



Resurrection Parsh

Office of Music Ministry

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Thank you for having your wedding at Resurrection Parish. Our Music Ministry program is dedicated to foster the best sacred music for your special day. To help you in your planning process, the Music Office has prepared a list of frequently asked questions that outlines the policies when planning music for your wedding.

When do I need to contact the Music Office about our wedding?

Please be in touch with the Music Office immediately after the date of your wedding has been approved by the Pastor and when the date of your wedding has been reserved on the parish calendar. At this time, you will contact the Minister of Music to plan a meeting regarding the musical elements concerning your wedding.

What styles/genres of music are allowed at our wedding?

All music used before, during, and after the celebration must be that which befits the church's teaching and must be perceived in prayer. Music composed for stage and screen would not be considered that which exhibits the traits of Sacramental Music.

Do I need to have people outside of the Church to coordinate the music for our wedding such as selecting additional instrumentalists?

Since the Minister of Music coordinates the music for all weddings, the process of selecting musicians for your wedding works best when done in conjunction with the Minister of Music. Before contacting any outside musicians, please contact the Music Office for further assistance.

Does the Minister of Music or those representing the Music Office attend the wedding rehearsal?

The "Wedding Rehearsal" which you have scheduled through the Parish (usually the evening before your wedding) is NOT a rehearsal for musicians, but rather for the members of your wedding party. Rehearsals for music are scheduled at a different time.

Is the use of recorded music allowed in the Church?

The entire wedding, including the music, is a prayer, and an essential element of any prayer is that it comes from the person who is offering it. Imagine using a CD or digital recording to replace a spoken prayer, like the Lord's Prayer—it just wouldn't be the same as saying it yourself. The same reasoning applies to musical prayer. Therefore, recorded music is not allowed in the church before, during, or after the service.

What are the honorariums for the music staff?

The Minister of Music will discuss with you during your music planning meeting concerning the honorariums of all persons involved. Individual checks will be required for each musician. When submitting your payments, please write your names and wedding date on the Memo line of the check. All payments must be received and given to the Pastor the night of your wedding rehearsal.

Are guest musicians allowed to serve at our wedding?

Guest Musicians are most welcome to be a part of your wedding at Resurrection Parish. All unfamiliar guest musicians (organists, vocalists, and instrumentalists) will be auditioned before being allowed to play or sing for your wedding. A digital audio file may be submitted to the Minister of Music through email.

Guest musicians will be informed that all music being played and sung before, during, and after the Wedding Liturgy, must be approved three months prior to the wedding in writing to the Minister of Music through email and a copy of unfamiliar pieces must be sent in a PDF format for review.

All music during the liturgy will be selected from the *Worship: Fourth Edition* hymnal to invite the congregation to participate during the liturgy in song. This includes the Responsorial Psalm, Gospel Acclamation, Mass Parts, and Communion Hymn.

Rehearsals with guest musicians are scheduled one hour prior to the wedding in the sanctuary. Additional rehearsal time (for guest soloists and instrumentalists only) can be arranged with the Minister of Music for an additional fee. An additional rehearsal prior to the date of the wedding is often recommended.

Guest organists are welcome to play for your wedding at Resurrection Parish. All unfamiliar guest organists will be auditioned before being allowed to play for your wedding.

If you choose to select an organist not employed by our parish, the Minister of Music still has a role to ensure the proper handling of sacred music. Therefore, the Minister of Music become your Wedding Music Coordinator. The fee for the Wedding Music Coordinator will be paid upon signing the wedding music contract in person.

Guest organists, once approved by the Minister of Music, are required to contact the Music Office no later than three months prior to the wedding to arrange practice time and discuss our policies and procedures. Guest organists are also required to submit the list of music to be approved no later than three months before the date of the wedding. Guest organists are also required to work with the scheduled cantor, and if applicable, guest musicians.

The Minister of Music will be present at all weddings with guest organists and musicians for help if needed.

Are guest cantors allowed to serve at our wedding?

The parish will provide the couple with a cantor that is trained in the Catholic liturgy and the pastoral music philosophy implemented at Resurrection. Cantors serve a different role than a guest soloist, as they are the leader of congregational song during the ceremony.

However, if you have a guest soloist, they will be allowed to sing pieces for the Prelude (up to three pieces), Preparation of the Altar, and if needed, the song for the Flowers to the Blessed Mother.

Will the church provide music for guest musicians or soloists?

Please also note that the church will not provide photocopied music. Music that photocopied is illegal and it breaks the Federal Copyright Law. It is up to the guest vocalist to purchase legal music, if needed, for both themselves and the organist.