

FAMILY PRAYER

At Home

All Saints
Catholic Academy Trust



Thursday 23rd November 2023

The Feast of St Cecelia



The 22nd November marks the feast of St Cecelia who is best known as the patron saint of musicians and church music. As a child, St Cecelia made a vow of purity to God. On her wedding day, it is said that as the musicians played at her wedding she 'sang in her heart to the Lord'.

St Cecelia lived a holy life and spent much of it converting others to believe in Jesus. She was a martyr meaning she died for her faith.

Gather Together

Gather together in a quiet space and make the sign of the cross together.

Music is a very important part of church life, worship and prayer. Let us begin by listening to a short reflective song as we meditate on the message 'Oh Lord, hear my prayer'. Click the image below to listen.



Scripture

2 Chronicles 5:13

The trumpeters and the singers joined in unison to offer praise and thanksgiving to the Lord, and when the volume was raised, with trumpets and cymbals and other musical instruments, in praise of the Lord:

"For he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever,"

the temple was filled with the cloud of the glory of the Lord.

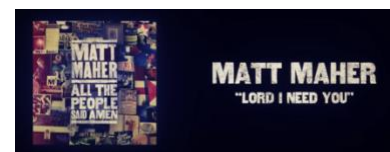
In this scripture reference, we are reminded of the impact and importance of praising God through music and that it is pleasing to God.

Music plays such an important role in our worship of God. It is a form of worship that allows us to express our praises, love, and gratitude to God. Prayer rises from the depths of our heart and words alone cannot always express all that we wish to say. Music takes us out of ourselves and opens us up to God, this is why music is often used in Mass as it helps us praise and worship God when we come together to celebrate the Eucharist.

Reflect and Pray

Take time now to listen to a song, reflecting on what it means to you and your family.

The song is called 'Lord I need you' and it serves as a reminder to us of the need for God in our lives each day. Click the picture below to listen to the song.



Closing Prayer

God, thank you for the gift of music to enrich our lives and deepen our praise and worship of you. Thank you for the faithful example of St Cecelia who recognised the value of worship through music.

Help us to have the courage and enthusiasm to participate fully with music the next time we are at Mass, knowing that it helps draw us closer to you Lord.

Amen

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