



CLIFTON CATHEDRAL

**MUSIC
FOR YOUR
WEDDING**

INFORMATION FOR COUPLES PREPARING
FOR MARRIAGE

There is nothing better than music to create the right atmosphere at your wedding, and deciding which music should be played is one of the most important decisions you need to make when planning your big day.

The music at Clifton Cathedral is provided by professional musicians who are well qualified, so you can be confident and imaginative in your choices. Richard Jeffrey-Gray, the Director of Music, is a musician with over 30 years' experience of playing for weddings. If he is unavailable to play for your wedding another professional organist will be booked on your behalf - there is no change in the fee if this is the case.

With the help of our music staff and the following suggestions we endeavour to make choosing the music for your wedding an enjoyable and rewarding part of your preparations. If you are having a Nuptial Mass there are a few other aspects to consider which we will go through you with when we meet.

Organist with congregational singing

You may wish to have a simpler service, with dignified and appropriate music where you have one of our organists play and have your congregation sing hymns during the service. You need to ensure that you choose hymns with which your family and friends attending will be familiar. The organist will be able to play a wide range of music from the appropriate classical repertoire to make the occasion very special.

Organist and Soloist (Vocal)

If you wish to have some solo vocal repertoire sung at your wedding, such as the beautiful and justifiably popular Ave Maria by Schubert or Panis Angelicus by Cesar Franck, we can arrange for a professional vocal soloist to sing for your service. We have a number of female and male soloists who can sing at your wedding with one of our organists.

Organist and Soloist (Instrumental)

For a special touch for the Entrance Procession, or perhaps during the signing of the register, you may like to consider an instrumental soloist. We can arrange for many different soloists – Trumpet (perfect for a grand entrance), Violin (perhaps for serene music during the signing of the register), Flute etc. to play with our organist.

Organist and Vocal Ensemble

To make your day a very special occasion you may have a small mixed voice ensemble (quartet or quintet depending on the music chosen) of singers to sing a range of beautiful classical church music during your service. You will be able to choose from a wide range of beautiful classical works for voices and organ. Members of our Cathedral Choir, who sing at the Solemn Mass every week, have plenty of experience singing at weddings in both smaller and larger ensembles.

Organist and Instrumental Ensemble

For some repertoire, the combination of organ and a brass quintet or string quartet is magical – repertoire such as Air from Suite No.3 in D by J.S. Bach, or the beautiful Canon by Pachelbel come alive with this combination. For sheer presence, a brass quintet can make a thrilling contribution to your service.

Music Group

If you prefer to have a more contemporary style of music at your wedding, our Cathedral Music Group can be available to play and sing appropriate, well-known and much loved modern church music. You will also need to have their director and our organist.

Organist and Choir

For a sublimely traditional service you may choose our choir, the Cathedral Choir, and organist to sing a range of appropriate church music from choral hymns, anthems, motets through to a full choral mass. With a wide repertoire, including some of the most famous and beautiful works from the sacred choral repertoire, such as Ave Verum Corpus by W.A. Mozart, the choir will make the music at your wedding truly memorable.

Polite request...

Please be on time for your wedding. With the choir, organist and clergy all in attendance there may be 25 or more people from the Cathedral involved. It has been known for brides to be as much as 40 minutes late which causes problems for everyone involved, especially as they may have commitments elsewhere - you certainly don't want half the choir or the organist to have to leave before the end of the service if they have another wedding or concert that day somewhere else. It is especially noticeable when there are children in the congregation that a late start means that they are grumpy and noisy by the time the service reaches the vows - being on time helps to avoid this.

Also remember that double or quadruple fees are the standard for where a service is sound recorded or a video made in any way (Musician's Union, ISM and RSCM agreements stipulate this). Current fees will be supplied on application.

And finally

We are also able to offer a design service for your order of service from an experienced graphic designer who has a good knowledge of Catholic liturgy and services. Please enquire to Richard or Canon Bosco for more information.

Contacts

Richard Jeffrey-Gray: music@cliftondiocese.com or 0117 974 1153

(email preferred as landline not manned during the week)

Canon Bosco can be contacted via the Cathedral on 0117 973 8411

There are four sections of the service for which you can choose music: the gathering, the arrival of the bride, the signing of the register and the recessional.

The Gathering

This is music that is played while guests arrive in the church before the service begins. The organist will play a selection while your guests assemble. This is not usually on the Order of Service.

The Arrival of the Bride

This is music played for the bride's arrival. You need to choose one piece of music, which may be stately and regal. The organist will play for the amount of time it takes for you to move down the aisle to the centre of the Cathedral, so you don't need to worry about how long it is. Popular pieces of music played during the processional are:

- *Wedding March from Lohengrin* by Wagner
- *Arrival of the Queen of Sheba* by Handel
- *Trumpet Voluntary* by Jeremiah Clarke, Stanley or Purcell
- *Hornpipe from the Water Music* by Handel
- *The Rejoicing from Music for the Royal Fireworks* by Handel
- *Canon in D* by Johann Pachelbel

The Signing of the Register

Usually at the Cathedral the register is signed on the Sanctuary and takes about six minutes. During this time, the choir will sing an anthem or the organist will play a piece, which they will choose. If you have a particular request please discuss this with Richard well in advance.

Choir pieces can include:

- *For the beauty of the earth* by John Rutter
- *Jesu joy of man's desiring* by J.S. Bach
- *Ave Maria* by Gounod or Schubert

The Recessional

As you walk together down the aisle as husband and wife, the recessional music is played - triumphant, joyful and celebratory. Traditional recessional music includes:

- *Wedding March from A Midsummer Night's Dream* by Mendelssohn

- *Toccata from Symphony No 5* by Widor
- *Trumpet Voluntary* by Jeremiah Clarke
- *The Rejoicing from Music for the Royal Fireworks* by Handel
- *Hornpipe from the Water Music* by Handel
- *Grand March from Aida* by Verdi

Hymns

It is traditional to choose three hymns to be sung during the service. The most important things to bear in mind when choosing hymns are:

- that the words are appropriate for a wedding
- that you choose a tune that lots of people will know.

There are many websites that include audio files of hymns so that you can hear what they sound like, and will also give you the words so you can include them in the order of service. Often they will include every possible verse of a hymn and you will decide whether you want to cut any verses - usually three or four verses of a hymn would be sung.

Try www.cyberhymnal.org for a comprehensive database of hymns. If we are not doing your Order of Service we like to check what is to be printed – there are often mistakes in the web versions.

Some popular choices are:

- All Creatures Of Our God And King
- All People That On Earth Do Dwell
- Amazing Grace
- Be Thou My Vision
- Dear Lord And Father Of Mankind
- Give Me Joy In My Heart
- Guide Me O Thou Great Redeemer
- How Great Thou Art
- I Vow To Thee My Country
- Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise
- Jerusalem
- Lead Us, Heavenly Father Lead Us
- Lord of All Hopefulness
- Love Divine, All Loves Excelling
- Morning Has Broken
- O Worship The King
- Praise My Soul The King Of Heaven
- Praise To The Lord The Almighty
- The King Of Love My Shepherd Is