

Pope St. Gregory the Great (540-604)

A Saint to Sing About

F E A S T
September 3

St. Gregory was given the title Great for many reasons. He built monasteries. He sent missionaries to teach people in other lands about Jesus and to guide them in loving him, too. He worked to make the position of pope one of great power—to the point that popes ruled in matters of everyday life as well in religious matters. But, perhaps, he is best known today for his influence on the music of the Church. He discovered ancient church melodies and put them together in a collection. The glorious sounds that resulted are now called Gregorian chants.

Gregorian chants are simple songs with beautiful melodies that commemorate the life of Jesus. Write a song that celebrates someone or something worthy you'd like to honor.

Here's how.

1. Choose your subject. You could sing about the sunshine or flowers, about your parents, a favorite sports star, singer, teacher, or your patron saint.

Subject _____

2. Choose words that describe the object of your song. Which of the following adjectives might you use? Check them. Add your own so that you have them at hand when you write.

radiant blessed sweet _____
 happy glorious talented _____
 sacred powerful smart _____



3. You may want to use metaphors, which are phrases that compare a person and an object or an event. In Matthew 22:2, for example, Jesus said, "The kingdom of heaven is like a king who gave a marriage banquet for his son."
4. Arrange your words in a way that make sense. Then write or adapt a melody to which you can set them. (Rap songs are an example of songs that are written like this.)

If you need more room, use the back of this page.

