an **additional rehearsal fee of \$50** paid to the organist.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Should you decide to forgo an organist/pianist entirely and use an alternate ensemble, (i.e. string quartet) a “coordinators fee” of **\$200** shall be paid to the organist who was assigned to your wedding.