

MUSIC FOR THE ORDER OF CELEBRATING MATRIMONY

Choose music that is familiar and can be easily sung by the assembly. Remove any barriers that may keep the assembly from singing their praise and thanks to God. Many of the suggestions below refer specifically to marriage but other music used at Sunday Mass is also appropriate.

Opening Song: In Option One, an instrumental processional might lead into the song; In Option Two the song follows the presiders welcome to the couple when they reach the sanctuary.

Hear Us Now, Our God and Father, sung to the hymn tune **HYFRYDOL**, as in *Alleluia, Sing to Jesus* (Harry Huxshold, Text)

Bridegroom and Bride aka God in the Planning and Purpose of Life, sung to the hymn tune **SLANE** as in *Lord of All Hopefulness*, text by John Bell, text

Canon in 'D', Pachelbel / *Gathered in the Love of Christ*, Marty Haugen (May be used as one continuous piece for an Option One entrance or as two separate pieces for an Option Two entrance)

Psalmody:

Ps 33 *The Earth Is Full of the Goodness of God*, Marty Haugen (alternate refrain of Let Your Mercy Be on Us)

Ps 103 *The Lord Is Kind and Merciful*, Marty Haugen

Ps 128, *Blest Are Those Who Love You*, Paul Inwood

Gospel Acclamation Use any uplifting and celebratory Alleluia that is accompanied with a marriage verse, for example, *Celtic Alleluia*, Christopher Walker

Marriage Acclamation Any of the above acclamations without a verse may be use for the marriage acclamation.

Canticle (follows exchange of rings) An optional song of praise sung by the assembly

Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow, tune: OLD 100TH

Hear Us Now (see above)

Bridegroom and Bride (see above)

Blessing the Marriage, tune: **SUSSEX CAROL**, text John Bell

Particular decisions about choice and placement of wedding music should be based on three judgments...the liturgical judgment, the pastoral judgment, and the musical judgment. Additionally, music should reflect the truth that all the sacraments celebrate the Paschal Mystery of Christ (SC61; CCC 1621). Secular music, even though it may emphasize the love of the spouses for one another, is not appropriate for the Sacred Liturgy. Songs that are chosen for the liturgy should be appropriate for the celebrations and express the faith of the Church (cf. OCM 30; SC 118, 121.)

--- Sing to the Lord: Music in Divine Worship (220)