

Today is the feast of St. Cecilia - Virgin and Martyr.

Devotion to her dates from the 4th century, but facts are difficult to come by since her story was built up into a Greek drama around her life and martyrdom ... and with all of the poetic license exercised, all we know is she is the patroness of music and musicians - and especially Church musicians.

The first reading for today speaks of what was the first Hanukkah - a Jewish feast celebrated to this day.

And in the Gospel, we hear St. Luke's account of the "Cleansing of the Temple," and Our Lord's words: "*It is written, My house shall be a house of prayer*".

It's hard not to personally ... and thankfully reflect on these last 6 months - the musical experience we have at Holy Family ... with excellent musicians, a wonderful choir, and beautiful instruments, and a marvelous building to worship in.

As we approach this altar to receive the Sacred Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus Christ - let us give God the glory He deserves ... in gratitude ... in prayer ... and in praise. May this place always be "*a house of prayer*" dedicated to the finest music and worship we can provide ... not for us - but so that God might always receive the glory He deserves.