**POLICY FOR MUSIC AT WEDDINGS**

**Our Lady of Fatima Roman Catholic Church**

**Lafayette, Louisiana**

We are committed to providing beautiful music for your wedding. Please do not ask for exceptions to our policies. These guidelines have been reviewed and approved by the Pastor and Director of Music.

The reverence and dignity of the sacred liturgy should be reflected in your musical selections.

The standard Mass parts used at Our Lady of Fatima services (English or Latin) will be sung by our Cantors – (female) Rachel Gaspard or (male) Jay Broussard.

Secular music is forbidden, including music from movies, television, plays, musicals and operas.

Use of pre-recorded music is forbidden. Without exception, all music for the nuptial ceremony must be performed live by present musicians.

Only Fatima Church’s staff musicians may provide music at weddings. This includes organists, pianists, trumpeters, violinists, flutists, etc. Church documents state that the organ is to have prime of place in the sacred liturgy and therefore will be used as the primary instrument for all weddings. Guitars are not allowed. All musicians will be hired by the Director of Music. Any other arrangements made, financial or otherwise, without permission will not be honored.

Once you have signed and agreed to this policy, you will receive a Wedding Music Selection Form. This simple form will help you choose all the music for your wedding. Most of the selections on the form are readily available on Youtube. Once you have completed the form, it is your responsibility to contact the Director of Music and schedule an appointment to discuss your wedding in detail and your musical selections.

***All music must be approved by the Director of Music***

**Frequently Asked Questions:**

***Q.*** *I have a friend/relative that sings. Can he/she sing for my wedding?*

**A.** Yes, but they may only sing prior to the wedding as a prelude to the Liturgy or Ceremony and a fee will be charged by the organist for rehearsal with said vocalist. It is the responsibility of the vocalist to contact the Director of Music/Organist to set up a rehearsal time prior to the wedding. If a rehearsal does not take place prior to the week of the wedding, the friend/relative will not be allowed to sing.

***Q.*** *May I request a certain instrumentalist (violinist, trumpeter, etc.) to play at my wedding?*

**A.** No. Only Fatima Church’s staff musicians may provide music for weddings. Simply inform the Director of Music which instruments you desire, and he will contract the instrumentalists. Rest assured that we employ only the finest musicians.

***Q.*** *Is a cantor necessary? What if we don’t want singing?*

**A.** Yes. The cantor must sing the Mass parts (Holy, Amen, Lamb of God, etc.) at all wedding Masses. If your wedding will not be a Mass, and you prefer to have no singing, you are not obligated to have a cantor.

***Q.*** *Can we choose the Mass parts to be sung at our wedding?*

**A.** No. The standard Mass parts used at Our Lady of Fatima liturgies must be sung.

***Q.*** *When should we meet with the Director of Music prior to our wedding?*

**A.** It is your responsibility once you have selected your music to contact the Director of Music to schedule an appointment to discuss your selections and any other musical questions you may have. If you decide you would like instrumentalists along with the organ at your wedding, it is imperative that you meet with the Director of Music 6 months prior to your wedding so the instrumentalists can book the date on their calendars as soon as possible. They are often booked months in advance.

*I have read and agree to accept all of these guidelines*

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Bride Date Groom Date