



## MUSIC 6 LESSON PLAN

---

### TEXT:

---

*We Sing and Harmonize* (Catholic)

---

### INTRODUCTION

---

*We Sing and Harmonize* is a Catholic music songbook which we think you will enjoy using with your children. It is based on the Liturgical Year, so your child and your family can sing these songs both at home and at church.

**Sacred music can become a sanctifying presence in your home.** We home schooling parents want to make our homes little domestic churches, a home like that of the Holy Family, a home which preserves Catholic culture. Through sacred music about the saints, Our Lord, the Blessed Mother, and the Church herself, music can inspire us and our children to live good lives. Religious music has great power, the power to bring us closer to Jesus and to be more devout in our prayers. In fact, there is a famous saying that singing sacred music means you are praying twice.

The words as well as the music of the song “Faith of Our Fathers” is a good example of an inspiring song to help our family to accept the challenges of being Catholic in today’s secular society.

Faith of our Fathers! Living still  
In spite of dungeons, fire, and sword;  
Oh, how our hearts beat high with joy  
Whene’er we hear that glorious word.  
Faith of our Fathers! Holy Faith!  
We will be true to thee till death.

Our Fathers chained in prisons dark,  
Were still in heart and conscience free;

And truly blessed would be our fate,  
If we like them should die for thee!  
Faith of our Fathers! We will love  
Both friend and foe in all our strife;  
And preach thee too, as love knows how  
By kindly words and virtuous life.

Faith of our Fathers! Holy Faith!  
We will be true to thee till death.

In an attempt to bring back traditional Catholic music, Ignatius Press has published ***The Adoremus Hymnal***, which we highly recommend that you purchase. It is a hymnal for the celebration of a sung Mass in the Roman Rite, as well as traditional songs such as “Faith of our Fathers.”

In the Preface of *The Adoremus Hymnal*, Father Fessio of Ignatius Press wrote that “According to the Second Vatican Council, sacred music, as a combination of sacred melody and words, ‘forms a necessary or integral part of the solemn liturgy,’ and ‘is to be considered the more holy in proportion as it is connected to the liturgical action.’ Certain parts of the Mass are to be sung by the congregation: the Kyrie, the Gloria, the Sanctus, and the Agnus Dei. The Vatican Council went so far as to say the Gregorian Chant ‘should be given pride of place in liturgical services.’”

Of course, we are all aware of how little Gregorian Chant there is in Catholic churches these days, but that does not change the fact that the Church in its official documents teaches that Gregorian Chant belongs in the liturgy. Father Fessio wrote in the Preface: **“The loss of this historic Catholic music is more than a cultural deprivation; it is a diminishment of a sublime form of prayer.”**