



**The Catholic Center at UGA**

# Catholic Weddings Music and Liturgy Guide

Updated 8/07/2024

### **General Information:**

Weddings at the Catholic Center are directed by the celebrant and the Wedding Guild. You're welcome to hire your own wedding consultant, but they are required to abide by our policies, and operate only under the direction of the officiant and representatives of the Wedding Guild.

### **Marriage Preparation:**

Marriage preparation is the process leading up to the wedding ceremony when a priest or a designated couple meets with the engaged couple for a number of sessions in order to discuss topics of faith, relationship and marriage.

Can we do our marriage preparation elsewhere, yet get married at the Catholic Center? Yes, however, paperwork must be done by the Parish doing the marriage prep.

### **Catholics marrying another Catholic:**

Please see information below about reserving the date and beginning marriage preparation. There is some paperwork to fill out by the couple.

### **Catholics marrying a non-Catholic:**

Can a Catholic marry a non-Catholic? Yes.

Can a Catholic marry a non-Christian? Yes.

Can a Priest marry a Catholic and a non-Catholic? Yes.

Can a Priest marry a Catholic and a non-Christian? Yes.

In an interfaith marriage, the Catholic party is required to "make a sincere promise to do all in his or her power so that all offspring are baptized and brought up in the Catholic Church" (*Code of Canon Law* 1125). The spouse of a different faith needs to be clearly informed about that promise. In addition, a "dispensation" is required from the archdiocese. The priest facilitating your marriage preparation/documentation will help you obtain this permission.

### **Guest Priests or Ministers**

Priests from other Catholic parishes are welcome to celebrate your wedding. We'll need their name and contact information to send them their required paperwork ahead of the wedding. If they are from a parish outside of the Archdiocese of Atlanta, they have to apply to the archdiocese for permission to celebrate the wedding within six months of the wedding date and provide us a copy of the letter from their diocese granting those faculties.

In an interfaith marriage, the minister of the non-Catholic party may participate in the ceremony, either in the readings and/or giving a blessing. Church law does not permit the priest and minister jointly to ask for and receive the vows, nor does it permit a double recitation of the vows.

### **Rite of Marriage within Mass**

All sacraments, including marriage, are connected to the Paschal Mystery we see in Mass – Christ uniting Himself to His Church as a Groom to His Bride. In a Wedding Mass, the couple are the ministers of the Sacrament. The Priest assists, witnesses, and blessed the marriage.

### **Rite of Marriage outside of Mass**

This Liturgy is shorter. It includes a Liturgy of the Word and homily, but omits Holy Communion.

**Weddings for Alumni at the Catholic Center:**

Reach out to your local parish to do the paperwork. If you are not a part of a parish, then you should go to your local parish, register, and complete the paperwork there. Upon completion and approval of the paperwork, the couple would begin marriage preparation at their local parish.

**Sacramental Wedding not within the Catholic church physical building:**

Can a priest perform a wedding ceremony outside the Catholic church? The priest needs to get permission to do this from Archdiocesan headquarters and submit legitimate reasoning. If there is a non-Catholic or non-Christian involved, and the priest has been granted permission, the priest can do the wedding ceremony. A Catholic marrying another Catholic ought to be married in a Catholic church.

## Church Forms

Form	Get it from	Submit it to	Due Date	Notes
Baptismal Certificate	The church of your baptism within six months of your wedding date	The priest or deacon directing your marriage preparation	Within six months before your wedding date	Catholics need a new copy of their baptismal certificate from the parish of their baptism, noting all Sacraments received. If the Bride or Groom was baptized in another faith, and later was received into the Catholic Church, we need a copy of his/her Profession of Faith, with notations. Non-Catholics must provide evidence of baptism (e.g, a certificate/letter from the church's secretary, or a signed affidavit by a witness to the baptism).
Affidavit for Freedom to Marry	Your first meeting with priest/deacon	The priest celebrating your wedding	As soon as possible	The bride and groom each need two affidavits completed on their behalf. Affidavits are completed by relatives or friends who attest that each of the espoused is free to marry. These forms must be either notarized by a Notary Public, signed in the presence of a clergy member of the pastoral staff, or in the presence of their own priest or deacon. Please do not turn in Affidavits without one of these forms of witness.
Archdiocesan Bride and Groom Questionnaires	Your first meeting with priest	Completed at a marriage prep meeting	As soon as possible	These forms are signed and witnessed to certify that the information is correct.

Form	Get it from	Submit it to	Due Date	Notes
<b>Forms for Specific Occasions</b>				
Dispensation Form				This form is required for weddings between a Catholic or a non-Catholic, or if the ceremony is conducted by a non-Catholic minister or civil official. This form is obtained by the clergy directing your marriage preparation.
Letter of Permission from Pastor				This form is required if either party is a Catholic registered at another parish. Their pastor will provide a letter approving the marriage outside the registered party's home parish.
Final Decree of Annulment			Prior to scheduling your wedding	
<b>Civil Forms</b>				
Civil Marriage License	Your county probate court: <a href="#">Cherokee</a> <a href="#">Cobb</a> <a href="#">DeKalb</a> <a href="#">Fulton</a> <a href="#">Gwinnett</a>  <a href="#">Out-of-state residents</a>	The priest celebrating your wedding	At least one week before your wedding	The Wedding cannot be conducted without the marriage license! It is illegal in Georgia for a clergy member to officiate at a marriage unless the license is in hand. Assurances that the license has been issued are not sufficient.  The Center staff will mail the certificate to the county the Monday after your wedding. To obtain an official copy of your marriage license, please contact the county of issuance (the county may require a fee).
Death Certificate				If either party has been married before and the marriage ended due to the death of a spouse, a copy of the death certificate will be required.

**Fees:**

The Catholic Center charges a fee of \$500 to use the Chapel for the wedding for members of the Catholic Center. For non-members of the Catholic Center, the fee is \$750.

To reserve your time and date, please deposit at least half of this amount.

The Catholic Center charges an additional mandatory fee for music at the wedding ceremony at the church. Catholic Center musicians must be utilized to ensure the song selections and mass acclamations are done well, at the correct time, and appropriate for liturgy.

A fee of \$250-\$350 is also encouraged as a stipend for the presiding priest.

**Streaming (Optional):**

If you would like the wedding streamed, a fee of \$100 is required as a stipend for the AV technician to run the cameras and the stream.

This will be collected by the Director of Liturgy of Music who will assign an A/V tech.

<b>Fee</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Due Date</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Catholic Center	\$500 ( <i>members</i> ) \$750 ( <i>non-members</i> )	50% to reserve the date, 50% 30 days prior to wedding	This fee covers the use of the Chapel for the ceremony and for the rehearsal, as well as the Bride's Room, the Groom's Waiting Area, the Program, and the services of the Wedding Guild.
Officiant	\$250-350 (encouraged)	Wedding Day	It is customary for the couple to provide an honorarium to the priest officiating. The amount is a matter of personal discretion and should reflect your sincere appreciation.
Organist/ Pianist	\$350	No later than 2 weeks prior to wedding	A bench fee of \$200 is paid to the Director of Music and Liturgy if outside musicians are exclusively used, and other additional fees may arise, depending on the number of musicians included in your wedding, the number of rehearsals required, and other factors.
Cantor ( <i>Optional</i> )	\$250	No later than 2 weeks prior to wedding	A staff cantor other than the Director of Music is optional at a nuptial ceremony. The Director of Music typically can sing and play most selections without the use of another cantor.
Streaming ( <i>Optional</i> )	\$100	No later than 2 weeks prior to wedding	Streaming is optional. No fee is required unless you want the ceremony streamed on YouTube and/or Facebook

## Information Form

Bride \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Groom \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Wedding Date \_\_\_\_\_ Time \_\_\_\_\_ | Rehearsal Date \_\_\_\_\_ Time \_\_\_\_\_

Priest \_\_\_\_\_

Best Man \_\_\_\_\_ Maid/Matron of Honor \_\_\_\_\_

Names of Parents & Grandparents \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Bridesmaids \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Groomsmen \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Ushers \_\_\_\_\_

Ring Bearer \_\_\_\_\_ Flower Girl \_\_\_\_\_

Expected Attendance \_\_\_\_\_

Location of Rehearsal Dinner (*for the wedding coordinators to tell lost sheep*)

Location of Reception (*for the wedding coordinators to tell lost sheep*)

Dedicated person for taking wedding gifts/cards to reception \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like the wedding streamed? (\$100) Yes / No

Additional Notes:

**Music Selections**

*Mass* \_\_\_\_ *Lit of Word* \_\_\_\_

Preludes: (Optional) \_\_\_\_\_

Seating of Mothers and Grandmothers \_\_\_\_\_

Bridal Party Procession \_\_\_\_\_

Bridal Procession \_\_\_\_\_

Gloria (Seasonal) \_\_\_\_\_

Responsorial Psalm \_\_\_\_\_

Gospel Acclamation \_\_\_\_\_

Presentation & Preparation of the Gifts \_\_\_\_\_

Mass Setting \_\_\_\_\_

Communion \_\_\_\_\_

Flowers to St. Mary or Unity Candle \_\_\_\_\_

Recessional \_\_\_\_\_

Additional musicians \_\_\_\_\_

Notes:

**Readings**

Old Testament Reading \_\_\_\_\_ Read by \_\_\_\_\_

New Testament Reading \_\_\_\_\_ Read by \_\_\_\_\_

Gospel Reading \_\_\_\_\_

Prayer of the Faithful Read by \_\_\_\_\_

Gift Bearers \_\_\_\_\_



**Worship Aid**

The Worship Aid will be provided by the Catholic Center with no charge for printing. All information needed for the Worship Aid must be emailed to the Director of Music and Liturgy no later than **two weeks** prior to the wedding date. Please send Picture for front Cover and/or Back Cover to [music@ccatuga.org](mailto:music@ccatuga.org).

Names of all Bridesmaids: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Names of all Groomsmen: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Names of family and friends who are no longer with us to be recognized and remembered:  
(optional) \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you note to family and friends (*optional*)

Reception information and directions if needed:

**CONTACT INFO: Dan Marcacci, Director of Music and Liturgy**  
email: [music@ccatuga.org](mailto:music@ccatuga.org) phone: 678-468-4100

Congratulations on your engagement. We are delighted you have chosen to have your wedding here at The Catholic Center. We will work with you on planning out your music for this sacred event.

All music must be approved by the Director of Liturgy and Music. It is preferred that Catholic Center organists/pianists be the primary musicians in the wedding ceremony. Other musicians must be approved at least 30 days prior to the event and a bench fee of \$200 will be assessed.

The musicians typically do not attend the rehearsal. If you would like the primary musician to be present at the rehearsal or there is a need for additional rehearsals with out of town guest cantors or soloists, additional fees will be required for each session.

When selecting your music, please be aware that all music in your ceremony should be sacred (religious) in nature. Please save your favorite "love songs" for the reception where it is more suitable.

Please listen to the enclosed musical selections to help you plan your wedding music. They are all available on youtube, itunes, or other music sites.

Please contact the Director of Liturgy and Music as soon as you have a date for your wedding for appropriate scheduling of the organist/pianist and other musicians. Please make an appointment no later than four weeks prior to your event to plan the music and discuss options. If the Director of Music and Liturgy is unavailable, for the wedding date, qualified substitutes will be provided.

Payment for all musicians is due two weeks prior to the wedding and is to be paid to the Director of Liturgy and Music. Cash or individual checks should be made out to each musician and AV Personnel.

Organist/Pianist Fee:	\$350	Streaming Fee / AV:	\$100
Rehearsal Fee (Optional):	\$150/event		
Other Musicians:			
Cantor (Vocalist)	\$250		
Violinist:	\$250		
String Quartet:	\$1000-\$250		
Trumpet:	\$250-\$350		
French Horn:	\$250-\$350		
Harp:	\$350-\$600		
Cello:	\$350-\$600		

We have uploaded many music selections to YouTube to make your reviewing much easier:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T1KT06TjwJA&list=PL1RhX7iSqcAxJ2eVRSSdLb--I-PC2ZMC4>

## **MUSIC SUGGESTIONS:**

## PRELUDE MUSIC (STARTS 15 MINUTES PRIOR TO THE BRIDE'S ENTRANCE)

Instrumental or vocal tunes or string quartet or piano or other instruments

Classical music and/or contemporary Christian Music

Panis Angelicus - Cesar Frank  
Pie Jesu - A.L. Webber  
Largo (from Xerxes) - Handel  
Ave Verum - Mozart  
Air (Water Music Suite) - Handel  
Coronation - Boyce  
The Bridal Prayer - Copeland  
I Can Only Imagine  
As It Is In Heaven - Maher  
In This Very Room - Harris  
The Lord's Prayer - Mallote  
Breathe - Barnett  
Center - Charlie Hall  
Draw Me Close - Carpenter  
Enough - Tomlin  
The Gift of Love -- Hal Hopson

The Wedding Song (There Is Love)  
How Beautiful - Twila Paris  
The Prayer - Sager/Foster  
Find Us Ready - Booth  
God of Wonders - Byrd  
Here I Am to Worship - Hughes  
How He Loves - McMillan  
I Love You, Lord - Maher  
I Will Never Be- Hillsong  
Jesus, My Everything - Maher  
Mighty to Save - Hillsone  
Reason To Live - Bolduc  
Refiner's Fire - Doerksen  
Sacred Silence - Booth  
Take My Life - Tomlin  
Word of God Speak - Millard

## SEATING OF THE MOTHERS/GRANDMOTHERS/ OTHERS AND BRIDESMAIDS' PROCESSIONAL

Instrumental or Vocal (Some of the contemporary songs work from above)

Air on G - J.S. Bach  
Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring - J.S. Bach  
Canon in D - Pachelbel  
Ave Maria - Gounod  
Ave Maria - Schubert Rondeau - Moure

### BRIDE'S PROCESSIONAL

It is possible to bring in the whole bridal party and bride with one musical selection, or use a separate selection or Hymn for the Bride.

Ave Maria Gounod or Schubert  
Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring - J.S. Bach  
Canon in D - Pachelbel  
Ode to Joy - Beethoven  
Wagner: Bridal Chorus from Lohengrin (Here Comes the Bride)  
Prince of Denmark's March - Jeremiah Clarke  
Trumpet Tune - Purcell Rondeau - Mouret

### Congregational Hymn Possibilities for Bridal Entrance or Recessional:

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee  
All Creatures of Our God and King  
Christ is Made the Sure Foundation  
Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing  
For the Beauty of the Earth  
Gather Us In

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling  
Lord of All Hopefulness  
Morning Has Broken  
O God, Beyond All Praising  
10,000 Reasons  
Mighty To Save (HillSong)

## **RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

This is a 'call & response' song, rather than a solo.

Psalm 128 - Blest Are Those Who Love You  
Psalm 95 - If Today - Bolduc  
Psalm 66 - Let All the Earth - Haugen  
Psalm 33 - The Earth is Full of the Goodness of the Lord  
Psalm 126 - God Has Done Great Things  
Psalm 128 - Blest Are Those Who Love You  
Psalm 145 - I Will Praise Your Name Forever - Muglia  
Psalm 34 - Taste & See - Angrisano  
Psalm 34 - Taste & See the Goodness of the Lord – Moore  
Psalm 118– This is the Day the Lord Has Made - Haugen

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (OR 'ALLELUIA')**

Recommended: “The Celtic Alleluia” is familiar to many Catholics and encourages participation (During Lent, other options are available.)

## **TRIBUTE TO MARY and/or UNITY CANDLE: (OPTIONAL)**

A Marian song or short instrumental works best here. The movement of the bride and groom to the Statue of Mary is nicely accompanied by a sung or instrumental tune.

Ave Maria - Gounod  
Ave Maria - Schubert  
Hail Mary, Gentle Woman

## **PREPARATION OF GIFTS (OFFERTORY) {Mass Only}**

This is a spot for a relatively short instrumental or vocal song to accommodate the processional of the gifts to the altar. A shortened version of many of the aforementioned selections would work too.

Pie Jesu - A.L. Webber  
Ave Verum - Mozart  
Gift of Love  
Gift of Finest Wheat

## **EUCCHARISTIC ACCLAMATIONS (HOLY, MEM. ACCL., GREAT AMEN, LAMB OF GOD) {Mass Only}**

The **Mass of Creation** by Marty Haugen is very familiar to most all Catholics in the U.S.  
The **Mass of St. Anne** (Bolduc) is known by the Catholic Center Congregation.  
The **Mass of Communion** (Maher) is known by many college students.

## **COMMUNION {Mass Only}**

Music is needed here: either a liturgical/congregational song or a solo (contemporary or traditional).

Here I Am, Lord - Schutte  
Ave Maria Gounod or Schubert  
Behold the Lamb of God - Maher  
Gift of Finest Wheat  
Hail Mary, Gentle Woman  
Here I Am Lord - Schutte  
I Am the Bread of Life - Talbot  
I Am the Bread of Life - Toolan  
Look Beyond - Ducote  
Lord, I Come - Funk  
Lord, I Need You - Maher  
Many and One - Angrisano  
Prayer of St. Francis/ Make Me A Channel of Your Peace

Panis Angelicus (solo) - Frank  
One Bread, One Body - Foley  
Pie Jesu - A.L. Webber  
Miracle of Grace - Stephan  
My Soul Is Thirsting - Angrisano  
Sanctuary  
Table of Plenty  
Taste and See - Angrisano  
Ubi Caritas  
We Are One Body  
We Come to You - Blakesley

## **RECESSIONAL (AN INSTRUMENTAL PIECE HERE IS USUALLY BEST)**

Traditional Wedding March - Mendelssohn  
Ode to Joy - Beethoven  
Forever - Tomlin  
He Is Exalted - Paris  
Hornpipe from Water Music - Handel  
Holy, Holy Hoy, Lord God Almighty  
Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

Let Everything That Has Breath - Redman  
Love Divine, All Loves Excelling  
Now Thank We All Our God  
Psalm 19 - Marcello  
Rondeau - Mouret  
Rejouissance - Handel  
All the People Said Amen - Maher

\*\*Any of the processional pieces mentioned for the Bridal procession may work.