

Ceremonial Testimonials

CEREMONY MUSIC SERVICES & COORDINATORS

Christopher A. Caramello & Marissa R. Caramello

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YouTube: Music Department of St. Rocco Church RI

FUNERAL / MEMORIAL SERVICE OVERVIEW

If you are visiting this page due to the loss of a loved one, please accept our sincere condolences. Christopher and his wife Marissa met through liturgical music and have over two decades of combined experience. Together they serve as the resident musicians at Saint Rocco Church of Johnston, Rhode Island, a position they have held since 2016 after being recruited by the current pastor. Christopher and Marissa often work as a duet but can be contracted separately. Marissa is a versatile classically trained Soprano Vocalist. Christopher has remained a sought-after pianist and organist, particularly for wedding and funeral services, substituting at various parishes throughout the Diocese of Providence and beyond. If you are local to Rhode Island, you are welcome to attend any of the four weekend masses at Saint Rocco Church to hear Christopher & Marissa (5 P.M. Saturdays, 8 A.M. – 10 A.M. – 12 P.M. Sundays) weekly.

As a convenience to you, this overview acts as a guide for music planning for both civil & religious funeral services **outside** a place of worship. Like many elements of the funeral service, music can be tailored to appropriately reflect the life of the deceased as well as enrich the service and comfort those in attendance.

Music considerations could include performing the deceased's favorite piece of music, music made popular by their favorite artist, reflective of their nationality or military affiliation, or favorite church hymn. Perhaps the deceased played an instrument during his or her life, this too could be featured. From our experience, in most cases, religious services (conducted by a priest or minister) are best accompanied by religious music whereas secular services (such as conducted by a funeral director) are more universal. Each situation is unique and at the discretion of the celebrant (priest and minister) if applicable.

The suggested pieces can be sampled online (YouTube.com or Google.com) by typing in the title and composer. Just because a particular hymn or piece is not listed on the following pages does not mean it cannot be performed: please inquire – we are happy to take “requests.” We are happy to demonstrate the pieces, provide suggestions, and answer any questions you may have in person or via telephone or email. Most services follow a similar format as outlined on the succeeding page; specifics will be coordinated with the person conducting the service/funeral director.

ORDER OF SERVICE:

Prelude Instrumental Music Prior to Service (*perhaps during the final visitation*)

Opening Piece or Hymn (*to begin the service*)

Psalm or Hymn Between Readings (*if a Christian service*)

Reflection or Meditation Piece or Hymn (*prior to the service's conclusion*)

Final Piece or Hymn (*to conclude the service*)

Instrumental Music Following the Service (*as the family disperses and/or the deceased is transported for burial*)

MUSICIANS:

Standard Personnel: The standard personnel include both a vocalist and organist/pianist, however each can be contracted separately. As a music coordinator, we can add additional vocalists and instrumentalists (explained below) to suit your taste and are equally happy to work with specific musicians and vocalists at your request (such as family or friends). While many establishments have suitable instruments and sound equipment, we can provide our own should the need arise.

Additional Musicians: Should you desire, other instrumentalists may be contracted in addition to the pianist & soloist: it is strongly suggested such are hired through us as we have worked together in the past. One may hire a **single (solo featured) instrument** such as a clarinet, flute, violin, or trumpet or **multiple** to form a small ensemble such as a string quartet. Likewise, **additional vocalists** can be contracted to form a small choir. We are happy to provide additional orchestra and choral music samples upon request as well as the approximate additional cost.

ADDITIONAL SERVICES:

A **printed program** for the funeral service can serve as an aid to those in attendance. Not only does it provide an outline of the details but includes the names of those involved and additional information as requested. While there are many popular online retailers, working with us not only guarantees the information is accurate but it is one less thing you must worry about. Recent samples of our inhouse programs can be previewed upon request.

Musical selections can also be provided at the **graveside** or in a **cemetery chapel** or **mausoleum**. While these services are often shorter in nature, this service has been utilized in cases where a secular piece of music could not be performed during the funeral liturgy (such as in a church) or in addition to the funeral home service. Similarly, secular or religious music can be performed at the **visitation** (wake) the evening prior to the formal service, for all or part of its duration.

My hope is this guide has proven to be helpful. Whether you are seeking our basic services or those additional as mentioned above, each service is unique and tailored to meet the family's requests. We are happy to assist you by sharing our knowledge and expertise to meet your expectations with preferences, budget, etc. in mind. Should you desire something not listed, please inquire and we will do our best to serve you. Our goal is to assist you during this difficult time.

Sincerely,

Christopher A. Caramello
Marissa R. Caramello

Classical Instrumental Pieces:

Air (Bach)

Air (Handel)

Aria (Handel)

Arioso (Bach)

Clair de Lune (Debussy)

Come Sweet Death (Bach)

Fanfare for the Common Man (Copland)

Gabriel's Oboe (Morricone)

Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring (Bach)

Largo (Handel)

Minuet (Bach)

Prayer of St. Gregory (Hovhanness)

"Taps" (Bugle Call – Trumpet)

The Swan (Saint-Saëns)

**Instrumental of Hymns or Pieces*

Civil (Secular) Funeral Pieces:

Bridge Over Troubled Water (Simon)

Bring Him Home (Les Misérables)

Cycles (Sinatra)

Danny Boy

Hallelujah (Cohen)

I'll Be Seeing You (Holiday)

I Dreamed a Dream (Les Misérables)

My Way (Sinatra)

O Sole Mio (Italian)

Somewhere (West Side Story)

Somewhere Over the Rainbow

Time to Say Goodbye (Bocelli)

The Prayer (Bocelli)

The Way We Were (Streisand)

Wind Beneath My Wings (Midler)

What A Wonderful World

You'll Never Walk Along (Carousel)

You Raise Me Up (Groban)

Religious Funeral Pieces:

Alleluia (Mozart)

Ave Maria (Bach) or (Schubert)

He (Richards)

His Eye is On the Sparrow (Gabriel)

Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring (Bach)

My Tribute (To God Be the Glory)

Panis Angelicus (Franck)

Pie Jesu (Faure)

Pie Jesu (Webber)

The Holy City (Adams)

The Lord's Prayer (Malotte)

The Palms (Faure)

Hymns:

America (My Country Tis of Thee)
America the Beautiful
Battle Hymn of the Republic
Eternal Father, Strong to Save (Navy)
Abide With Me
Alleluia #1
Alleluia! Sing to Jesus
Amazing Grace
Be Not Afraid
Be Still My Soul
Be Thou My Vision
Blessed Assurance
Faith of Our Fathers
For All the Saints
God, Bless America
Great Is Thy Faithfulness
Hail Mary, Gentle Woman
Here, I Am Lord
Hosea
How Great Thou Art
I Know That My Redeemer Lives
In Paradisum (Latin Chant)
In the Garden
It Is Well with My Soul
Irish Blessing

J'irai la Voir un Jour (French)
Jesus, Remember Me
Just a Closer Walk with Thee
Let There Be Peace on Earth
Like a Child Rests
Morning Has Broken
Nearer My God to Thee
O God, Beyond All Praising
O God, Our Help, In Ages Past
O Loving God (*Tune of: O Danny Boy*)
On Eagles Wings
Our Lady of Knock
Prayer of Saint Francis
Precious Lord, Take My Hand
Shall We Gather at the River
Sing With All the Saints in Glory
Softly and Tenderly
Song of Farewell
Song of the Angels
The Old Rugged Cross
The King of Love
The Strife is O'er
Ti Ringrazzio (Italian)
*Hymns of the given liturgical season (Advent,
Christmas, Lent, Easter)*