

Santa Rosa de Lima Catholic School

Music Class: PK–8th Grades

Teacher: Ms. Shannon Thomas

Email: stomas@srdlcs.com

Class Schedule: Monday and Thursday 8:00am–12:00pm

Choir Rehearsal (Optional): TBA

Required Materials

Pencil

For 5th–8th Grades: 1-Subject Notebook or Composition Book with perforated pages (easy to take out)

Class Objectives

By the end of this year, students will:

1. Identify basic musical features and characteristics, such as beat, rhythm, pitch, speed, and dynamics, as well as comprehend musical concepts like melody, harmony, scales, and musical form/construction.
2. Understand the significance of music in everyday life, being able to identify music of different moods, occasions, and genres.
3. Know how to apply musical concepts to mathematical, scientific, and literary concepts, as well as apply music to storytelling and dance.
4. Perform age and church-appropriate music and song, seeing the significance of music as a rewarding creative experience and a medium of giving glory to God.
5. Identify and understand the importance of the music in the liturgy of the Catholic mass, knowing the meaning and significance of Catholic hymns and mass parts such as the *Kyrie*, *Glory to God*, *Sanctus*, and *Agnus Dei*.

Grading Percentages and Evaluation of Students

PK–4th Grades

Participation – 100%

5th–8th Grades

Participation – 90%

Pop Quizzes– 10% (if assigned)

Grading Scale

A: 93–100% A-: 90–92% B+: 87–89% B: 85–86% B-: 80–84% C: 75–79% C-: 70-74%
D: 65–69% F: 64% and lower

Participation

Attendance and active participation is crucial for this class, for a student's engaged presence in music class is critical for not only his or her learning, but for all the students in the class. Each time a group gets together to create music, they create an unrepeatable experience in time. The absence or nonparticipation of one person in a group can affect not only their particular musical experience, but the musical experiences of everyone else around them, because the creation of ensemble music requires individuals to work together as a team. Each student learning and working at their best affects the good of all.

Simply attending class is not sufficient for a good participation grade. In order to receive full participation points (5pts total for one day, 10pts put together at the end of each week), a student must be actively participating in class, which entails that there is:

- *participation* through sincere effort and healthy discussion,
- *preparation* of the materials and knowledge needed to make good music, and
- *offering* of constructive ideas to the class, when appropriate, to advance the good of the class and to give their personal best (5pts total for each day).

These three things are crucial to developing the skills that are needed to become great musicians and more wholesome individuals and scholars. Students are encouraged to be supportive of their peers and offer constructive feedback in an open and developing environment. Music is a growing process, so let us enjoy ourselves and encourage one another as we learn to give glory to God through our music!

Important Note: Any bullying or harassment of any sort, especially in regards to music ability or skill, **will not be tolerated**. God has given us all abilities according to His grace and goodness, which means that some will have different musical skills, or will need to make a greater effort at musical expression than others will. It is encouraged that everyone will look for ways that the class can grow together musically, while seeking God's will and love above all things.

Pop Quizzes

In the course of each trimester (for grades 5th–8th) there may be 2-3 unannounced pop quizzes that will be conducted at the end of class. Material for each pop quiz will be taken from current and previous class sessions (music literacy, music history, or music listening/performing), and quizzes will vary between grade levels.

Christmas Concert (Thursday, 12/15/2023 as of August 15th, 2023)

Attendance and participation in the Christmas concert is required of all students. Students will be given a grade for the concert based on their arriving on time, their possession of proper materials/dress, and their effort to perform their best while giving full and active participation. **Unexcused absences from the Christmas Concert or breaking of concert dress code may result in a significantly lower grade for Trimester 2.**

Technology/Cell Phones

All student use and presence of cell phones, tablets, and other electronics are prohibited in music class. Any rare exceptions to this rule (emergencies, etc.) will be made according to Santa Rosa de Lima Catholic School's policy regarding technology use, or by any exceptions made by myself as the instructor. Any presence or use of a cell phone, tablet, or other electronic device by a student that is not approved will count as a zero-mark and a failing grade for the day.

Students with Disabilities

For parents: If you would like to alert me of any disabilities your child has, or accommodations that he or she needs, please feel free to arrange an appointment or contact me by email.