



A Major Harmony

Catholic Mass Song Selection Process Explained

This document helps explain the order of your ceremony and when/where to place your musical selections. Please refer to this document as you are filling out your song choice form, as it will help you to cross reference during the decision making process.

INFORMATION ABOUT “CONTEMPORARY SONG STARTING POINT”:

* On your song choice form, you may see *Contemporary Song Starting Point*. For most contemporary songs, some are best recognized at the Chorus. Here is an explanation:

→ Within the song, “A Thousand Years” by Christina Perri, the Chorus includes the lyrics:

“I have died everyday, waiting for you – Darling don’t be afraid, I will love you for a thousand years – I’ll love you for a thousand more...” (and so on)

If you would prefer the song to start at the Chorus, please indicate “Chorus” in the *Contemporary Song Starting Point* section. If you would prefer the song to begin at the very beginning, please write “Verse” in the *Contemporary Song Starting Point* section.

HOW TO SUBMIT YOUR FORM:

1. Google Doc: A Google Doc will be created specifically for you. You will be able to access and edit this at any time during your decision making process.
2. Microsoft Word Doc: If Google Doc is not an option, a Microsoft Word Document will be shared for you to fill in your selections on. You are welcome to attach your completed document in an e-mail and send it via e-mail or postal mail.

If you need any help or suggestions along the way, please don’t hesitate to ask Jessie. She is also more than happy to pick songs for you!

Good luck and happy song picking!

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Order of Ceremony/Selecting Songs – Explained

Most ceremonies are structured as the order below. There may be some sections that do not apply to your ceremony. For any of the sections that do not apply, please indicate N/A next to the section.

A. PRELUDE MUSIC 20 minutes of music is played while your guests are arriving.

B. PRE-PROCESSIONAL SONG (*optional*) is for the seating of family members (Mothers, Grandmothers, etc.)

→ Please list the order of entrance for your Pre-Processional on your Song Selection document.

C. PROCESSIONAL SONG marks the beginning of the ceremony. This song is specifically for all Wedding Party members, including the Officiant, the Groom and all wedding party members (Bridesmaids – Groomsmen – Flower Girl – Ring Bearer).

→ Please list the order of entrance for your Processional on your Song Selection document.

D. BRIDAL PROCESSIONAL SONG is played when the bride walks in.

E. OPENING PRAYERS – *No music during this time.*

F. LITURGY OF THE WORD consists of:

1. First Reading (Old Testament) followed by a Responsorial Psalm.
 2. Second Reading followed by the Gospel Acclamation song.
 3. Gospel (*no music during this time*).
 4. Homily (*no music during this time*).
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G. RITE OF MARRIAGE consists of:

1. Address and Statement of Intentions
 2. Consent and Exchange of Vows
 3. Blessing and Exchange of Rings
 4. Profession of Faith
 5. * *Unity Ceremony*
 6. Prayers of the Faithful
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H. LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

I. COMMUNION RITE consists of:

1. The Lord's Prayer
 2. Nuptial Blessing
 3. * *Communion (option of song to be played)*
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J. CONCLUDING RITE consists of:

1. Final Blessing
2. * *Recessional*

→ *RECESSIONAL MUSIC is played immediately after you are introduced as Mr. and Mrs. This is a very important song in the ceremony. Make sure to pick a song that represents who you are as a joined couple ☺*