

CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL – STILLWATER, MN

PLANNING YOUR WEDDING CEREMONY – MASS

USE YOUR “Partners in Life and Love” BOOK TO COMPLETE THIS FORM

All prayers, scripture readings, and music should emphasize Christian love and union in a context of community. A sacramental marriage is not only the love of the couple for each other, but includes their love for God and the love of the community to which they bear witness.

Bride: _____ Phone: _____

Groom: _____ Phone: _____

Priest/Deacon: _____ St. Michael's Wedding Assistant: _____

Date of Ceremony: _____ Time*: _____

Date of Rehearsal: _____ Time**: _____

***REMINDER: Due to the many events scheduled in our church facilities, each wedding is allowed three hours time in the church. Please see your wedding information packet for details and guidelines (page 12 of the “Welcome” booklet).**

****Rehearsals last approximately ½ hour.**

Maid/Matron of Honor: _____ Best Man: _____

Of Bridesmaids (inc. Maid/Matron of Honor): _____ # of Groomsmen (inc. Best Man): _____

And Names of Ushers (if not counted also as groomsmen): _____

Ring Bearer(s): _____ Flower Girl(s): _____

Gift Bearers (optional): _____

Lectors (readers): _____

Eucharistic Ministers (if over 100 people are to receive communion): _____

Accompanist (usually organ and/or piano): _____

Soloist/Cantor: _____

Other musicians (list names and instrument/vocal): _____

ENTRANCE PROCESSION (choose one):

- Bridesmaids, Maid/Matron of Honor, ring bearers/flower girls (if any), Bride with Father
- Attending Couples, Bride with Parents
- Groom with Parents, Attending Couples, Bride with Parents
- OTHER: _____

List Names in Order for Entrance Procession:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

GATHERING RITE

BEFORE PROCESSIONAL: *The single candles near the unity candle may be lit (usually by the mothers/parents) before the procession.*

Will candles be lit as described above? Yes No
By whom? _____

Will anyone be seated "specially" prior to the procession?
(This may be grandparents, godparents, mothers or fathers of the couple, etc.). If yes, who:

Processional

Gathering Song (optional)

Opening Prayer (choose one – pages 34-35)

OP-1 OP-2 OP-3 OP-4

Prelude music shall start no more than 15 minutes before the ceremony and needs to be completed by the time the ceremony is scheduled to begin. Selections can be vocal solos, instrumental pieces, or congregational hymns.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Processional music can be organ/piano, instrumental, or (less commonly) sung vocally. The same music may be used for the bridesmaids' entrance as for the Bride's entrance; however, a few brides choose to have a separate song for their entrance (please list titles and composers):

Bridesmaids: _____

Bride (or "same"): _____

Some couples choose to have an opening hymn, which would be sung immediately following the procession: (OPTIONAL)

Title/Composer: _____

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Old Testament Reading OT-1 to OT-9: _____ (pages 36-43)

Reading: _____, _____
(Book) (Chapters/Verses)

Read by: _____

Psalm (Sung OR see pages 44-49)

sung OR RP-1 to RP-7: _____

If not sung, read by: _____

New Testament Reading NT-1 to NT-13: _____ (pages 50-62)

Reading: _____, _____
(Book) (Chapters/Verses)

Read by: _____

Gospel Acclamation (optional) (sung or page 63)

sung OR AV-1 AV-2 AV-3 AV-4

Gospel Reading G-1 to G-10: _____ (pages 64-70)

Reading: _____, _____
(Book) (Chapters/Verses)

Homily

If at all possible, the Psalm should be sung. The most common form is a cantor/soloist singing the verses and the congregation joining in on the refrain. Other options include a complete vocal solo, or the Psalm sung by the entire congregation:

Title/Composer: _____

All sing on refrain All sing entire psalm
Psalm sung as vocal solo

This is the "Alleluia" which comes before the Gospel reading to emphasize its importance. It can be led by the cantor/soloist:

Title/Composer: _____

Ritual/Prayers/Readings

Music

RITE OF MARRIAGE

Exchange Of Vows (page 72)

CHOOSE ONE: V-1 V-2 V-3 V-4

OR Questions and "I do" response

IF V-1 TO V-4 Recited after OR Memorized

Blessing of Rings (page 74)

BR-1 BR-2 BR-3

Lighting Of Unity Candle (optional)

NOTE: After lighting the Unity Candle, some couples choose to bring flowers to Mary's side altar. Couples may also greet or bring flowers to their mothers/parents. Some couples do both.

- No Unity Candle
- Unity Candle only
- Unity Candle; flowers to Mary's altar
- Unity Candle; flowers to mothers/parents
- Unity Candle; flowers to Mary's altar; flowers to parents

Prayers Of The Faithful (Intentions)

- As written in "Partners in Life & Love" (page 75)
- As written in "Partners in Life & Love" with minor changes
- Own Composition (must be approved)

Read by: _____
(may be read by the priest/deacon, or a reader)

Song of Union: A song of Christian union or love may be used during the lighting of the Unity Candle, or as a reflection after the exchange of rings if there is no Unity Candle ceremony. Instrumental music is also an option.

Vocal + Accompaniment
Instrumental only

Title/Composer: _____

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Preparation Of Gifts

Prayer Over Gifts (page 78)

PG-1 PG-2 PG-3

Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Nuptial Blessing (pages 80 - 83)

NB-1 NB-2 NB-3

Sign Of Peace

NOTE: After offering the Sign of Peace to each other, the couple may choose to offer the Sign of Peace to their wedding parties and to their parents.

- Sign of Peace to Wedding Party
- Sign of Peace to Wedding Party and Parents

Music during the Preparation of Gifts should not last longer than the preparation time itself. Since this time is short, instrumental music is recommended:

Title/Composer: _____

Singing the Eucharistic Acclamations is a priority to which the Church calls us. Eucharistic Acclamations include the Sanctus (Holy, Holy, Holy), the Memorial Acclamation (Christ Has Died...), and The Great Amen.

Mass of Creation (Haugen)
Other setting: _____

The Lord's Prayer should be recited or sung by *the entire congregation*. It is not to be sung as a solo, because that would exclude the full participation of all in prayer.

Singing is not recommended during the Sign of Peace. A short instrumental piece may be played if desired:

Title/Composer: _____

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST (cont.)

Lamb Of God

As with the Eucharistic Acclamations above, the "Lamb of God" should be sung.

Mass of Creation (Haugen)

Other setting: _____

Communion

During Communion, priority should be placed on *all* present singing a Communion hymn/song as a further expression of the unity entailed in partaking of the One Bread. Song/hymn texts should reflect Communion or Christian unity. Congregational singing at this point is another way that *all* present, including people of differing faiths, can feel involved and not be "just spectators."

Congregational hymn Title/Book #: _____

After the Communion song, there may be time for a vocal or instrumental solo for meditation (*optional*).

Vocal solo Title/Composer: _____

Instrumental solo Title/Composer: _____

CONCLUDING RITE

Prayer After Communion (pages 86-87)

PC-1 PC-2 PC-3

Final Blessing (pages 87-89)

SB-1 SB-2 SB-3 SB-4

Presentation Of The Couple

How EXACTLY do you want to be introduced?

Closing Hymn (optional)

Some couples choose to have a closing hymn, which would be sung immediately before the recessional.

Recessional

Postlude

Closing Hymn: (*optional – to be sung by congregation*)

Title/Composer: _____

Recessional: (*usually instrumental only*)

Title/Composer: _____

Postlude: The choices for postlude pieces (the music playing as your guests leave the church) are usually left up to the discretion of the organist/pianist; however, if there are specific pieces you want, you can discuss that with the musician(s).

ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS TO BE DECIDED PRIOR TO THE CEREMONY:

- 1. BE SURE TO SUBMIT THIS PLANNING FORM FOR FINAL APPROVAL TO: WEDDING LITURGY COORDINATOR, ST. MICHAEL'S PARISH, AT LEAST 2 MONTHS PRIOR TO YOUR WEDDING DATE!**
2. What are you planning for the church environment (i.e., flowers, bows, etc.)? Use "Request For Church Decorations" information sheet/order request in your folder; complete and return it (and a check/ money, if needed) *whether or not you are requesting any of St. Michael's decorations/plants/supplies.* **BE SURE TO SUBMIT THE ENVIRONMENT FORM FOR FINAL APPROVAL TO: WEDDING LITURGY COORDINATOR, ST. MICHAEL'S PARISH, AT LEAST 2 MONTHS PRIOR TO YOUR WEDDING DATE!**
3. Be familiar with important policies for use of parish spaces – refer to the information in your folder.
4. **Confirm the times you are scheduled to use church/facilities.** Contact the parish office (651/439-4400) to confirm the dates/times of your rehearsal & wedding, schedule the opening of the church for your wedding day, and find out the end time by which you must be out of the church to allow for other church services.