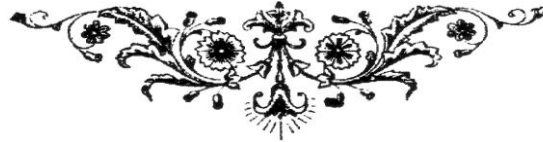




# St. Paul's Church | Harvard Square

29 Mount Auburn Street, Cambridge MA 02138

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## Wedding Music: *A Guide*

Congratulations on your engagement! We look forward to making your wedding service beautiful, memorable, and meaningful to you and your guests. St. Paul's is renowned for the quality of its liturgical music and is home to one of the finest boys' choirs in the world. Music is an excellent way to enhance the wedding liturgy and is particularly effective in bringing together people who may come from different religious traditions or no tradition at all.

This guide has been designed to help you choose music for your wedding at St. Paul's. Music is an important aid to prayer and an ancient adornment to the sacred liturgy. We will help you choose music that reflects the great cultural treasury of the Catholic Church. Selections from other Christian denominations may also be acceptable provided that they are theologically and musically sound.

To this end, we have compiled a selection of some of the most appropriate music chosen for weddings. While you may suggest alternative items, the list is all that is needed to make excellent choices. It is required that all weddings at St. Paul's, be they a ceremony or a full Mass, will use at least a cantor and the organ.

St. Paul's is blessed with the finest choirs in America (see [www.saintpaulschoirschool.us](http://www.saintpaulschoirschool.us)), which is available to hire for weddings during the academic year. The sound of the boys' angelic voices will elevate your wedding experience like nothing else. Many couples also choose to the organ for a thrilling fanfare sound. The boys of the Choir are also available to hire as a separate group. A quartet of professional singers is also available.

You will find *YouTube* and *Spotify* very useful in finding recordings of the suggestions offered here. Please fill out the attached form and return it to the Music Department for consideration. Please send all correspondence to the Music Office at [jjanowski@saintpaulschoirschool.us](mailto:jjanowski@saintpaulschoirschool.us), [nlee@saintpaulschoirschool.us](mailto:nlee@saintpaulschoirschool.us)

**For couples using a non-St. Paul's priest, you must connect the Music Director and your priest via email in good time prior to the ceremony to ensure that all liturgical details are covered. Thank you.**

DATE OF WEDDING \_\_\_\_\_ TIME\* \_\_\_\_\_

*\*This time is the beginning of the first procession. The musical staff are engaged from 20 minutes prior and 60 minutes after the start time. If the ceremony is delayed, additional late fees are due. Please see the agreement end of this document.*

CONTACT INFORMATION Name \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

NUMBER of people processing before the bride \_\_\_\_\_

APPROX. # of guests expected \_\_\_\_\_

CANTOR: Yes  / No  (not required if Choir is booked)

CHOIR of men and boys? Yes  / No

BOYS choir? Yes  / No

QUARTET professional choir? Yes  / No

TRUMPET? Yes  / No

As you choose music for the wedding, please consider the mood you would like to create. For instance, you might like your processions to be quiet and elegant, or bold and stately. Would you like a contrasting piece for the bride's procession? Would you like your recessional to be fast and exciting, or broad and joyous? The organist will play for around 15-20 minutes before the wedding, creating a joyful mood. We do not encourage the use of hymns since we find people rarely join in at weddings. The *Gloria* is not required unless you have asked the choir to sing it.

Your choices are as follows:

**PRELUDE** which occurs as people arrive and before the wedding begins.

\_\_\_\_\_ A selection of organ music by the organist, including Bach and Handel

\_\_\_\_\_ Handel: Largo from Xerxes,

\_\_\_\_\_ Bach: Air (on the G string) from Suite No. 3

\_\_\_\_\_ Bach: Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring

- \_\_\_\_\_ Handel: Air *from* Water Music
- \_\_\_\_\_ Vaughan Williams: Rhosymedre
- \_\_\_\_\_ Mendelssohn: Sonata 3, Andante
- \_\_\_\_\_ Pachelbel: Canon in D

The selections listed here are suggested options for prelude music. If you have other musical pieces in mind, please feel free to discuss your preferences with the Director of Music or the Associate Director of Music.

**PROCESSIONALS** (*you need 2 processionalists: one for the bride, and one for everyone before the bride. Consider contrasting music. Any of the above prelude or recessional music could also be used.*)

- \_\_\_\_\_ Handel: Arrival of the Queen of Sheeba  
<https://youtu.be/zND23HcMx3U?feature=shared>
- \_\_\_\_\_ Jeremiah Clarke: Trumpet Voluntary/Prince of Denmark's March  
[https://youtu.be/X8tD\\_yIXHV4?feature=shared](https://youtu.be/X8tD_yIXHV4?feature=shared)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Purcell: Trumpet Tune  
<https://youtu.be/HPUC808FXDI?feature=shared>
- \_\_\_\_\_ Handel: La Rejouissance  
[https://youtu.be/vZRQF\\_eu3VU?feature=shared](https://youtu.be/vZRQF_eu3VU?feature=shared)

\*Note: The YouTube links provided are for reference only, allowing you to check the tempo and style of each piece. If you prefer a different tempo or mood, please feel free to consult with the organist.

## PSALM

- \_\_\_\_\_ Psalm 18 'I love you, Lord, my strength'
- \_\_\_\_\_ Psalm 23 'The Lord is my Shepherd'
- \_\_\_\_\_ Psalm 92 'It is good to give thanks to you, O Lord'
- \_\_\_\_\_ Psalm 100 'We are his people, the sheep of his flock'
- \_\_\_\_\_ Psalm 121 'Our help is from the Lord, who made heaven and earth'
- \_\_\_\_\_ Psalm 128 'Thy Wife shall be as a fruitful vine'
- \_\_\_\_\_ Your choice: \_\_\_\_\_

## GOSPEL ALLELUIA

\_\_\_ Traditional Gregorian Alleluia

## INTERLUDE/OFFERTORY MOTET

\_\_\_ Schubert: Ave Maria (Cantor or Boys)

\_\_\_ Handel: Angels Ever Bright and Fair (Cantor or Boys sing)

\_\_\_ Duruflé: Ubi caritas (full choir only)

\_\_\_ Many other options: please consult Mr. Straub, Director of Music.

**MASS SETTING** *Since there are so many various settings and styles prevalent in the Catholic Church, we offer the chants of the new Roman Missal if you are keen that the congregation should sing the Sanctus and Agnus. Since everyone will be from different traditions, we would recommend that you leave these parts to the Cantor or the Choir, so that the people can concentrate on praying the words at these points.*

\_\_\_ Roman Missal congregational chant

\_\_\_ Missa de Angelis plainchant

\_\_\_ Fauré: Messe Basse (Boys' Choir)

\_\_\_ Byrd: Mass for Three Voices (Gentlemen of the choir)

\_\_\_ Mozart: Späzen Messe (Full Choir/quartet)

## COMMUNION MOTET

\_\_\_ Franck: Panis Angelicus

\_\_\_ Lalouette: O Mysterium Ineffabile

\_\_\_ Mozart: Ave Verum

\_\_\_ Mozart: Laudate Dominum

\_\_\_ Palestrina O Sacrum Convivium (Gentlemen of the choir)

\_\_\_ Other options (to be discussed)

## RECESSIONAL

\_\_\_ Mendelssohn: Wedding March *from* "A midsummer night's dream"

\_\_\_ Handel: Hornpipe *from* Water music  
[https://youtu.be/k4qjBcX\\_hz0?feature=shared](https://youtu.be/k4qjBcX_hz0?feature=shared)

\_\_\_ Bach: Prelude in G Major, BWV 541  
<https://youtu.be/rGS04n6H-2c?feature=shared>

\_\_\_ Handel: La Rejouissance *from* Fireworks

\_\_\_ Widor: Toccata from Symphony No. 5  
<https://youtu.be/fBh3RrAHwxw?feature=shared>

## HYMNS

Traditional Catholic hymns work best at St' Paul's. Contemporary worship songs (such as Eagles Wings, Be not afraid, Here I am Lord) are generally not permitted due to their poor musical quality and lack of theological integrity. This judgment is required to be made by Catholic musicians in *Sing to the Lord*, issued by The US Conference of Bishops. Please contact us for further hymn advice.

## FEES

### Weddings held at St. Paul's:

Cantor/vocal soloist (required): **\$225**

Organist (required when booking Cantor, boys, men or both): **\$450-650** depending on complexity of repertoire requirements (please email for further information).

Director of music (replaces the Organist and required along with Accompanist when booking boys, men or both): **\$550-750** depending on complexity of repertoire requirements (please email for further information).

Accompanist (required when booking boys, men or both): **\$350**

Trumpet: **\$350**

Choir of Men and Boys: **\$5000**

Boys only: **\$3500**

Men only: **\$1500**

Quartet of singers: **\$800**

### **Weddings at venues other than St. Paul's:**

Bus hire if hiring the Choir: **\$70 per hour**

Additional choir fees: **\$300 for boys, \$500 for men and boys**

Additional offsite fee for Organist/Conductor: **\$25/hour** spent away from St. Paul's (for events within 30 minutes' drive of Harvard Square, this is typically 2 hours total).

**Payment must be received seven days before your ceremony. Failure to submit the fees on this time schedule will result in a cancellation of the ceremony. Organist, cantor, and trumpet fees are made out directly to the performers by check, cash, or electronic transfer. Fees for the Choir are made via check out to Saint Paul's Choir School. Upon receipt of this completed form we will send you the appropriate invoices.**

## **REFUSING THE SERVICES OF THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT**

You are welcome to decline the services of the Church's music staff in favor of musical friends and relatives. However, should you choose to do this, you would be liable to pay a 'bench fee' to the organist and cantor who would be otherwise performing at the wedding (\$450 and \$225 respectively). This is because the Music Department has the first refusal on all extraordinary services such as Weddings and Funerals.

Please note that even if you choose to pursue this option, you are **required** to discuss all musical choices with the Music Department.

## **NEXT STEPS**

We look forward to making your wedding beautiful and memorable for you and your guests! Here is a summary of the next steps you need to take:

1. Now: Make contact with the Music Department for an initial discussion.
2. 2 weeks before your ceremony: Please arrange payment for any outstanding balances as outlined in your invoice. You may mail checks or drop them off directly at the church, or make electronic payments to the organist, cantor, or choir school.

## TIMEING AND TARDINESS

It is crucial that your ceremony begins on time. There are frequently other events at the church that could be delayed by a late start. The services of the music personnel are valid 20 minutes prior to your wedding time, and 60 minutes after it.

If the ceremony starts late, you must pay a late fee of \$50 per 15 minutes to each musician involved in the ceremony. (for example, a wedding scheduled for 3 PM that starts at 3:25 PM would incur a \$100 late fee for each musician).

However, if the ceremony begins on time, there will be no additional fees, even if it runs longer than 60 minutes.

*I, [name] \_\_\_\_\_ acknowledge that if the ceremony starts late, a fee of \$50 per 15 minutes will be charged to each musician involved in the ceremony beyond the scheduled start time. I understand that the music staff may need to honor prior engagements in a timely manner.*

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

**THANK YOU!** We are always available should you have any further questions.

November 2024