**Holy Spirit Parish**

**3601 E Dudley Lane**

**Sioux Falls, SD 57103**

**605-371-2320**

**Guidelines and**

**Directives for**

***Marriage Preparation***

 **and *Weddings*.**

**Guidelines and Directives for Marriage Preparation and Weddings**

**Holy Spirit Parish**

**3601 E Dudley Lane**

**Sioux Falls, SD 57103**

**605-371-2320**

Congratulations on your engagement and your desire to become husband and wife in Christ through the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony! The Catholic Church takes your marriage seriously, so seriously in fact, that for many years now the Catholic Church has required a thoughtful preparation time to help you enter into the marital bond faithfully and permanently. Please take the time to review the companion booklet *Engaged Couples Guide to Marriage Preparation* produced by the **Marriage & Family Life Office** of the **Catholic Diocese of Sioux Falls.** The document is a rich overview on the substance and importance of engagement and marriage preparation. It also provides additional information and resources that compliment the directives in this brochure.

**Setting the Wedding Date**

The permanent date and time of your wedding is determined. Once you meet with the priest handling your wedding. Weddings at Holy Spirit are scheduled on either **Friday afternoon/evening** (starting time negotiable) or **Saturday afternoon**. Generally, we only schedule one wedding per weekend because of the rehearsal the night before. **Nuptial Masses** must start at **1pm** on **Saturday** due to Confessions and evening Mass; **Mixed Marriage** ceremonies are allowed to start at **1:30pm.**

Weddings are not scheduled during the season of Lent, Holy Week, Solemnities or Particular Feast Days that affect the Church calendar at the Bishop’s request.

It is imperative that you contact the pastor **no less than six months** before the wedding date. Because of the number of weddings at our parish, couples are encouraged to make contact with the pastor **eight** or even **12 months** before the proposed wedding.

Couples should bring with them copies of their baptismal records for the first meeting with the pastor. (See Required Documentation on the next page). According to Canon Law, Catholics who marry must be Confirmed. If not Confirmed, then preparations will be made to have Confirmation completed before the wedding

**Marriage Preparation**

You will be required to meet with a priest and Marriage Sponsor couple for marriage preparation sessions. It is your responsibility to call and schedule the meetings with the Priest. The Priest will then assign a Marriage Foccus couple.

**You will be required to do the following:**

1. Complete the **Pre-Marriage (FOCCUS) Inventory**, which will be used by the priest and your Marriage Sponsor couple to facilitate discussion.
2. Participate in **ONE** of these two marriage preparation experience:
3. An **Engaged Encounter Weekend** (See Engaged Couples Guide….for registration).

**OR**

1. The **Sioux Falls Catholic Pre-Marriage Program** (offered four consecutive Thursday evenings only in the months of February, May, and October)

In addition, in accordance with Catholic Church Preaching: Fertility Care (NFP) courses are optional, but highly encouraged. The Parish will help with the cost of the course if the couple decides to participate. (See engaged Couples Guide…for locations and contact numbers).

**Required Documentation and Associated Forms:**

**Baptismal Certificates**

For the **Catholic**: a copy issued by the parish of baptism within the last six months (with annotations if pertinent, and First Communion and Confirmation information)

For **Non-Catholic**: a copy of baptismal certificate not subject to an issue date (for example, a certificate kept in a baptismal book).

**Mixed Marriage Promises**:

In the event that your fiancé is not Catholic, the Catholic party signs a promise of continued practice of the Catholic faith with the intention of baptizing and raising any and all children from the marriage in the Catholic faith. The promise is made to the Bishop in the form of a petition. Please discuss this with your non-Catholic fiancé beforehand.

The Non-Catholic party will be required to fill out **Form B and C**.

**Dispensations:**

In the event of a **Mixed Marriage** where the couple decides that it is in the best interest of all involved to marry in the church of the non-Catholic party, permission from the Bishop must be procured before marriage preparation can continue. You priest will help you prepare the petition.

The Non-Catholic party will be required to fill out **Form B and C**.

**Marriage License:**

The state of South Dakota requires a license for all marriages. This must be obtained in South Dakota 20 or less days before the wedding date.

**Nuptial Mass or Ceremony?**

When both parties are Catholic, a Nuptial Mass is ordinarily celebrated. When one party is Catholic and the other is not, Mass may or may not be celebrated. Please consult the priest who is presiding at the wedding for guidance.

Ecumenical participation of other denominational ministers may be arranged upon consultation with the priest-presider. Liturgical norms have been established by the Catholic Church for such participation. The minister should contact the priest-presider in regards to these norms.

Family and friends are invited to participate in the liturgy as lectors or gift bears. Liturgical norms state that Lectors or Readers proclaiming the word should be Catholic.

**The Celebrations of your Wedding:**

**Church Protocol**

Your wedding is a holy event. We are dealing with sacred mysteries that must be treated with reverence and respect. It is important that you communicate this with your wedding party. Liturgical norms have been established by the Catholic Church to help couples enter into the sacredness of the ceremony. This includes appropriate actions, attire and behavior during the rehearsal and during the wedding. This not only shows respect for the Church, the House of God and her Sacred Mysteries, but it also shows respect towards you, the couple entering into a sacred bond.

**Children in the Wedding Party, Ring Bearers, Flower Girls:**

A Ring Bearer and/or Flower Girl in your Wedding is always optional. If chosen, they should be able to walk down the aisle on their own. It’s our experience that children under the age of 6 find it difficult to walk down the aisle for obvious reasons. It’s also our experience that they can take away from the Bride’s grand entrance because the focus is on them. If children are included in the wedding party, please be mindful of their unique needs and plan accordingly.

* Flower Girl(s): Please note that the flower petals may not be thrown on the floor.
* Ring Bear(s): Please do not put the wedding rings on the pillow carried by the ring bearer. The best man should be responsible for the rings.

**\*Note:** Flower Girl(s) and Ring Bearers may not carry signage (Ex. “Here comes the Bride”) or be pulled in a wagon, or any other artificial contrivances that distract from the sacredness of the ceremony.

**Wedding Liturgy:**

You will plan your **wedding liturgy** with the **Director of Liturgical Music** (Hannah Calllies). You can contact her at the parish number (605-371-2320) or her cell (605-376-6056), or email her at the following addresses:

hannahecallies@gmail.com. The planning includes the entire outline of the Mass/ceremony; choosing the readings, the music selection, and even putting together a program. Selection of appropriate music is important. Secular music and most Christian Contemporary radio music are not liturgical in nature, nor supported in the Liturgical norms of the Catholic Church. Secular music should be reserved for your reception and dance. A listing of sacred and appropriate music for your wedding will be provided to you by the Director.

We highly recommend that you choose musicians/soloists from Holy Spirit Parish, since they are professional musicians, and are also familiar with the piano or organ, sound system, and the order of the Mass/Ceremony. If you wish to choose experienced musicians from outside the parish, for example family members or friends, you can discuss this with the Director.

**Wedding Rehearsal:**

The entire Wedding party should be present for the rehearsal if possible (it includes, but not exclusive to parents, bridesmaids, groomsmen, lectors, ushers, and servers.) Usually the rehearsal is scheduled for the evening before the wedding. Please make sure that the wedding party is dressed appropriately in semi-formal attire. It is a sign of respect for you and for the House of God.

**Care of the Church:**

It is a matter of common courtesy to make sure that the church is left the way it was when you arrived.

All garbage can be placed in the large canisters in the kitchen in the Lower Level. It may be helpful to appoint someone outside of the wedding part to clean up the Bride’s Room and other areas of use like the Lower Level at the conclusion of the wedding. **Holy Spirit is a smoke free facility**. Obviously, **alcoholic beverages are not allowed in the church or anywhere on the campus property including the parking lot.** Please refrain from using birdseed or rice in the courtyard, thank you.

**Photos and Video:**

Please direct your photographer and videographer to talk to the priest or deacon-presider prior to the wedding. This can be done via phone or email, or before pictures begin on the day of the wedding. Pictures should be finished at least 30 minutes prior to the start of the wedding, pictures may be taken after the wedding depending upon Confession/Mass schedule. Please consult with the presider.

Photographers and Videographers cannot enter the sanctuary (altar area) during the ceremony, and should not obstruct the aisles during the wedding procession and recession.

**Decorations:**

Couples are welcome to provide wedding decorations and should consult with the priest or deacon-presider about location and appropriateness. If church furniture is moved it must be returned to its original position. This also includes the removal of church arrangements and other decorations. During Christmas and Easter, flowers and seasonal decorations will remain. If additional candles or candelabras are used anywhere on the church premises, please consult with the presider about location and appropriateness.

**Fees and Gifts:**

Fees related to the wedding and/or marriage preparation go towards the use of the facilities and resources. Fees are to be paid when marriage license is submitted to the parish office on the Monday of the week of the wedding.

**Please note: All Catholic parishes within the city have a uniform fee policy for wedding ceremonies.**

1. **$300** for couples: **a)** who are supporting members of the parish; **b)** who are now independent but were once registered under their parent’s names as supporting members.
2. **$500** for couples: **a)** who do not support the parish through stewardship (time, talent or treasure); **b)** who are not registered parishioners (one year prerequisite);

**\*\*Note for above:** There is a **$50** fee for soundboard operator when outside musicians are used.

1. **$1,500** for couples who desire to marry at St. Joseph Cathedral
2. **$50** for marriage preparation only

**Musicians:** The stipend(s) for your Musician(s) is/are negotiated between you and the musician(s).

**Gift to the Priest**: Anything meant for the priest must be marked “personal.”

**Altar Servers:** Parish altar servers receive a stipend of **$10** per server.

**Wedding Planning Sheet ~ MASS/No Mass**

**Bride:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 **(FULL Legal Name: First, Middle and Last)**

 Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Religion:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **Parish:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Father’s Name:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **Religion:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Mother’s Maiden Name:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **Religion:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**DOB:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **Place of Birth:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Date of Baptism:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Place of Baptism:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Address of Parish of Baptism:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Groom:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 **(FULL Legal Name: First, Middle and Last)**

 Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Religion:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **Parish:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Father’s Name:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **Religion:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Mother’s Maiden Name:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **Religion:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**DOB:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **Place of Birth:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Date of Baptism:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Place of Baptism:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Address of Parish of Baptism:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\***Please contact Parish of Baptism and request a copy of your Baptismal Certificate and sacramental records.**

**\* Please be sure to bring the copy of the baptismal certificate for your first meeting with Pastor.**

**Wedding Date:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **Time:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Rehearsal Date:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **Time:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Presider:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Musicians:**

 **(Needs to be a practicing Catholic.)**

**Piano/Organ:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Cantor(s):** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Other Singers/Instrumentalists: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Server (s): (1)** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 **(2)**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 **(3)**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Lectors: (Needs to be a practicing Catholic.)**

First Reading: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Responsorial Psalm (**if not SUNG**):\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Second Reading: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Maid/Matron of Honor:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 **(FULL Legal Name: First, Middle and Last)**

 Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Religion: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Best Man:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 **(FULL Legal Name: First, Middle and Last)**

 Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Religion: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Bridesmaids:** **Groomsmen:**

1. **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**
2. **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**
3. **3. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**
4. **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 4. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**
5. **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 5. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**
6. **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 6. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Flower Girl (Optional): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**(No Pedal may be thrown. Age – 6 years and older. Thank You!)**

**Ring Bearer (Optional): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Age:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**(No Sign, Wagons, ect., Age – 6 years and older. Thank You!)**

**Ushers:**

1. **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**
2. **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**3.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**4.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion:**

(Only if NEEDED and must be commissioned.)

1. **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Music Planning Contact:**

Hannah Callies

Email: hannahecallies@gmail.com

Phone: (605)-371-2320 Church

 (605)-376-6056 Home/mobile/text

**Mass**

**Prelude Music:** Instrumental/sacred ~ May **not** be **secular**

**Seating of Grandparents/Parents:** Sacred

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Entrance Rite**

**Processional Music:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**(ONE song, which accompanies the movement of the wedding party and the liturgical ministers into the assembly.)**

Opening Hymn: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Entrance Antiphon: SUNG (Approved Music will be provided)

Greeting:

Gloria: SUNG

1. Chant Mass (Roman Missal/ICEL)
2. Heritage Mass

Opening Prayer:

**Liturgy of the Word**

Old Testament Reading: (1st Reading)

 Book/Chapter/Verse: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Lector (Practicing Catholic): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Responsorial Psalm: SUNG by Cantor

 Psalm Number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Lector (if not sung by Cantor): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

New Testament Reading: (2nd Reading)

 Book/Chapter/Verse: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Lector (Practicing Catholic): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Gospel Acclamation: SUNG by Cantor

Gospel Reading: (The Gospel is read by the Presider/Priest)

 Book. Chapter/Verse: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Homily:

**Rite of Marriage**

The Questions before the consent

Exchange of Vows/The consent

The reception of the Consent

Blessing and Giving of Rings

Optional: A Hymn or Canticle of praise may be sung by the assemble

Prayers of the Faithful: (The priest/presider will write & Provide.)

**Liturgy of the Eucharist**

Preparation of Gifts: Offertory Antiphon/Instrumental/Hymn

 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Eucharistic Acclamations: CHANT MASS or HERITAGE MASS

 Holy:

 Mystery of Faith: (Select ONE)

1. We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.
2. When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord, until you come again.
3. Save us, Savior of the world, for by your Cross and Resurrection you have set us free.

 Amen

Lord’s Prayer: RECITED/ Chanted

Nuptial Blessings

Sign of Peace

Lamb of God

Communion Antiphon: SUNG

Communion Hymn: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Communion Meditation: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Concluding Rite**

Blessing and Dismissal:

 \_\_\_\_\_ Jack and Jill Novak

 \_\_\_\_\_ Mr. & Mrs. Jack & Jill Novak

 \_\_\_\_\_ Mr. & Mrs. Jack Novak

 \_\_\_\_\_ Mr. & Mrs. Novak

Recessional Music: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 **Wedding Liturgy - NO Mass**

**Prelude Music:** Instrumental/sacred ~ May **not** be **secular**

**Seating of Grandparents/Parents:** Sacred

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Entrance Rite**

**Processional Music:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**(ONE song, which accompanies the movement of the wedding party and the liturgical ministers into the assembly.)**

Opening Hymn: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Greeting:

Opening Prayer:

**Liturgy of the Word**

Old Testament Reading: (1st Reading)

Book/Chapter/Verse: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Lector (Practicing Catholic): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Responsorial Psalm: SUNG by Cantor

Psalm Number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Lector (if not sung by Cantor): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

New Testament Reading: (2nd Reading)

Book/Chapter/Verse: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Lector (Practicing Catholic): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Gospel Acclamation: SUNG by Cantor

Gospel Reading: (The Gospel is read by the Presider/Priest)

Book. Chapter/Verse: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Homily:

**Rite of Marriage**

The Questions before the consent

Exchange of Vows/The consent

The reception of the Consent

Blessing and Giving of Rings

Prayers of the Faithful: (The priest/presider will write & Provide.)

Nuptial Blessing:

Lord’s Prayer: RECITED

**Concluding Rite**

Blessing and Dismissal:

 \_\_\_\_\_ Jack and Jill Novak

 \_\_\_\_\_ Mr. & Mrs. Jack & Jill Novak

 \_\_\_\_\_ Mr. & Mrs. Jack Novak

 \_\_\_\_\_ Mr. & Mrs. Novak

Recessional Music: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Scripture Readings for the Wedding Liturgy**

**Readings may be found at**

**Website: foryourmarriage.org**

1. Date & Engaged
2. Planning a Catholic Wedding
3. Nuptial Mass Reading: ***foryourmarriage/readings/***

**Old Testament/First Reading:**

* Genesis 1:26-28, 31a *Male and female He created them*
* Genesis 2:18-24 *The two of them become one flesh*
* Genesis 24:48-51; 58-67 *In his love for Rebekah, Isaac found solace after the death of his mother.*
* Tobit 7:6-14 *May the Lord of heaven prosper you both. May He grant you Mercy & Peace.*
* Tobit 8:4b-8 *Allow us to live together to a happy old age.*
* Proverbs 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31 *The woman who fears the Lord is to praised.*
* Song of Songs 2:8-10, 14, 16a, 8:6-7 *Stern as death is love.*
* Sirach 26:1-4, 13-16 *Like the sun rising in the Lord’s heavens, the beauty of virtuous wife the radiance of her home.*
* Jeremiah 31:31-32a, 33-*34a I will make a new covenant and remember their sin no more.*

**Responsorial Psalms:**

* Psalm 33: “The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord.”
* Psalm 34: “I will bless the Lord at all times. ~or~

 34: “Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.”

* Psalm 103: “The Lord is kind and merciful.” ~or~

 103: “The Lord’s kindness is everlasting to those who fear him.”

* Psalm 112: “Blessed is the man who greatly delights in the Lord’s commands.”
* Psalm 128: “Blessed are those who fear the Lord.” ~or~

 128: “See how the Lord blesses those who fear him.”

* Psalm 145: “How good is the Lord to all.”
* Psalm 148: “Let all praise the name of the Lord.”

**\*Musical Chant settings will be provided for the above psalm ~ Songs based on the Psalm may NOT replace the Responsorial Psalm. Thank You!**

**New Testament/Second Reading:**

* Romans 8:31b-35, 37-39 *What will separate us from the love of Christ?*
* Romans 12:1-2, 9-18 *Offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God.*
* Romans 12:1-2, 9-13 SHORT
* Romans 15:1b-3a, 5-7, 13 *Welcome one another as Christ welcomed you.*
* 1 Corinthians 6:13c-15a, 17-20 *Your body is a temple of the Spirit.*
* 1 Corinthians 12:31-13:8a *If I do not have love, I gain nothing.*
* Ephesians 5:2a, 21-33 *This is a great mystery, but I speak in reference to Christ and the Church*
* Ephesians 4:4-6 *The God of peace will be with you.*
* Philippians 4:4-9 *The God of peace will be with you.*
* Colossians 3:12-17 *And over all these put on love, that is the bond of perfection.*
* Hebrews 13:1-4a, 5-6b *Let marriage be held in honor by all.*
* 1 Peter 3:1-9  *Be of one mind, sympathetic, loving toward one another.*
* 1John 3:18-34 *Love is deed and in truth*.
* 1 John 4:7-13 *God is love*
* Revelation 19:1, 5-9a *Blessed are those who have been called to wedding feast of the Lamb.*

**Alleluia Verses and Verses Before the Gospel:**

* Everyone who loves is begotten of God and knows God. (1 John 4:7b)
* God Love. Let us love one another, as God has loved us. (1 John 4:8b and 11)
* If we love one another, God remains in us and his love is brought to perfection in us. (1 John 4:12)
* Whoever remains in love, remains in God and God in him. (1 John 4:16)

**Gospel:**

* Matthew 5:1-12a *Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.*
* Matthew 5:13-16 *You are the light of the world.*
* Matthew 7:21, 24-29 *A wise man built his house on a rock.*
* Matthew 7:21, 24-25 SHORT
* Matthew 19:3-6 *What God has united, man must not separate.*
* Matthew 22:35-40 *This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second is like it.*
* Mark 10:6-9 *They are no longer two, but one flesh*
* John 2:1-11 *Jesus did this as the beginning of his signs in Cana in Galilee.*
* John 15: 9-12 *Remain in my love.*
* John 15:12-16 *This is my commandment: Love one another.*
* John 17:20-26 *That they may be brought to perfection as one.*
* John 17:20-23 SHORT

**Reasons for Guidelines:**

The question might arise among a few engaged couples:

**“Why can’t I always have my desired song or custom for the Wedding Liturgy since it is *my* wedding?”**

**The reason is that the Wedding Rite has a set of rubrics that are vital to the proper celebration of the Rite.**

**The wedding is actually a public celebration of the entire Church, not just a celebration for the couple themselves.** In fact, the word “liturgy” originally meant “a public work” (Catechism of the Catholic Church, n 1069).

**The guidelines for wedding liturgies are norms established and implanted by the Universal Church.**

**The Church’s wisdom over the past nearly 2,000 years has determined the parameters necessary to ensure a beautiful, sacred, licit, and valid sacramental celebration of marriage.**

**The Wedding Rite guidelines are there for the good of the couple and all who witness the marriage.**

**They make it possible for a couple to have a beautiful Liturgy at this special moment in their lives.**

**Music Guise for the Wedding Liturgy**

\*If you have a song request that is not specifically mentioned on this provided list, **you must present the request (song mame, composer and vocal artist of the song) to Hannah for possible approval.**

**Prelude Music Options:**

The Prelude is a musical selection, which is done before the actual Wedding Liturgy begins. It helps to create a tone of transition from the secular work to the realm of the sacred.

**\*Please select ONE.**

“Ave Maria” (Bach/Gounod)

“Ave Maria” (Schubert)

“Hail Holy Queen” (SALVE REGINA COELITUM)

“Hail Mary: Gentle Woman” by Carey Landry

“O Holy Mary” by Owen Alstott

“Hand in Hand” (Agrisano; Spirit and Song Hymnal)

“How Beautiful” (Twila Paris)

“Irish Blessing” (Bob Fabing, SJ)

“Jesu, Joy of Man’s Desiring” (WERDE MUNTER)/ J.S. Bach

“Love Never Fails” (J.S. Bach ~or~Brandon Heath)

“Prelude on Rhosymedre” (Ralph Vaunghan Williams – Organ)

“Set Me as a Seal” (Matt Maher; Spirit and Song Hymnal)

**\*Other selections will need to be approved. Thank you!**

**\*Note:**

**Examples of Music that are *NOT* appropriate for the Liturgy:**

The “**Wedding March**” by Wagner

“**Bridal Chorus**” (“Here Comes the Bride”)

“**A thousand Years**” by Christina Perri

“**He Has Chosen You for Me**” by Sarah Pipes

“**When God Made You**” by Newsong

“**Only God Could Love You More**”

“**I get to Love You**” by Ruelle

“**I Chose You**” by Ryann Darling

“**You’re Beautiful**” by Phil Wickham

“**When I Say I Do**” by Matthew West

“**Marry You**” by Bruno Mars

“**At Last**” by Etta James

“**Hallelujah**”; “Butterfly Walts” by Brian Crain

“**Thinking Out Loud**” or “Perfect” by Ed Sheeran

“**The Wedding Song/ There Is Love**” by Noel Stookey

“**Bless The Broken Road**” by Rascal Flatts

“**I will Be Here**” by Steven Curtis Chapman

“**Two Becoming One**” by Jonathan Martin, ect. may **not** be played as Prelude/Postludes/During the Liturgy.

**All Music Must:**

1. Be CATHOLIC in theology.
2. From Scripture or Scripture based.
3. Writings of the Great Saints of the Church.
4. Sacred.
5. **Be Approved.**

**Processional Music Options:**

This instrumental selection accompanies the procession of the priest and the wedding party into the church at the beginning of the Liturgy.

**\*Please select ONE**.

“Air” from Water Music/Handel

“Ariose”/Bach

“Canon in D”/Pachelbel

“Hornpipe” from Water Music/Handel

“Jesu, Joy of Man’s Desiring”/Bach

La Rejoissance” (Thje Rejoicing) from the Royal Fireworks/Handel

“Ode to Joy”/Beethoven

“Prelude from “Te Deum” (Marc-Antoine Charpentier)

“Trumpet Tume”/Purcell

“Trumpet Voluntary”/Jeremiah Clarke

**Entrance Hymn Options:**

This is a hym sung by the entire congregation. WE Lift our hearts, minds, and voices in praise of our God and Hos Goodness.

“All Creatures of Our God and King” (LAST UNS ER FREUEN)

“All People That on Earth Do Dwell” (OLD HUNDRETH)

“For the Beauty of the Earth” (DIX)

“For the Fruits of This Creation” (AR HYD Y NOS)

“God, Father, Praise and Glory” (GOTT VATER SEI GEPRIESEN)

“God We Praise You” (NETTLETON)

“God Who Created Hearts to Love” (LASST UNS ERFREUEN/Ridge)

“Hear Us Now, Our God and Father” (HYFRYDOL)

“Holy God Who Created Hearts to Love” (LAST UNS ER FREUEN)

“HOLY, HOLY, HOLY” (NICAEA)

“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You” (HYMN TO JOY)

“Let All Things Now Living” (ASH GROVE)

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling” (HYFRYDOL)

“Morning Has Broken” (BUNESSAN)

“O God, Beyond All Praising”

“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow” (OLD HUNDRETH)

“Praise, My Soul, The King of Heaven”

“Praise to the Lord” (LOBE DEN HERREN)

“To Jesus Christ Our Sovereign King” (ICH GLAUB AN GOTT)

**Hymn Options During Presentation of the Gifts:**

During this time, the gifts of bread and wine, which will become the Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus Christ in the sacrament of the Holy Eucharist, are brought forward. If you desire, an instrumental selection of music may be used instead of a vocal selection.

**\*Please select ONE.**

“Ave Maria” (CHANT)

“Christians Let Us Love One Another” (PICARDY)

“Eye Has Not Seen” (Haugen)

“For the Fruits of This Creation” (AR HYD Y NOS)

“Hail Mary, Gentle Woman” (Landry)

“Immaculate Mary” (Lourdes Hymn)

“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence” (PICARDY)

“Lord of All Hopefulness” (SLANE)

“O Holy Mary” (Alstott)

“Prayer of St. Francis” (Sebastian Temple)

“Salve Regina” (CHANT)

“Servant Song” (McGargill)

“The King of Love My Shepherd Is” (St. Columba)

“The Servant Song” (Gillard)

“The Summons” (KEL VINGROVE)

“When Love Is Found” (O WALY WALY)

“Where Charity and Love Prevail” (Benoit)

**Hymn Options for Holy Communion:**

This is a time of great solemnity and thanksgiving for those who are able to receive Holy Communion because we receive the Lord Jesus in the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist. Those who are Catholic and not conscious of having committed mortal sin come forward to receive the Sacrament. If you desire, a solo may be sung at this time instead of a congregational hymn.

**\*Please select ONE.**

**Congregational Hymn**

“Gift of Finest Wheat” (BICENTENNIAL)

“Humbly Lord We Worship You” (ADORO TE DEVOTE)

“I Am the Bread of Life” (Toolan)

“Jesus My Lord My God My All” (Frederick William Faber)

“O Sacrament Most Holy” (FULDA)

“Panis Angelicus” (Lambillotte)

“Soul of My Savior” (ANIMA CHRISTI)

“Ubi Cartitas” (CHANT or Hurd)

“What Wondrous Love Is This” (WOUNDROUS LOVE)

**Solo Pieces:**

“Ave Maria” (Bach/Gounod)

“Ave Maria” (Schubert)

“Ave Verum Corpus” (Byrd)

Ave Verum Corpus” (Mozart)

“Panis Agelicus” (Cesar Franck)

**Communion Meditation:**

This is an optional song which may be done after Holy Communion distribution is completed.

**\*Please select ONE (if you choose to have a Communion Medit**.

“Ave Maria” (Bach/Gounod)

“Ave Maria” (Schubert)

“Ave Verum Corpus” (Byrd)

Ave Verum Corpus” (Mozart)

“Panis Agelicus” (Cesar Franck)

**Closing Hymn Options:**

After the final blessing, the wedding party recesses out of the church. A closing hymn (Congregational hymn) may be chosen for this time or else and instrumental recessional song (listed below this category)

**Please select Either ONE Closing Hymn or ONE Recessional Song.**

(See Recessional Song Options below.)

“All Creatures of Our God and King” (LAST UNS ER FREUEN)

“All Hailed Adored Trinity” (OLD HUNDRETH)

“All People That on Earth Do Dwell” (OLD HUNDRETH)

“For the Beauty of the Earth” (DIX)

“God We Praise You” (NETTLETON)

“God Who Created Hearts to Love” (LASST UNS ERFREUEN/Ridge)

“Hear Us Now, Our God and Father” (HYFRYDOL)

“Holy God We Praise Thy Name” (GROSSER GOTT)

“HOLY, HOLY, HOLY” (NICAEA)

“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You” (HYMN TO JOY)

“Lead Me Lord” (Becker)

“Let All Things Now Living” (ASH GROVE)

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling” (HYFRYDOL)

“Now Thank We All Our God” (NUN DANKET)

“O God, Beyond All Praising”

“Praise, My Soul, The King of Heaven”

“To Jesus Christ Our Sovereign King” (ICH GLAUB AN GOTT)

**Recessional Options:**

\*As indicated above, please select either **ONE Recessional** or select **one closing Hymn** (see Closing Hymn Options above) at this time as the wedding party recesses out of the church.

“Air” from Water Music Suite (Handel)

Concerto in C” (Vivaldi/J.S. Bach)

“Hornpipe” from Water Music (Handel)

“La Rejoissance” (The Rejoicing) from The Royal Fireworks (Handel)

“Ode to Joy” (Beethoven)

“Prelude from “Te Deum” (Marc-Antoine Charpentier)

“Rondeau” (Jean Mouret)

“Trumpet Tune” (Purcell)

“Trumpet Voluntary” (Jeremiah Clarke)

**Final Considerations:**

* **The Ideal Model** for a wedding liturgy is the model of Sunday Mass.
* The **United Stated Conference of Catholic Bishops** addresses the Wedding Liturgy, music, decoration, photography, videotaping and guidelines.
* **Music selected for a Wedding Liturgy must reflect the sacred and noble character of Christian Marriage**. All music during the Liturgy must be **Scripture-based** and **Catholic in theology**. Each text sung during the Liturgy should be readily identifiable as a **prayer**; if it cannot be recognized as such it is out of place in a liturgical context. **“Pop” or “secular” music is not appropriate for use during the Wedding Liturgy, not even when those songs contain references to religious ideas.**  For example, just because a song mentions God, angels, or prayer, it does not make it sacred by nature because all other lyrics in the song must also be considered. Prohibitions during the Liturgy also include music referred to as “Contemporary Christian.” A few Contemporary Christian songs may, however, be used as a “Prelude” (before the Wedding Liturgy officially begins). Please note, that music which does not meet liturgical requirements, may certainly be used appropriately at a wedding reception/dance outside of the liturgy.
* Most **secular songs** heard on the radio, TV, etc. are not appropriate in the wedding liturgy-this includes music often referred to as **Contemporary Christian**.
* **All Music used in the wedding ceremonies** must be expressive of Christian faith and liturgically appropriate. While some sung parts may be done by a soloist, the soloist should never dominate, sing, all of the music. Copyright regulations must be respected. Some policies specifically prohibit use of songs as Lohengrin’s “Here Comes the Bride” and “Midsummer Night’s Dream” as inconsistent with Christian values.
* **The responsorial Psalm**, which is read or sung must be the actual Psalm text. It may NOT be a song, which is a variation or paraphrase of the text.
* **Music selections need to be submitted to Hannah in writing at least two months prior to the wedding.**
* **Decorations** should respect the Church’s liturgical season. Flowers should never be placed on the altar.
* **Photography:** Since the wedding liturgy is a sacred communal prayer, persons taking **pictures should always be inconspicuous and discreet**. Flash and flood lights are to be avoided.