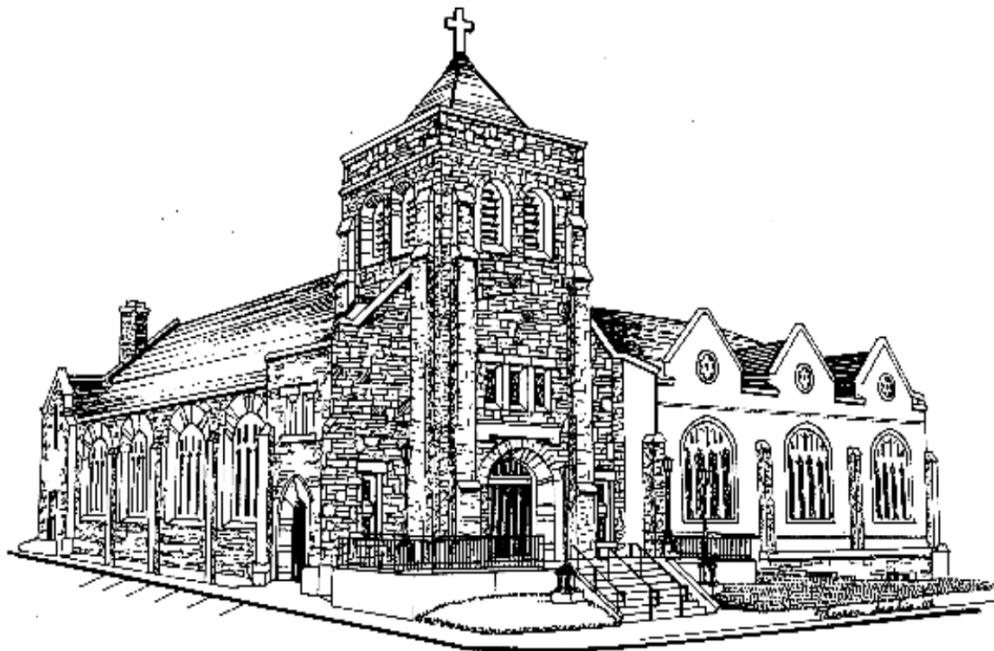


*Preparing for the Sacrament
Christian Marriage
Saint Patrick Church*



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Your Wedding at Saint Patrick Church



TO THE COUPLE PREPARING FOR MARRIAGE

Congratulations and best wishes from the pastor and people of St. Patrick's parish! Our hopes and prayers are with you as you prepare to celebrate your wedding.

It is our hope that during this period before your wedding, we can help you affirm your commitment to each other as good and lasting, to deepen your knowledge and feeling for Christian marriage, to explore the important aspects of your relationship, and to prepare a wedding celebration that will be truly joyful, personal and spiritual.

Please read through this booklet carefully and hold on to its contents—you'll need to refer to it as you plan for your wedding.

Your friends and helpers,

The Pastor and Music Ministry of Saint Patrick Parish

THE SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

You probably know that marriage is considered a sacrament in the Catholic Church. But, have you ever thought about what this really means?

Put simply, marriage is a sacrament because it is an expression of God's love and grace. In marriage, when you pledge yourselves to one another and live through that commitment, the very nature of that relationship makes your marriage in the Church special and holy. Such a marriage is a constant reminder to the couple and all who know them of the reality of God's love. Married love symbolizes and reveals the love and union between Christ and His Church. *"Follow the way of love even as Christ loved you. He gave Himself for us."* (Eph. 5:2)

Every marriage involves commitment. You are promising to give yourselves to each other in a relationship that is faithful and permanent. Your commitment in marriage also extends to the community.

The promises made on your wedding day are supported by the larger community, the Church. Pope John Paul II in his letter on family life states, *"Marriage just never is, it becomes. It is the contribution of each person and the depth of their commitment that creates it."*

When you make this commitment, you make it for the rest of your lives. Naming marriage a sacrament is a way of confirming what it already is—an event so important in magnitude and scope that God's involvement in your pledge shines forth through your love, courage, and faith.

GENERAL INFORMATION

BOOKING YOUR WEDDING / TIME SCHEDULE / DATE CHANGES

Weddings at St. Patrick Church are celebrated on Saturdays and some Friday evenings. Saturday weddings are scheduled at 11 AM and 2 PM.

IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT THE WEDDING BEGIN PROMPTLY to allow sufficient time to celebrate the service that you will have carefully planned. In addition, time will be allowed following the wedding service for photographs at the altar. The wedding party from the 11 AM ceremony must vacate the church by 12:30 PM to accommodate the next wedding ceremony. The wedding party from the 2 PM ceremony must vacate the church by 3:30 PM to accommodate those parishioners who are arriving to receive the Sacrament of Penance and to attend our Saturday vigil Liturgy. Reception lines are not permitted after the ceremony. **PLEASE NOTE: *When booking your wedding at St. Patrick Church, there will be a non-refundable deposit of 1/3 the church fee payable at your first meeting with our priest.*** If for any reason, you decide to change the date of your wedding, all changes must be made in writing to the office with ***both party's signatures***. Any change must first be approved by the office.

FACILITIES

Weddings are held in the recently renovated and beautifully restored church, with a seating capacity of more than 600. The church is fully air conditioned in the summer. In addition there is a gathering space upstairs in the priests' sacristy for the bride and bridesmaids, and the sacristy behind the main altar is available for the groom. Lavatory facilities are located in both the upstairs priests' sacristy and the sacristy behind the main altar. Public restrooms are situated beneath the choir loft in the main church. Saint Patrick Church is wheelchair accessible from the outside parking lot adjacent to the church.

PARKING

Your guests are welcome to use our church parking lots while attending the wedding. **All vehicles must be taken out of the lots immediately following the wedding (or rehearsal)** since the parking spaces will be used by others for Saturday vigil and Sunday Masses. The lots are located directly across the street from the main entrance of the church on Channing Avenue and next to the church.

GUEST PRIESTS OR MINISTERS

Priests from other Catholic churches or ministers from other denominations are welcome to participate in the wedding ceremony. Please inform us at least two months in advance if other ministers or priests will take part in your liturgy.

LITURGY

Your wedding will take place within the context of the Catholic liturgy. The form of this liturgy is quite similar to that of a regular parish Mass, but with the addition of wedding vows and the exchange of rings following the homily. When two Catholics marry, the marriage ordinarily occurs within a Eucharistic setting – a full Mass with communion. However, if one person in the couple is non-Catholic, we recommend a wedding ceremony in a Liturgy of the Word – without Mass. This service is very comparable to a regular parish liturgy with the exception that the communion rite is omitted. There may be other reasons for a bride and groom, even if both are Catholic, to choose a wedding ceremony in a Liturgy of the Word rather than a full Mass, e.g. time restraints. The choice is yours. Either service will be conducted with beauty and devotion. More detailed liturgical information and guidelines are contained in the section “THE WEDDING LITURGY” on page 13 of this booklet.

MUSIC

The Liturgical Director of Music at Saint Patrick Church is the principal musician for **all** weddings. As principal musician for the ceremony, Mrs. Katey Engel will aid you in choosing suitable music for the wedding liturgy. You can listen to a large number of musical selections and musicians for your wedding online on our music website www.stpatrickmusicministry.com. You may book these musicians directly through Katey Engel. She must approve all music and musicians selected for the ceremony. Couples should consult with the Director of Music before making any musical plans or arrangements. More detailed information and guidelines on wedding music are found in the section “MUSIC FOR THE WEDDING” on page 18 of this booklet. You must contact Katey Engel at least 4 months before your wedding date by calling 610.647.2348 or email: katey.engel@gmail.com.

A “Fill-Out Liturgy Form” is available for you to make all your music, prayers and readings selections online. Just submit the form and we will be in touch to confirm your choices. Simply go to: http://www.stpatrickmusicministry.com/Weddings/Weddings/Fill-Out_Liturgy_Form.html

REHEARSAL

The rehearsal date and time is decided at the same time you schedule your wedding. The rehearsal is held on either Thursday or Friday at 6 or 6:30 PM. It allows members of the immediate wedding party to become familiar with the environment of our church building and with the public roles they will assume as part of the liturgy. The wedding rehearsal coordinator will give a brief overview of the liturgy to help all concerned understand the prayerful nature of the celebration. We ask that you make sure that all members of the wedding party are present for the rehearsal and they arrive on time. In preparing your wedding liturgy, you will, at some point, be given a book called *Together for Life*. This book will help you select the readings and prayers for your ceremony, and the book contains a selection form on which to indicate these choices. This selection form should be completed and given to your priest no later than two weeks prior to the date of the rehearsal. The rehearsal itself is not the time for discussion and decision-making. Please also be aware that it is not necessary

for the musicians to be present for the wedding rehearsal. Your rehearsal will be conducted by a member of our Wedding Rehearsal Ministry. The coordinator will be present at your rehearsal and also the day of your wedding to assist you. ***There will be a \$25 fee for this service*** payable when all music fees are paid. Please plan to be at the church 30 minutes before your scheduled time. One hour has been allocated for your rehearsal. Please notify our music director, Katey Engel, of any time or date changes.

PHOTOGRAPHY AND VIDEOTAPING

Since the wedding is a sacred service, all photographers, amateur and professional, are asked to show reverence for the ceremony and the building in which it takes place. At no time and under no conditions shall flash photographs be taken or videotape lighting equipment used while the ceremony is in progress. Time exposures may be made from the back during the ceremony, provided there is NO NOISE OR OTHER DISTRACTIONS. Videotape equipment must be confined to the corners of the church or the corner of the organ balcony, and *must* remain stationary.

Photographers and videographers absolutely MAY NOT be situated in the main aisle during the wedding processional. NO EXTRA LIGHTING may be used with videotaping equipment at any time before or during the ceremony. Following the ceremony, the wedding party may return for pictures. Flash and other lighting equipment may be used at that time. A maximum of 20-30 minutes will be allowed for the taking of pictures following the service. Please be aware that if the wedding starts late, the subsequent picture taking time will likely need to be shortened accordingly.

Occasionally couples prefer to have the majority of their pictures taken prior to the ceremony rather than after. We are happy to accommodate such requests, but there are some restrictions: Pictures taken prior to the wedding may begin NO MORE THAN 45 MINUTES BEFORE THE STARTING TIME OF THE SERVICE. The areas in which such pictures may be taken are limited to the bride's gathering area, or outside the church building. Depending on other services and prior scheduling, the church sanctuary may or may not be available for pictures before the wedding.

FLOWERS AND DECORATIONS

When making preparations with your florist, please observe the following guidelines: It is expected that the bride and groom provide flowers for the altar that will remain on the altar for the wedding, as well as for all the regularly scheduled Masses that weekend. Floral arrangements can only be placed on both sides of the tabernacle behind the altar.

Flowers placed on either side of the tabernacle behind the altar may not be removed after the wedding ceremony.

Since the altar represents Christ, His table and His tomb, neither flowers nor anything else (apart from necessary liturgical articles) are allowed on the altar tabletop.

Depending upon the time of year in which your wedding takes place, there may be church decorations already in place on the altar platform to highlight the particular liturgical season. Please do not move or remove any of these church decorations, as they will be used at other celebrations that same weekend.

For safety reasons, the setting up of stands for candles (other than those provided by the church) is not permitted. Candles are not permitted in or near the pews. The altar candles may not be moved.

If flowers are to be used to decorate the ends of pews, they should be used at regular intervals along the entire length of the aisle, enriching the whole worship space and the people that fill it. Such arrangements should not be limited to the first several pews like floral "reserved" signs. **DECORATIONS MUST NOT BE ATTACHED TO THE PEWS OR OTHER FURNITURE BY PINNING, GLUING, NAILING, TACKING, TAPING OR STAPLING.** Decorations may be attached using elastic bands, plastic pew clips, or ribbons.

For safety reasons, runners are not permitted in the church.

WEDDING OR UNITY CANDLE

The so-called wedding or unity candle, introduced in many places into the rite of marriage and often after the exchange of consent, fails to adequately express the theological meaning of the Rite. In fact, the ceremony that frequently accompanies the lighting of this candle detracts from the central and most significant dimension of the sacramental Rite, the Exchange of Consent itself. The Exchange of Consent is the sacramental action of unity and its primary symbol. In both the Rite of Marriage during Mass and the Rite of Marriage outside Mass the use of the Wedding or Unity candle is to be discontinued. The Office for Worship has already contacted the Congregation for Divine Worship in Rome with regards to this matter. The Congregation expressed its concern with regards to its incorporation into the present Rite of Marriage without any approval by the Holy See. The Congregation clearly confirmed that the Wedding or Unity Candle is not in any way envisioned in the present rite of Marriage. The Candle Lighting Ceremony or Unity Candle is **NOT PERMITTED**. This is in adherence with the policy of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia.

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS AT NUPTIAL MASSES

The bride and groom themselves may present the bread and wine for the celebration of the Eucharist. This gesture expresses the offering of the lives of

the married couple united to the offering of Christ for His Church and made present in the Eucharistic sacrifice. The couple may also give a gift to the Church and/or to the poor with the presentation of the bread and wine. Other Catholics may also bring forward the gifts for the Eucharist.

ALTAR SERVERS

The parish provides altar Servers. Two servers will be provided for a Mass and one server for a ceremony. If you wish to use your own servers, please inform your priest in advance. The fee for the altar servers is a minimum of \$15 each. We request that you please place cash in separate marked envelopes and send them at the same time you send your payment for the church at least 2 – 3 weeks prior to your ceremony.

SAFETY CONCERNS

It is not permissible to throw rice or flower petals in or around the church due to safety hazards they may cause. Also, rice can be harmful if eaten by some animals, especially birds. If you wish to include this tradition as part of the festivities, we suggest the use of bubbles outside the church following the ceremony. Balloons are permitted outside, but may not be brought into the building under any circumstances.

WEDDING FEES

Saint Patrick Church is a vital parish providing for the spiritual and ministerial needs of its people and the surrounding community. Our historic renovation, completed on Christmas Eve 2001, provides us with a jewel-like setting for your wedding as well as for daily, Sunday and feast day celebrations. Your wedding offering helps to cover not only the expenses incurred by the parish in helping you to celebrate this most joyous day, but also goes toward the maintenance and upkeep (including heating and air conditioning) of the magnificent building in which your ceremony will take place, and to the continuation of the ministries and outreach programs for which Saint Patrick Parish is known. The wedding offering for parishioners is \$350 and \$600 for non-parishioners for the use of the church. This fee does not include any stipend you may wish to give to the presiding minister of your wedding ceremony. ***When booking your wedding at St. Patrick Church, there will be a non-refundable deposit of 1/3 the church fee payable at your first meeting with our priest (\$100 for parishioners - \$200 for non-parishioners),*** with the balance payable at the time your marriage license is brought to the parish office - at least 2 - 3 weeks prior to your wedding date.

CHURCH REQUIREMENTS

TIME FRAME

Philadelphia Archdiocese policy requires that there be at least six months between setting the date of the wedding and the marriage ceremony itself.

FORMAL INTERVIEW

Please contact the rectory six months prior to your wedding to set up an interview with your priest. At this time, you formally announce to the Church your intention to marry. The priest will take the opportunity to ask questions about your background, freedom to marry, and intentions regarding marriage.

DOCUMENTATION

The following forms of documentation are required:

1. The *prenuptial questionnaire* for the bride and groom will be completed at one of the meetings with the parish priest.
2. A *baptismal certificate* less than six months old is required for each Catholic. A newly reissued baptismal record must be obtained from the parish of baptism. Non-Catholics who have been baptized are requested to provide a reissued baptismal record or letter from the church of their baptism. Notification of your marriage will be sent to this church after your wedding.
3. The *confirmation date* is required of Catholics. Usually this will appear on the baptismal certificate, even if you were confirmed in a different church. Receiving a reissued baptismal certificate is the easiest way to fulfill this requirement. Baptism and confirmation records may be obtained by writing the church(es) where these sacraments were administered.
4. *Affidavits* are asked of the bride and/or groom. The pastor of the parish in which you are registered gives this certification of your freedom to marry. For those who are not Catholic, we ask that the pastor of your church, parents or close family members write a letter indicating that you are not previously married. These affidavits are testimonials regarding *freedom to marry*.
5. When a marriage takes place between a Catholic and a non-Catholic, a *dispensation* or permission is required. We have the necessary request form. If the wedding is to take place in the tradition of the non-Catholic spouse, a dispensation from canonical form is necessary. We have this form as well, and will take care of obtaining the dispensation from the bishop.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION PROGRAM

In addition to assisting you with the wedding day, the Church wishes to assist you in building a successful marriage. In order to do this, the Archdiocese requires that all couples complete a premarital program. These programs are

designed to deepen your awareness of the challenges of living together in Christian marriage. Through discussions, exercises and presentations, you will have the opportunity to concentrate more intensely on the many facets of married life. Some of the topics presented include: the changing nature of marriage, personal growth and couple adjustment, mutual decision-making, the elements of effective communication, conflict management, intimacy and sexual expression, financial planning, marriage as sacrament, the extended family, and interfaith marriage. The marriage preparation program should be completed well in advance of the date of the wedding. A number of options for satisfying this requirement are available:

1. **Weekend Retreat Program** – the Family Life Bureau coordinates Weekend Retreat Programs in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. The Weekend Retreat Program offers engaged couples a special opportunity to be together, and to encounter Christ through prayer and reflection. The goal of the weekend is to more firmly establish your relationship “in the Lord.” Contact the Family Life Office at 215-587-3600 or on the web at www.archphila.org/evangelization/famlife/2010marpreproschedul.htm
2. **Pre-Cana Day** – this is a full day of instruction and sharing offered by several area parishes. The Pre-Cana Day is led by one of the parish priests and several married couples that share their thoughts and experiences to help prepare you for life together as a married couple. For further details call the Parish Office at 610.647.2345 for Pre-Cana Day information.
3. **Preparing for the Vocation to Marriage** – This is a large group program held on four separate evenings. Because the emphasis is on the couple themselves and their discernment regarding the sacrament of Matrimony, it still provides a personal and prayerful experience of marriage preparation. For more information visit the Family Life Office on the web at www.archphila.org/evangelization/famlife/2010marpreproschedul.htm
4. **The FOCCUS Inventory** – is a pre-marriage tool used by the Archdiocese to assist couples preparing for marriage in their communication about issues that impact you now, and will impact you throughout your marriage. All couples enrolled in marriage preparation programs sponsored by the Family Life Office (4-session and weekend retreat) take the FOCCUS inventory, and the results are sent directly to your assisting priest. There is a \$20 fee payable to FOCCUS for the scoring of this Pre-Marital Inventory.

WEDDING CEREMONY

Two witnesses (best man and maid/matron of honor) are required. In an interfaith marriage, one witness may be non-Catholic.

In putting together your wedding liturgy, you will be given many options in the readings, prayers and blessings. These are contained in the book *Together for Life* by Joseph Champlin, which you will receive during one of your meetings

with the parish priest. In the back of the book there is a form on which you will indicate your choices of readings, prayers and blessings for the wedding liturgy. This form should be completed and left with your priest during one of your meetings prior to the wedding. More information on the marriage ceremony is found in "THE WEDDING LITURGY" section of this booklet.

CIVIL REQUIREMENTS

MARRIAGE LICENSE

A marriage license is required and can be obtained from any county courthouse in Pennsylvania. The marriage license is effective one day after you obtain it and is valid for 60 days thereafter. You will need proper identification and cash to obtain the license. NEITHER BRIDE AND GROOM NOR WITNESSES SIGN THE LICENSE. THE ONLY SIGNATURE REQUIRED IS THAT OF THE OFFICIATING PRIEST, who then returns the license to the County Clerk. Should you wish a copy of your license, you may obtain it from the Bureau of Vital Statistics.

Please bring the license to the Parish Office at 126 Woodland Avenue at least 2 - 3 weeks prior to your wedding date.

THE WEDDING LITURGY

In consultation with the priest who will preside at the wedding, the couple will determine if the marriage is to be celebrated at Mass or in a Liturgy of the Word. The determining criteria will center on the religious background of the

bride and groom, and what form of liturgy will best enable a particular wedding assembly to celebrate with them.

The couple will be provided with the book *Together for Life* by Joseph Champlin, which, along with various prayers and blessings, contains those *scripture readings* most appropriate for use at weddings. In consultation with the priest who will preside at the wedding, the engaged couple will select two or three passages from scripture. Non-scriptural passages are never used in place of the scriptures.

Weddings held at Saint Patrick are celebrated according to the worship books of the Roman Catholic Church: the sacramentary, the lectionary and the *Rite of Marriage*. In the case of weddings where ministers of other Christian denominations or other faiths are taking part, the appropriate adaptations will be made after consultation with that minister and the engaged couple.

The Rite of Marriage

During the Rite of Marriage, everyone stands with the couple during the actual Rite (see Rite of Marriage #23). The Rite gives no preference for the arrangement of the Church's minister, the couple and the witnesses during the rite of Marriage. However, an arrangement should be used that best expresses both the couple as ministers of the sacrament and the priest (or deacon) as the Church's witness, without obscuring the view of the congregation.

The exchange of consent between the spouses is the indispensable element of the rite that makes the marriage. The priest (or deacon) receives the consent of the couple in the name of the Church and gives the blessing of the Church. The presence of the Church's minister, the witness, and the congregation gives visible expression to the Sacrament of Marriage as a celebration of the Church.

INTRODUCTORY RITES FOR A NUPTIAL MASS OR CEREMONY

(Rite of Marriage #19-20/39-40)

The Rite of Marriage describes the entrance of the bride and groom for the celebration of the sacrament. **The ministers of the sacrament of Marriage are the future spouses; therefore, according to the Rite of Marriage, they are to enter among the congregation together thus**

avoiding any visual suggestion that one is more important than the other. This entrance of the bride and groom can take place in one of two ways; the couple can be received at the door of the church or at a place within the church.

RECEPTION AT THE DOOR OF THE CHURCH

At the appointed time the priest goes with the liturgical ministers to the door of the church. At the door the priest receives the couple and expresses the joy of all in the celebration of the sacrament of Marriage. The procession to the altar follows with the liturgical ministers going first, followed by the priest and finally the couple, *the ministers of the sacrament of Marriage*. The couple may be preceded by at least their parents and the witnesses. Special friends of the bride and groom (attendants) may also be part of the procession but should always walk together. Children may also be part of the procession however, if too young, they should walk with adults. Any separation of the men and women in the procession is discouraged because it is an artificial separation of the people who have been chosen to be partners for the day; it unnecessarily lengthens the procession and makes it something of a fashion show. **The Entrance Hymn is sung by all during this procession.**

This is a general arrangement of the procession to the altar:

Servers
Priest Celebrant
Witnesses
Parents
Bride and Groom

The liturgical ministers might include a thurifer, cross bearer, servers with candles. A deacon (or in the absence of a deacon, a lector) may carry the Book of the Gospels.

RECEPTION AT A PLACE WITHIN THE CHURCH

At the appointed time the priest goes with the liturgical ministers to the place prepared for the couple or to his chair. When the couple arrives at the place set for them, the priest expresses the joy of all in the celebration of the sacrament of Marriage. The Entrance Hymn is then sung by all. **This second form for the entrance of the couple presumes the bride and groom process to the altar together.** The music that accompanies this procession should not separate the entrance of the couple and the Entrance Hymn. An instrumental arrangement of the Entrance Hymn could accompany the procession of the couple and then lead into the hymn after the couple is greeted

by the priest. Also, the Entrance hymn itself could accompany the procession of the people.

***Pastoral Note:* This second form of Entrance is most commonly used in parishes. However, it is important to stress here that the singing of an Entrance Hymn is not an option.**

The bride and groom are provided a place in the sanctuary where they are both visible to the congregation and can easily participate in the whole of the liturgy with its rite of Marriage. Also, the placement of the couple in the sanctuary should not obscure the action at the altar. The witnesses and the whole wedding party are provided places with the members of the congregation. The bride and groom, the witnesses and the whole wedding party, assume the posture of the congregation throughout the celebration of the liturgy. They stand, sit, and kneel as members of the entire congregation.

WEDDING PROGRAMS

If you prefer to have a printed program for your wedding, the guides on the following two pages will be of great assistance to you. Listed on the left-hand margin in each example are those parts of the liturgy that should be printed in the program. Items printed in *italics* indicate variables that you should list in the finished product. Optional items are given in brackets. The Director of Music will provide you with all of the musical variables (titles and composers) once your musical selections have been finalized. Samples of wedding programs are available for viewing on-line or if you meet with the Director of Music.

Wedding programs can be prepared for you entirely by the Director of Music. They are then printed by a quality printing company in Malvern. Once you have placed your order for your programs, you will need to mail a check directly to: The Chambers Group – 147 Pennsylvania Avenue, Malvern, PA 19355. Your programs will be delivered directly to St. Patrick Church.

PROGRAM FOR FULL MASS (with communion)

(NOTE: Items printed in *italics* indicate variables that you should list in the finished product. Optional items are listed in brackets).

PRELUDE		
[SEATING OF THE MOTHERS]	<i>music title</i>	<i>composer</i>
<u>INTRODUCTORY RITE</u>		
PROCESSIONAL	<i>music title</i>	<i>composer</i>
GREETING		
OPENING HYMN (sung all)	<i>hymn title</i>	
<i>text (and music) of hymn</i>		
OPENING PRAYER		

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING		<i>scripture reference</i>
PSALM RESPONSE (cantor first, then all) <i>psalm number</i>		<i>composer</i>
SECOND READING		<i>scripture reference</i>
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (cantor first, then all) <i>*Alleluia</i>		<i>composer</i>
GOSPEL		<i>scripture reference</i>
HOMILY		

RITE OF MARRIAGE

EXCHANGE OF VOWS
BLESSING AND EXCHANGE OF RINGS
GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

PREPARATION OF THE EUCHARISTIC GIFTS		
EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER		
ACCLAMATIONS (sung by all)	<i>title of Mass setting</i>	<i>composer</i>
LORD'S PRAYER		
NUPTIAL BLESSING		
LAMB OF GOD (sung by all)	<i>title of Mass setting</i>	<i>composer</i>
COMMUNION	<i>music title</i>	<i>composer</i>
PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION		

CONCLUDING RITE

FINAL BLESSING		
[DEDICATION TO THE VIRGIN MARY]	<i>music title</i>	<i>composer</i>
RECESSIONAL	<i>music title</i>	<i>composer</i>

*Please note that during the season of Lent, alleluias are not sung in the church's liturgies. During Lent the gospel acclamation will be "Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ."

PROGRAM FOR LITURGY OF THE WORD (without communion)

(NOTE: Items printed in *italics* indicate variables that you should list in the finished product. Optional items are given in brackets.)

PRELUDE [SEATING OF THE MOTHERS]	<i>music title</i>	<i>composer</i>
<u>INTRODUCTORY RITE</u>		
PROCESSIONAL GREETING	<i>music title</i>	<i>composer</i>
OPENING HYMN(sung by all) <i>text (and music) of hymn</i>	<i>hymn title</i>	
OPENING PRAYER		
<u>LITURGY OF THE WORD</u>		
FIRST READING		<i>scripture reference</i>
PSALM RESPONSE (sung by cantor first, then all)	<i>psalm number</i>	<i>composer</i>
SECOND READING		<i>scripture reference</i>
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (sung by cantor first, then all) * <i>Alleluia</i>		<i>composer</i>
GOSPEL HOMILY		<i>scripture reference</i>
<u>RITE OF MARRIAGE</u>		
EXCHANGE OF VOWS BLESSING AND EXCHANGE OF RINGS GENERAL INTERCESSIONS NUPTIAL BLESSING LORD'S PRAYER		
<u>CONCLUDING RITE</u>		
FINAL BLESSING [DEDICATION TO THE VIRGIN MARY]	<i>music title</i>	<i>composer</i>
RECESSIONAL	<i>music title</i>	<i>composer</i>

*Please note that during the season of Lent, alleluias are not sung in the church's liturgies. During Lent the gospel acclamation will be "Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ."

MUSIC FOR THE WEDDING

MUSIC DIRECTOR/ORGANIST

The Director of Music at Saint Patrick Church, Katey Engel, will serve as Organist and/or principal musician at **all** weddings. She is also the principal musician in charge for weddings making use of instruments or ensembles. In some cases, where a **family member** is an organist for another church, they may play for your wedding, but a bench fee will be charged for that privilege. Please contact Katey Engel. As principal musician for the wedding, the Director of Music is entrusted with the task of judging the suitability of musical selections within the context of the Catholic wedding liturgy, and must approve **all music and musicians** chosen for the ceremony. Mrs. Engel also bears the essential responsibility of ensuring the proper performance and timing of the various musical portions of the wedding liturgy. The Director of Music can be reached at 610.647.2348 or by e-mail at katey.engel@gmail.com

CANTOR/VOCALIST

Within the liturgy there are many moments for sung prayer. These include the Responsorial Psalm Response and Alleluia, the responses during the Eucharistic Prayer, and several moments where hymns or vocal solos are possible. At Saint Patrick we maintain an excellent staff of professional singers who are available for your wedding. These individuals are highly trained, not only in the techniques of singing, but also in the art of leading congregational song. In addition, they are versed in the standard musical repertoire for Saint Patrick weddings, are comfortable with the particular acoustical properties of the church building, and are familiar with the liturgical norms of the parish. For these reasons they come very highly recommended. While you are making your selection for your vocalist for your ceremony, it is our strong preference that you retain the services of one of our fine professional cantors.

PLEASE NOTE: If you are considering hiring your own singer (or having a family friend sing), the Music Director must approve all guest singers in advance. Generally, guest singers will be limited to one or two solo songs, with the remainder of the ceremony sung by one of our professional cantors. If it is necessary for the organist to practice with your singer prior to the day of the wedding, there will be a fee of \$50 per session charged.

INSTRUMENTALISTS

Instrumentalists (trumpet, violin, harp, quartet, etc.) may be used upon approval of, and arrangement with, the Director of Music. The Saint Patrick Music Ministry maintains professional relationships with many fine musicians in the area, and it is from this pool that wedding instrumentalists are taken. If individual instrumentalists are desired, the Director of Music will secure their services.

MUSIC FEES

You will find below a list of fees for all musicians. Please make checks payable to the individual musicians and send all checks for music to:

Attn: Katey Engel
Liturgical Music Director
St. Patrick Parish
126 Woodland Avenue
Malvern, PA 19355

Checks must be received no later than two (2) weeks prior to your wedding date.

Fees for Music

Director/Organist	\$250
Cantor/Vocalist	Range from \$175-\$225
Wedding Rehearsal Coordinator	\$25
Individual Instrumentalist (trumpet, violin, flute)	Range from \$175-\$250
String Quartet	\$750
Choral Ensemble	\$500
Harpist	\$200
Handbell Choir	\$250

A 25% non-refundable deposit is required for all individual musicians at the time of booking their services

PLANNING

Music for the wedding should be planned jointly by the couple in consultation with the Director of Music. The emphasis must be on liturgical music – music that derives its context from scriptural sources and, by its very nature, enhances the sacramental union of the couple in Christ.

The singing of hymns and responses by the congregation is an excellent way of inviting those gathered to share in thanksgiving for the occasion, as well as to invoke God's blessing on the bride and groom. Vocalists/Cantors have a genuine liturgical ministry, but they should never totally replace the active musical participation of the congregation. In fact, the vocalist's first role will be to function as cantor in leading the congregation so that the assembly will feel comfortable and secure in their participation. Utilized to support congregational singing and also to render solo repertoire at selected moments in the service, the cantor should be integrated into the wedding liturgy in such a way that any semblance of dominating the ceremony as a stage for musical performance is avoided.

The Church has recognized the organ as the principal instrument of divine worship, and Saint Patrick Church houses a very fine Este 11 rank pipe organ in an excellent acoustical environment. This is the very same organ that for so many years served our parish in the "little" church. It was completely rebuilt and put back to service in 2002. Organ music can enhance the liturgy by evoking a spirit of joy proper to the celebration of Christian marriage. Whether used by itself or in conjunction with other instruments, the organ sets the festive tone of the ceremony, especially during the prelude, processional and recessional. During the offertory and during communion, organ repertoire (or

other instrumental music) of a more mystical and meditative spirit could be utilized.

GUIDELINES

The church wedding is a sacred rite invoking the blessing of God on the union of bride and groom. Any music used in connection with the ceremony must mirror the dignity of the sanctuary and the sanctity of the sacrament being celebrated. Wherever music is employed, and by whatever instruments or voices, it must reflect the festive yet reverent nature of the liturgy. The music and texts selected must express the praise of God, God's steadfast love in Christ as the foundation and model for marriage, or the asking of God's presence and blessing. For these reasons, music from the operatic stage or secular theatre is not permitted. The Director of Music will assist you in every way toward fulfilling these guidelines as you select the music for your wedding.

Our website www.stpatrickmusicministry.com is available for you to listen to a great variety of musical selections for various moments in the wedding liturgy. These are outlined on the "Wedding Music Selection List". Our music list is by no means exhaustive, but it contains many pieces often used at weddings. If you have some other selections in mind, please consult the Director of Music. We will do our best to accommodate you within Catholic Church guidelines and the limits of our repertoire.

What follows here is a description of the points at which music is used in the typical wedding ceremony: Prior to the beginning of the liturgy, there is a **PRELUDE** consisting of about 15 minutes of instrumental music as guests arrive and are seated. Music during this time is usually selected at the discretion of the Director of Music, and encompasses a combination of pieces that mirror the festive nature of the occasion as well as the quiet dignity of prayerful reflection. If there is a vocalist, one meditation could be sung, during the seating of the mothers, just before the processional.

The **PROCESSIONAL** is usually played by the organ alone or with the addition of other instruments, such as trumpet. Following the processional, there is a hymn sung by the congregation. The Director of Music can recommend several well-known ecumenical hymns that would be familiar to a majority of those gathered for the ceremony.

The cantor will sing the **RESPONSORIAL PSALM**. The psalm response follows the First Reading, and there are many psalms from which to choose.

Before the Gospel reading, an **ALLELUIA** is always sung (except during Lent). This will be led by the cantor. During the season of Lent, alleluias are omitted from the Church's liturgies, and a Lenten gospel acclamation (such as "Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ") is sung instead.

(For those planning a wedding ceremony within a Liturgy of the Word rather than a Mass, the next musical moment would be the optional meditation to the Blessed Virgin Mary, or the recessional that concludes the service.) However, if you are planning a full Mass, the liturgy continues with music during the **OFFERTORY** and Preparation of the Altar. You may select a hymn at this time or an instrumental selection.

During Mass, the Eucharistic Prayer follows next. At this time the congregational responses within the prayer are sung. Also called **ACCLAMATIONS**, these include the Sanctus (Holy, Holy), the Mystery of Faith and the Great Amen. The Agnus Dei (Lamb of God) follows and is sung just before communion. (These responses are taken from the standard liturgical repertoire).

In selecting music for **COMMUNION**, couples will want to keep in mind the nature of the Eucharistic rite as a sign of the community of those gathered. A congregational hymn would be very appropriate here, though a vocal solo is allowable at this time.

If there is a visitation to Mary's altar, it will take place after the Final or Solemn Blessing. At this point the liturgy is considered over and a **MEDITATION TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY** could be sung by the vocalist as a reflection of the personal, devotional prayer of the bride and groom and of the whole community. Music during this moment is usually a setting of the "Ave Maria" or other appropriate hymn to Mary.

The wedding **RECESSIONAL** is usually the liturgy's most festive and joyous of musical expressions. Most often played by the organ alone or with the addition of trumpet or violin.

Online "Fill-Out Liturgy Form"

Please go to: http://www.stpatrickmusicministry.com/Weddings/Weddings/Fill-Out_Liturgy_Form.html

for your online "Fill-Out Liturgy Form". When it is filled out, click "submit". We will be back in touch with you to confirm your liturgy selections.

Thank you!

LAST MINUTE CONCERNS AND REVIEW

To assist you in keeping your day as happy, focused and carefree as possible, we request that your Marriage License and all fees be in our office 2 – 3 weeks prior to your wedding date.

Fees are as follows:

Church Fee Parishioner – \$350 (\$100 non-refundable deposit due when officially booking your date with the priest).

Non Parishioner - \$600 (\$200 non-refundable deposit due when officially booking your date with the priest).

Altar Server (Mass) \$15 minimum each for 2 altar servers
(Ceremony) \$15 minimum for 1 altar server

Please place cash for altar servers in a separate envelope marked (Altar Servers)

Music **All music fees are paid directly to Katey Engel, Music Director (fees - page 19)**

Wedding Rehearsal Coordinator \$25

You will have a member of our team present for your rehearsal and for the day of your wedding. This stipend is paid when all other music fees are paid to the Director of Music.

CONCLUSION

The Church bears the responsibility of regulating what takes place in its house of worship. Accordingly, we encourage your openness to the guidance and advice of our priests and the parish music director in planning the music for your wedding. Though your personal tastes and legitimate preferences will be studied seriously, please keep in mind that parish clergy and musicians have the difficult responsibility of subjecting your expressed wishes to the scrutiny of liturgical, musical and pastoral principles long established not only by Saint Patrick Church but by the Catholic Church universal. To some, our wedding policies may seem more disciplined than those found in some other parishes. Please be aware that this is because we take great care here in the celebration of the Church's liturgies; their proper and joyous celebration is of such importance to us that we quite willingly shoulder the responsibility of maintaining the dignity and depth of that long tradition. Our guidelines are presented not as impositions or regulations, but more as expectations and norms, intended to help all who gather – your families and friends – to celebrate well the liturgical dimension of your marriage. The pastoral staff and community of Saint Patrick Church wish for your wedding ceremony to be a truly beautiful experience, one that you will treasure for the rest of your lives. It is hoped that these guidelines will help toward achieving that goal.

CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR ENGAGEMENT!

In order to prepare for the reception of the Sacrament of Matrimony, the Catholic Church requires all couples to attend Marriage Preparation Programs. You may select one of three different approaches, namely, the Large Group Regional Series, a Small Group Pre-Cana Day or a Weekend Retreat Program.

The Family Life Office assists engaged couples in their journey of faith through Marriage Preparation Programs, Natural Family Planning Classes, the FOCCUS Pre-marital inventory, and other resources that support your journey together to the vocation of Christian Marriage.

For more information, please contact the Archdiocesan Family Life Office on the web at: www.archphila.org/evangelization/famlife/famlife.htm - click on Family Life in the menu bar and Marriage Preparation on the drop-down menu and browse. All information on Marriage Preparation Schedules is available to you and any forms that you may need are also available to you. If you have any questions, please call the office at 610-647-2345.

