



**Sacramental Marriage  
at St John Neumann Catholic Church**

**Wedding Music 101**

**St John Neumann Catholic Church**

**[www.sjnaustin.org](http://www.sjnaustin.org)**

**Church Main Number (512) 328-3220**

**Fax (512) 328-3226**

# **WEDDING MUSIC GUIDELINES**

## **Saint John Neumann Catholic Church, Austin, TX**

The music staff at Saint John Neumann Catholic Church congratulates you on this special occasion! Our experienced staff looks forward to assisting you in your musical planning for this sacred liturgy.

A Catholic wedding ceremony is first and foremost a sacred celebration, a liturgy of the Roman Catholic Church. The integrity and dignity of the Catholic liturgy must be respected and maintained. The wedding liturgy will be very similar to the Sunday celebration of Eucharist you attend here at St. John Neumann each week.

The church makes every effort to help you in preparing the wedding liturgy, but it is, and will remain, the Church's liturgy. Couples are encouraged to read, pray about, and choose the scriptures that will be proclaimed at the wedding, and also to use their experience of attending Sunday Mass to help them in selecting appropriate music for the wedding liturgy.

The primary purpose of music in any liturgy is to help people pray. Music selections should express not only the faith of the couple, but also the common faith of the whole church. Many pieces of music which speak of love in purely secular terms are not appropriate for the wedding ceremony and would be more appropriate at the wedding reception. Music for the wedding liturgy must express a sacred text and what we, as Roman Catholics, believe about marriage.

Please remember it is the entire assembly which worships at the weddings. As much as possible, music, particularly hymns, responses, and acclamations, should encourage active participation by the congregation. A soloist should, if possible, function as a leader of the assembly's sung prayer. Solo songs should be used only at those points in the service when participation by the assembly is not essential. (Hymns for the processional and recessional can be replaced with instrumental selections)

Our staff of highly trained cantors at St. John Neumann will sing the Mass. We do not allow outside singers because it can create serious problems if they are not trained and familiar with the Catholic liturgy. Different surroundings, unfamiliar Mass settings, and local liturgical procedures can often result in embarrassment to those present—both congregations and musicians.

The church also has an approved list of professional instrumentalists for those couples wanting to add a string quartet, brass, etc. Our music office will be happy to make the initial contact for instrumentalists and coordinate the music. The contract and payment of instrumental fees will be handled by the couple.

# WEDDING MUSIC GUIDELINES

## Saint John Neumann Catholic Church, Austin, TX

The following policies are in place for all weddings at Saint John Neumann.

- Responsibility for all wedding music at Saint John Neumann Catholic Church is delegated to the SJN Music Staff, who will assist you in planning the music for your wedding.
- The Director of Music must approve all music and musicians chosen for the ceremony.
- As the Catholic Church teaches that marriage is a sacrament, Catholic weddings are not as liturgically and musically flexible as those in some other churches.
- Only music appropriate for a church service is to be used within the wedding ceremony. Music with commercial associations, whether textual or musical – including but not limited to, music from Broadway-style shows – is not appropriate. *Some popular choices for weddings, including the Mendelsohn and Wagner wedding marches, fall into this category.*
- The Director of Music will have final say as to the appropriateness of all music included in the wedding ceremony.
- The SJN staff organist plays at all SJN weddings. An SJN staff singer will be assigned as the cantor. Using SJN musicians ensures continuity with the church's regular Sunday worship.
- Musicians, including the organist, do not typically attend the wedding rehearsal. Attendance at any rehearsal will incur an additional fee.
- With advance notice, our office is able to assist in obtaining additional instrumentalists. Please know that no outside instrumentalists may be engaged until approved by the Director of Music.
- It is not possible to play recordings during any Catholic Mass or Sacrament.
- Our musicians will reserve the date for your wedding upon receiving payment, which must be submitted no later than **60 days in advance** of the proposed wedding. Payment for SJN staff musicians is made directly to them, at a rate of \$325 for the organist, and \$200 for the cantor. Payment for other instrumentalists is made according to their individual payment policies.

Congratulations again on your upcoming wedding sacrament. We look forward to celebrating your day with you!

Lance Hargis  
Director of Music  
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512.328.3220

Dr Christina Hargis  
Organist  
[chargis@sjnaustin.org](mailto:chargis@sjnaustin.org)  
512.328.3220

## Options for SJN Wedding Music

### **Seating of Family & Bridal Party Procession** (choose one selection for each part – selection may be the same)

1. Air (Johann Sebastian Bach)
2. Air (George Frideric Händel)
3. Canon in D (Johann Pachelbel)
4. Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring (Johann Sebastian Bach)
5. Sheep May Safely Graze (Johann Sebastian Bach)
6. Sleepers Wake (Johann Sebastian Bach)

### **Procession of the Bride** (choose one selection)

3. Canon in D (Johann Pachelbel)
4. Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring (Johann Sebastian Bach)
6. Sleepers Wake (Johann Sebastian Bach)
7. Trumpet Tune (Henry Purcell)
8. Trumpet Voluntary (Jeremiah Clarke)
9. Trumpet Voluntary (John Stanley)

### **Presentation of Gifts** (choose one selection)

Hymn 844, All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly

Hymn 926, I Come with Joy

Hymn 939, You Satisfy the Hungry Heart

The Call (Ralph Vaughan Williams)

The Gift of Love (Hal Hopson)

I Will Sing New Songs (Antonín Dvořák)

The King of Love My Shepherd Is (Craig Courtney)

Laudate Dominum (Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart)

O Perfect Love (H. T. Burleigh)

Panis Angelicus (César Franck)

Simple Gifts (Aaron Copland)

Wedding Song (Flor Peeters)

### **Communion** (choose one selection)

Hymn 948, Bread of Life from Heaven

Hymn 943, Eat This Bread

Hymn 950, I Am the Bread of Life

Hymn 923, I Receive the Living God

Hymn 931, One Bread, One Body

Hymn 940, Take and Eat

The Call (Ralph Vaughan Williams)

The Gift of Love (Hal Hopson)

Panis Angelicus (César Franck)

Rhosymedre (Ralph Vaughan Williams)

Simple Gifts (Aaron Copland)

### **Presentation to Virgin Mary** (choose one selection)

Ave Maria (Johann Sebastian Bach/Gounod) - Vocal solo, organ solo

Ave Maria (Gabriel Fauré) - Vocal solo only

Ave Maria (Franz Schubert) - Vocal solo, organ solo

Prière à Notre Dame (Léon Boëllmann) - Organ solo only

**Recessional** (choose one selection)

- Allegro maestoso e vivace (Felix Mendelssohn)
- Fanfare (Jacques Lemmens)
- Hornpipe (George Frideric Händel)
- Hymn to Joy (Ludwig van Beethoven)
- Prelude in Classic Style (Gordon Young)
- La Réjouissance (George Frideric Händel)
- Rondeau (Jean-Joseph Mouret)
- Te Deum (Marc-Antoine Charpentier)
- Toccata (Charles Marie Widor)
- Trumpet Tune in D (David Johnson)
- 7. Trumpet Tune (Henry Purcell)
- 8. Trumpet Voluntary (Jeremiah Clarke)
- 9. Trumpet Voluntary (John Stanley)

**PHOTOGRAPHY**

Photographs are an important memory of the wedding ceremony. To assist in making the process of photographs as care free as possible, we have designed the following policies. Prior to the wedding, your photographer will need to read, sign and return the SJN Mixed Media Agreement.

Photographers and videographers are encouraged to use decorum and be as invisible as possible, avoiding distracting movement during the ceremony. **Photographers are never to enter the Altar area at any time during the ceremony.** Photos/videos may be taken only at those points designated by the presider. Videographers must use stationary cameras, not roam the church during the ceremony. Stationary cameras may only be placed on each outside edge of the nave pews, or near the nave columns.

Photographers/videographers should consult the Presider or Parish Wedding Consultant prior to the ceremony regarding the use of the main aisle for photographs. No TV lights or bright spotlights are allowed in the church building and **NO FLASH** photography during the ceremony.

**Photos may be taken up to 20 minutes prior to the liturgy. After the ceremony, photos must be completed within 30 minutes.** The wedding party should return immediately to the Altar area. It is helpful to have a photographer assistant—someone who can round up people for each subsequent picture so the photographer does not have to. If the bride and groom would like the Presider to pose with them for a photo after the ceremony, this photo should be taken first.

Any video and/or sound recordings made during your Ceremony will **require signed Artist Releases** from each musician and the Presider. It is the responsibility of your photographer/videographer to contact Dr. Hargis to complete that process. Please ensure that those releases and paperwork have been completed and submitted prior to your Ceremony.

# Saint John Neumann Mixed Media Agreement

St John Neumann (SJN) agrees to allow \_\_\_\_\_ (Producer) to record the following live event(s) or performance(s): \_\_\_\_\_ on photographic, audio and/or video media, and to allow Producer to make a digital form, a CD or DVD, of the recording available to the primary family members which are Contractors of the Producer for the event listed above, as part of an archival or memorial keepsake. The resulting media work product may be shared and/or transmitted to the above utilizing current industry practices, including online file transfer and/or even related sites or albums. Photographs may be shared and/or transmitted utilizing current industry practices for sharing the event with the family and event members, such as online file transfer, event related sites or albums, and printed format.

SJN grants to Producer a nonexclusive, royalty free, one time license to reproduce his/her work for the purpose of creating an archival or memorial recording copy keepsake of the above listed event. This grant of the Audio/Visual recording license does not extend to any additional distribution in any other format, including but not limited to; additional CD/DVD copies published or distributed for sale; publishing or distribution of content on any social media platform (with clarifications to be stated next); or use of images or content for any advertising or promotional presentations or productions not explicitly agreed to prior to their creation.

As clarification, photographs of the event may be shown in online or social media sites when presented as part of the events photographic documentation or sharing purposes whose use of these images is related to the personal event, and limited in subsequent use cases as described in the prior paragraph.

This license and permission may be revoked at the sole discretion of SJN upon written notification to the Producer.

Name of Producer: \_\_\_\_\_

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

\_\_\_\_\_

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

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

Producer's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please return a printed, signed copy of this form to:**

Lance Hargis

Director of Music

St John Neumann Catholic Church

5455 Bee Cave Rd, Austin TX 78746