

Saint Patrick's Church in New Orleans

Wedding Music Policies

Welcome!

Congratulations on having scheduled your wedding at St. Patrick's! Our renowned music program is at your disposal, and we are sure that you will be thrilled with the music at your wedding here. Please take a few moments to read these pages, which will acquaint you with the range of options available to you, and with our policies regarding music selection and personnel.

Before You Start

Please note that no musical arrangements – including selection of music and engagement of singers and other musicians – are to be made before consulting with our music director and organist, Andrew Mills. Please contact him as soon as you have scheduled your wedding to confirm that you would like music at your wedding.

Music Selection

Our parish's Website [oldstpatricks.org] has, on the Music page, a complete set of recordings of the wedding music choices available to you. There is also a form which you can print, fill out, and return to Andrew Mills. Please contact him if you have any questions, or need assistance.

Please note that the Church does not permit music which is inappropriate to the sacredness of the place and the occasion. For example, secular music (popular songs, operatic selections, etc.) is not allowed, nor is music in a popular style even though the words be religious. The judgment of the Pastor and music director in this matter is final.

This should not be seen as a limitation: there are a multitude of classical, sacred selections which will be perfect for your wedding, and which our musicians are capable of offering to your entire satisfaction.

Organist

St. Patrick's has a magnificent pipe organ, one of the finest in the Gulf South. As the Church's primary instrument, it will sound splendid at your wedding.

Mr. Mills is the organist for all weddings at St. Patrick's. He will assist you in making all musical arrangements for your wedding.

Singers

St. Patrick's has a number of extremely accomplished professional singers, both men and women, who are available to sing for weddings. Any one of them will make your wedding music truly memorable.

All weddings which are Nuptial Masses must have one of St. Patrick's cantors to lead the singing of the liturgical music.

Please note that, although a friend or family member may be permitted to sing a solo (such as *Ave Maria*), the singing of the Psalm and other parts of the Mass must be done by one of our singers.

Other Instruments

Many couples have found that another instrument (such as trumpet or violin) played with the organ can enhance the beauty of the wedding. St. Patrick's has a roster of some of Louisiana's finest professional musicians. Mr. Mills will be happy to arrange for one or more of them to play at your wedding.

Timeline

Please contact Mr. Mills as soon as you have scheduled your wedding to confirm that you would like music. Normally all music decisions should be made no fewer than 90 days (three months) before your wedding. All music-related fees must be paid no fewer than 30 days (one month) before your wedding.

Fees [These fees apply to all weddings booked on or after 15 February 2025.]

Organist – \$400.00 for non-parishioners with Nuptial Mass
\$350.00 for parishioners with Nuptial Mass
\$350.00 for all weddings without Mass

This includes

- the wedding itself,
- 15 minutes of prelude music,
- time spent helping you with music selections and questions,
- private rehearsal with our singers and musicians,
- and up to 15 minutes of rehearsal with a soloist of your choice.

(Any additional rehearsal time necessary may require additional compensation of \$30.00 per half-hour.)

Singers – \$300.00 each. This includes

- the wedding itself,
- rehearsal with our organist.

Instrumentalists – \$300.00 each. Some instruments (such as a harp) may require an additional “cartage” fee.

Please note that contracting fees may apply for groups of singers or instrumentalists, to compensate for the time and effort of hiring musicians, arranging and distributing music, and rehearsing the group(s). Please contact Mr. Mills for details.

Separate checks should be written to each person. Mr. Mills will provide you with the names and amounts for all fees due. Checks should be mailed or given to Mr. Mills at the parish office.

Contact

Andrew Mills, St. Patrick’s organist and director of music

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~~facsimile: (504) 568-1324~~

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Thank you for observing these policies. We look forward to providing the best possible music for your special day!

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