



ST ANTHONY OF PADUA

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A typical outline for a Catholic Wedding Liturgy without Mass:

Entrance Procession
[Entrance Song or Entrance Antiphon]
Greeting
Opening Prayer

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading
Responsorial Psalm [note: please print the people's response so that they may participate]
[Second Reading]
Gospel Acclamation [note: the acclamation this is less important than the rest of the elements
in this list, and is thus indented. When there are musicians present, the
Gospel Acclamation must be sung.]
Gospel
Homily

Rite of Marriage

Instruction and Examination of Couple
Exchange of Vows
Exchange of Rings
[Unity Candle] ... these are all optional, and thus less important
[Presentation to Parents] than the key elements of the Rite of Marriage,
[Couple's Prayer] thus they are indented...
General Intercessions

The Lord's Prayer
Nuptial Blessing

Blessing and Dismissal
Recessional

Suggestions when preparing a program:

- The two key parts of the liturgy are the Liturgy of the Word and the Rite of Marriage which are set apart here in bold print. The entrance and recessional are not formally parts of this structure, and should not be emphasized over other elements.
- Items set apart with brackets, [xxx], are optional. Only include these lines (without brackets) when the particular option is being used.
- For the sake of readability, it is best to select a larger, simpler font which is easy to read. "Script" fonts tend to be difficult to read. Remember that many of your more elderly guests with reduced eyesight may not be able to read small, frilly typefaces. One needs to be considerate when constructing a program to make sure that all guests are invited to participate and follow along in the service.
- It is simply not possible for any priest to grant a 'dispensation' from Sunday Mass when a Wedding Liturgy takes place on Saturday. Any priest who does so acts against the laws of the Church and the spirit of the Sunday obligation. Any Mass (even a Wedding Mass) starting after 4pm on Saturday or anytime on Sunday "counts" for Sunday Mass.