Wedding Ceremony Music

Yvonne Collier – Pianist/Organist (BMUS, PGDip, MA.)

The following pieces are suggestions for each area of the ceremony. Please look through each section of the ceremony and choose your favourite piece. I have tried to include violin versions of pieces where I can but otherwise any vocal pieces can be adapted and the vocal line can be played by the violin. At the end you will find a ceremony structure that you can print off and fill in. Please do not hesitate to contact me for my opinion or to ask about choices. When you have your selection made you can forward the list on to me and I will check that everything is ok. If you have any special requests not listed, we would be happy to include them for you as long as we can source the music.

Scroll over song titles to link to the music

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Processional: Walking up the aisle

- “Bridal Chorus” – The traditional!
- “Nella Fantasia” – this version features Emily on violin on our website.
- “Pachelbel’s Canon” - Another simple but beautiful entrance piece for solo piano or for piano and string instrument – This example features Emily on violin on our website.
- “A Thousand Years” – A beautiful and modern piece of music which sounds beautiful on piano and violin.
- “The Power of Love” – I love this!
- “Cinema Paradiso” - A piece for voice & piano written by the same composer as Nella Fantasia. This recording is by Josh Groban but works very well for violin also.
- “To Make You Feel My Love” – A classic from Adele
- “Comptine d’un autre” from Amelie for solo piano – a recent addition to our repertoire
- “Jesu, Joy of Man’s Desiring” – This version is by Celtic Woman features the violin so you can hear what is sounds like.
- “The Wedding Song” by Kenny G – This is such a beautiful piece of music and although this version features soprano saxophone, the violin creates a lovely version.
- “The Wedding Song – Ave Maria”

Candle Ceremony

An option for the lighting of the individual candles at the start of the ceremony is to extend the processional into the candles. E.g. When you arrive at the top of the church, the priest will greet you and then invite you to light the 2 candles while we continue playing the same piece. If the aisle is quite short, this is a nice option especially if you choose Nella Fantasia as the piece is so beautiful! However this would also have to be confirmed by your priest. It is also lovely to pick a different piece of music and if you choose a piece for the candles we can either play the same piece for each candle ceremony but with a slight variation for the second candle or you can choose 2 different pieces. Below are some options:
- “She Moved Through the Fair” - Fantastic traditional piece of music for an Irish wedding and perfect for solo violin.
- “Air on the G String” – A classic for any string instrument! Can’t go wrong!
- “Inis Oírr” – Lovely traditional Irish air. The version I have found is for harp but sounds just as beautiful on violin.
- “The Coolin” – A fantastic piece of music for solo violin.
- “Song From a Secret Garden” – This is beautiful
- “One Hand, One Heart” – the words are so appropriate for this moment, this version is sung by Caroline on our website but is so well known that piano & violin will sound beautiful.
- “May it Be” from The Lord of the Rings – sung by Denise on our website.
**Responsorial Psalm**

This needs to be read as there is no singer.

**Offertory Procession**

If you would like to include an Ave Maria this is the most appropriate place to do so as traditionally it is the mothers of the bride & groom who bring the gifts to the altar if both are present. Below are a list of options of Ave Maria and other choices.

- **“Ave Maria”** – Schubert, this is a very classical version and one that is also the most popular.
- **“Ave Maria”** – Bach/Gounod. Another beautiful piece.
- **“Ave Maria”** – Maria Parkinson, this is a lovely simple piece of music and suits this part of the ceremony very well. A popular choice amongst couples.
- **“Ag Criost an Síol”** is very appropriate for this section of the ceremony also. It adds a lovely Irish sound.
- **“Air”** from Water Music by Handel.
- **“Arioso”** as mentioned for the candle ceremony above.
- **“Sheep May Safely Graze”**

**Sign of Peace**

When the sign of peace is exchanged it is nice to have some music in the background as it allows the bride and groom to be more relaxed about shaking hands with both their families and not feel rushed. It is simply background music.

- **“Make Me A Channel of Your Peace”** – Very popular choice. This is a vocal version but sounds beautiful on violin also.
- **“Cavatina”** – this is a favourite at the moment with couples, a very popular choice and lovely background music for solo piano.
- **“Inis Oírr”** – Lovely traditional Irish air. The version I have found is for harp but sounds just as beautiful on violin.
- **“I Giorni”** – A beautiful piano solo piece.
- **“Minuet”** from the Royal Fireworks. This is a lively piece of music but I could not find a nice piano version so it may be hard to imagine the sound!

Most instrumental pieces listed already can be used for this area of the mass.
Communion

It is necessary to choose 2 pieces of music for the communion especially if you have over 100 guests coming.

- **“Panis Angelicus”** – Everyone knows this one! This version has violin & voice in it.
- **“The Cloud’s Veil”** – A popular choice with couples – sung By Caroline on our website.
- **“Jesu, Joy of Man’s Desiring”** – This version is by Celtic Woman but features the violin so you can hear what it sounds like. This is a very popular choice and can be used during communion either.
- **“Could it Be”** – Again written by Liam Lawton, the same composer as The Cloud’s Veil.
- **“Laudate Dominum”** – By Mozart, this works well as a communion piece because of its flowing sound. Very classical though.
- **“The Lark in the Clear Air”** – This is a version by Emily (violin) & Yvonne (piano) on our website.
- **“There is No Night”** – Beautiful version
- **“Romance”** from Eine Kleine Nachtmusik
- **“Chanson de Matin”** by Elgar.
- **“Salut D’Amour”** by Elgar.
- **“Inis Oirr”** – Lovely traditional Irish air. This is the harp but sounds just as beautiful on violin.
- **“Pachelbel’s Canon”** as mentioned in the Processional is a great choice as it has lovely movement to it. There are 2 versions on our Listen Page played by Brona and Emily.
- **“Lascia ch’io pianga”** – Another classical piece of music
- **“Voice of an Angel”** – Perfect match for the Cloud’s Veil. It is a reflective piece of music

Most of the music choices in other areas of the ceremony can also be used here. Please contact Yvonne to discuss good combinations of pieces.
Signing of the Register

The mass is now over so you can have more modern pieces of music and it is a place where you can include your own special meaning songs even if they are not in our repertoire. Each piece can be performed as piano solo or piano and violin. Songbird is an example of how the violin plays the vocal line and can be adapted to any piece below. Please choose 2 pieces for this part of the ceremony and place your favourite choice first. We generally have time to perform both pieces but as it depends on the photographer there is a very small chance that we will not get to the second piece.

- “Footprints in the Sand” – A popular choice
- “A thousand Years” – Beautiful!
- “How Long Will I Love You” – by Ellie Goulding – A very appropriate piece
- “The Power of Love” – One of my favourites!
- “Songbird” – this is a violin (Emily) & piano (Yvonne) version from our website.
- “Over the Rainbow” – sung by Nicola & Yvonne
- “Every Breath you Take” – Eva Cassidy. Such a cute video!!!
- “What a Wonderful World” – Eva Cassidy.
- “Fields of Gold”
- “You Raise me Up”
- “The Prayer” –
- “We’ve Only Just Begun”
- “I’ll Be There”
- “A Moment Like This”
- “You’ll Never Walk Alone”
- “You’re Still You”
- “Come What May”
- “The Voyage”
- “Kissing You”
- “Feels Like Home”
- “Ave Maria” – Beyonce
- “The Rose”
- “Have I Told You Lately”
- “From This Moment On”
Recessional

- “Wedding March” – This is the traditional!
- “Arrival of the Queen of Sheba” – This is another traditionally used and popular piece today. It is certainly joyful. This is an organ version - This is an orchestral version
- “Brandenburg Concerto No.3 in G” – Allegro Moderato
- “Spring” from Vivaldi’s Four Seasons for violin and piano/organ.
- “Trumpet Tune in D major” – Purcell
- “The Prince of Denmark’s March” “Hornpipe” from Water Music by Handel
- “Trumpet Voluntary in D” – Stanley
- “Trumpet Voluntary” – Clarke
- “One Day Like This” – This works extremely well for piano and violin together.
- “At Last” – Fab Piece!
- “Greatest Day”
- “Oh Happy Day” – popular gospel exit piece but please bear in mind that we don’t have a gospel choir behind us! This is a violin version
- “All you need is Love” – Again another popular exit piece. This is a string version!
- “A Thousand Years” – Beautiful piece.
- For the recessional the choices is endless and if there is a song you are thinking of please let us know as we often get special requests that we have not done before.

Layouts of the Catholic ceremony and where music is included is here.

Below you will find our consultation sheet which you can print out and fill in with your choices.

PLEASE PRINT OUT THE FOLLOWING SHEET AND FILL IN YOUR MUSIC CHOICES
**Wedding Ceremony Music**  
Yvonne Collier - Pianist (B. Mus, PG Dip, M.A.)

| NAME: ________________________________ | DATE: ____________________________ |
| CHURCH: ______________________________ | ________________________________ |
| NO. OF GUESTS: ______ | PHONE: ___________________________ | TIME: _____________ |
| PHONE CONTACT ON DAY OF WEDDING: ______________________________ |

**PROCESSIONAL**

| CANDLE CEREMONY 1 |
| CANDLE CEREMONY 2 |
| OFFERTORY |
| SIGN OF PEACE |
| COMMUNION 1 |
| COMMUNION 2 |
| SIGNING OF THE REGISTER 1 |
| SIGNING OF THE REGISTER 2 |
| RECESSIONAL |