

# *Prayer Service*

*Sister Cecelia Schlaefer*

*March 11, 1922 — August 17, 2021*



*Nazareth Center Chapel*

*August 31, 2021*

*11:00 a.m.*

## Welcome

**Opening Song:**     *Ye Sons and Daughters*  
BB #173, vs. 1—3, 7—9

**Leader:** Loving God, Sister Cecelia Schlaefer is gone now from this earthly dwelling. Grant that we may give thanks to you as we celebrate her life, hold her memory with gratitude, and live in the hope of the eternal kingdom where you will bring us together again. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**All:**       **Amen**

### **Antiphon:**

All       You set us free, O God, from the chains that bind us.

### **Psalm 146**

- 1       Praise be to You!  
Praise the Beloved, O my soul!  
I will praise you with all my being;  
I will sing joyfully and  
          with thanksgiving to You,  
          Heart of my heart!
- 2       Put not your trust in riches,  
          in illusionary things that fade away.  
For when our day comes to depart this world,  
          at that very time,  
          we carry only the love  
          imprinted upon our soul

1 Blessed are those whose strength  
is in the Beloved,  
whose trust is in You,  
O Divine Lover,  
Who gave birth to the universe--  
the heavens, earth and sea--  
And all that is within them;  
Who is ever-faithful,  
bringing balance and harmony to earth,  
nourishment to body and soul.

2 You free us from the bonds of fear;  
You give insight to those who would see.  
You lift up the faint-hearted,  
giving succor to those who weep.  
You watch over those on journey,  
sending guides and angels to lead the way.  
O, that we might become  
beacons of light  
to those in darkness.

1 May You who live forever in our hearts,  
loose the fetters of fear that bind us,  
That we might praise You always  
with free and joyful song!  
May it be so!

**All:** You set us free, O God, from the chains that bind us.

**Reading:** 2 Corinthians 4:7-15

**Hymn:** *Salve Regina*—BB #684

**Sharing of Memories**

## **Prayer to St. Agnes:**

Behold what I long coveted, I already see, what I hoped for I now hold safe. To God alone I am associated in heaven whom on earth I loved with all devotedness.

**Leader:** Pray for us St. Agnes.

**All:** That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

**Let us pray:** Almighty and eternal God who choose the weak of the world to confound the strong, mercifully grant that we, who are placed under the patronage of your virgin and martyr, Agnes, may feel the benefit of her intercession with you. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Hymn:** *O Dearest St. Agnes*  
# 139 vs. 1—Community Hymnal

**Leader:** Scripture says, “No eye has seen, no ear has heard and no mind imagined what God has prepared for those who love God. We pray that Sister Cecelia now experiences the fullness of life with God forever. May she and all the faithful departed rest in peace.

**All: Amen**

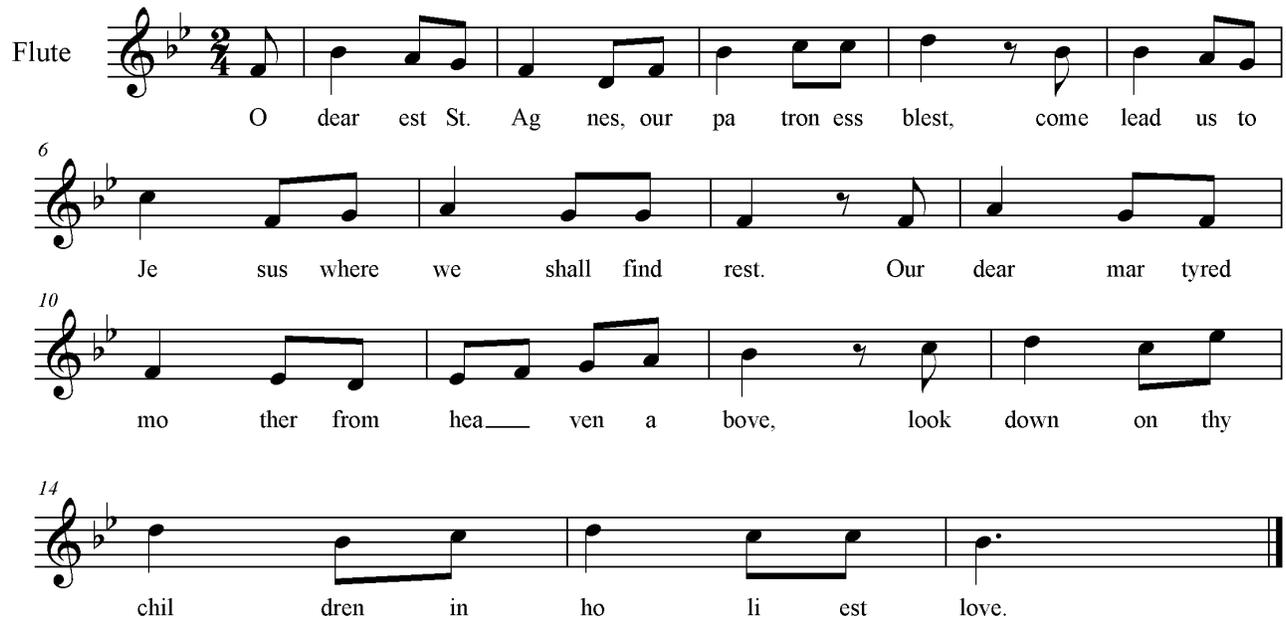
**Closing Song:** *Oh When the Saints*  
Led by Schlaefer Family



# O Dearest St. Agnes

Traditional

Flute



O dearest St. Agnes, our patroness blest, come lead us to  
6  
Jesus where we shall find rest. Our dear martyred  
10  
mother from heaven above, look down on thy  
14  
children in holiest love.

2. Thou bride of our Savior, thou lily so fair,  
Espoused unto Jesus we flee to thy care.  
O help us be faithful to holiest vows;  
Yes, faithful to Jesus, our king and our spouse.
3. O dearest St. Agnes, bless all that we love.  
Bless all whom we cherish with hearts fond and true,  
The children that Jesus has placed in our care;  
And may all in heaven thy happiness share.
4. Sweet lily, St. Agnes, sweet martyr of love,  
Bless all our dear sisters from heaven above.  
Place all our petitions in Christ's Sacred Heart  
And through thee, St. Agnes, his grace he'll impart.