

Hello Future Brides and Grooms, ...

Subject: WEDDING MUSIC Planning - for your wedding at ST. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church

This email, along with its two attachments, will explain many things about the best possible music selections for your upcoming wedding. Read information below, and open the attached PDF file with its links, to get you started thinking about your music choices. Please phone/text/email me at any time with any questions you might have: 713 663-3539.

I. **ATTACHMENTS: There are two PDF files attached to this email:**

1. **Choosing Music to Celebrate Your Wedding in a Catholic Church** – *This first attached PDF is about how to select appropriate Music for your wedding in a Catholic church, and where it should be placed in the Wedding Mass or Ceremony. It also has many links to YouTube videos where you can hear examples of frequently chosen music for Catholic Weddings.*
2. **Wedding Music Planning Form** – *This second attached PDF is a blank form you can print out and write in the names of music selections that interest you.*

FIRST: Look over the information in “Choosing Music” the attached PDF file about how to select music for your wedding.

THEN ... You can either:

- a.) Click on the LINKS in the “Choosing Music” PDF to listen to the YouTube videos, and write the names of music selections that interest you on a printout off the “Wedding Music Planning Form”, **OR, if you wish ...**
- b.) You may prefer just to **wait until we meet, to both hear and make your music selections** at our meeting.

II. **THE MEETING TO PLAN YOUR MUSIC (or to **REVIEW** the list of music that **YOU HAVE ALREADY CHOSEN** from the 2 PDF files in 1 & 2 above): Contact me (Daryel Nance, Music Director, St Vincent de Paul Catholic Church) to **set up a meeting**. Usually meetings are half an hour. Meetings are most often on weekdays, and can be daytime or evenings, depending on church availability. If you are interested to do so, you can make some selections from the YouTube examples. Many couples come to our meeting not having had time to listen to any YouTube examples **and I play brief examples of the same music selections, then we pick their music during the****

meeting. On the other hand, *several couples also come to our meetings with a complete list of their favorite selections ready to go*. Either process is perfectly fine.

a.) e-mail DNance@svdp-edu.org

b.) Office: 713 663-3539

Music for Catholic Weddings: The Catholic Church requires that all music used in Catholic worship must **reverently reflect the sacred prayer that is being celebrated (i.e. be Sacred music)**. Music perceived as “secular” (non-sacred) by our culture may not be used in Catholic worship. Music for a Catholic wedding also **includes music for the sung texts of the wedding liturgy - the peoples’ texts - that are often sung by your guests as part of your wedding celebration**. If you plan to use **musicians from elsewhere**, your musicians will also be required to observe the Catholic Church’s music requirements. Therefore, you will need to provide us with **a list of their music selections** that we can review before the wedding. **A more complete explanation of what is appropriate music, where music can be placed in a Catholic wedding, and lists of typical music selections can all be found in the attached PDF “Choosing Music to Celebrate a Catholic Wedding”**. Most wedding couples do not typically listen to “wedding music” for their musical entertainment; therefore, it is *perfectly normal* for Brides and Grooms to *not recognize the names* of music selections used in today’s Catholic Church weddings. However, **upon hearing these music selections when we meet, or listen on YouTube, Brides and Grooms will often recognize many of these music selections from other weddings they have attended**.

If in any way the previous or the follow information may seem not what you might have been expecting ... please feel free to view this 22-minute YouTube video online, prepared by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, for couples planning their wedding, about “Saying I Do: What Happens at a Catholic Wedding.” Click here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3uAHwtBRg5c>

We are here to help you select the best appropriate music for your wedding that will delight you, while helping to make the selection process very easy. St. Vincent’s music ministry shares in your joy over your upcoming wedding. We are honored to help you plan the music for your happy event.

Daryel Nance

Music Ministry, St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church