

# MUSIC

St Marks Sunday School

Years 11 & 12 Girls

04 October 2009



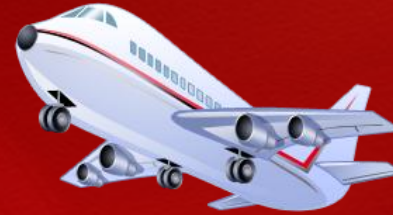
# Discussion Items

- Music is all around us.
- Do human beings have a “natural” response to music?
- How does music effect us?
- Music: Historically
- What does the Holy Bible say about music?
- Music Symbols
- Musicians to avoid
- Song Lyrics
- Artist life-style
- Music and teen suicide
- Music styles
- Conclusions

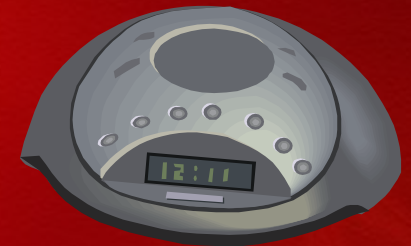




# Music is all around us



## WHY?



Do human beings have a “natural” response to music?





# How does music effect us?

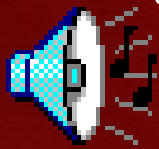
*Music can plant certain feelings in the soul. A piece of instrumental music, i.e. one without words, is able to make a person feel happy or sad. It can stimulate or excite him, or arouse some desire in him. We ought not to forget the powerful effect that music can have on the soul.*

*(Pope Shenouda – Many Years with People's Questions)*



# How does music effect us?

- Music sways the lives of people in 3 powerful ways:
  1. it helps people (especially teens) define what reality and life are, and
  2. it affects their language, hair, and clothing styles.
  3. It can directly effect our emotions
- ...David would take a harp and play it with his hand. Then Saul would become refreshed and well, and the distressing spirit would depart from him. (1 Sam 16:23)



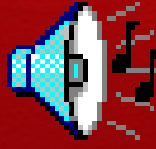
Aussie Anthem



Chariots



We are the  
champions



Rocky



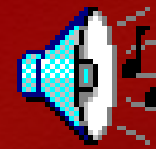
Michael Jackson



Endless Love



Hi5



Amazing Grace



Sok Teti Ghom



# Music: Historically

- 2000BC China philosophers realized the power of music and carefully checked their music to make sure it conveyed eternal truths and can thus influence man's character for the better. One Emperor Shun monitored the health of each province by the music they produced, coarse and sensual sound indicated a sick society in need of his intervention and assistance.
- Plato 2000 years ago said, "When modes of music change, the fundamental laws of the state change with them."
- Aristotle said, "music has power to form character"
- Lenin said, "One quick way to destroy a society is through music."



**"The end of all music should be the glory of God and the refreshment of the human spirit." Johanne Bach**

# What does the Holy Bible say about music?

## The first Biblical mention of Music

- His brother's name was Jubal. He was the father of all those who play the harp and flute. (Gen 4:21)

## Did Jesus Sing Hymns?

- 27 Then He took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, Drink from it, all of you. 28 For this is My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for many for the remission of sins... 30 And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. (Matt 26)

## The Prodigal Son

- Now his older son was in the field. And as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. (Luke 15:25)





# What does the Holy Bible say about music?

## The Holy Mass

- 1 Praise the Lord! Praise God in His sanctuary; Praise Him in His mighty firmament! 2 Praise Him for His mighty acts; Praise Him according to His excellent greatness! 3 Praise Him with the sound of the trumpet; Praise Him with the lute and harp! 4 Praise Him with the timbrel and dance; Praise Him with stringed instruments and flutes! 5 Praise Him with loud cymbals; Praise Him with clashing cymbals! 6 Let everything that has breath praise the Lord. Praise the Lord! (Psalm 150)

## Music in Heaven?

- 2 And I heard a voice from heaven, like the voice of many waters, and like the voice of loud thunder. And I heard the sound of harpists playing their harps. 3 They sang as it were a new song before the throne, before the four living creatures, and the elders; and no one could learn that song except the hundred and forty-four thousand who were redeemed from the earth. (Rev 14)



# Music Symbols

## The Devils Horns



## The Pentagram



THEJEWELRYCASKET.COM



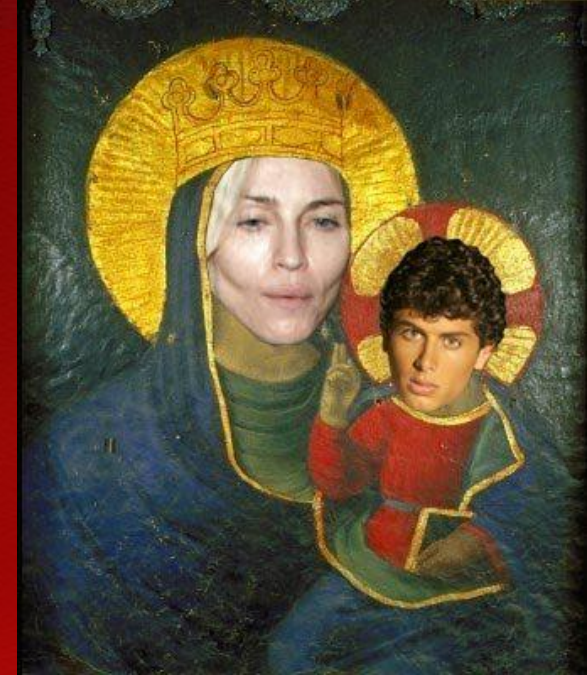
## The Upside Down Cross





# Musicians to avoid

- Madonna
  - Madonna – St Mary
  - Like a Virgin – St Mary
  - Always wearing crosses
  - Lourdes – place where St Mary appeared
  - Like a prayer film clip – sex scenes with a saint in a church
  - Like a prayer film clip – crosses burning
  - Confessions tour – she is crucified, and then comes down from cross alive
  - Madonna is going out with a guy call “Jesus”. So the headlines say,
    - “Madonna found Jesus”, “Madonna loves Jesus”, “Madonna holidays with Jesus – omg”, “Madonna & Jesus to marry”, Madonna Kissing Jesus”
  - Madonna- Material Girl. This is the image she promotes – the flesh and materialism
- “Crucifixes are sexy because there is a naked man on them.” (Spin magazine, May 1985)



# Musicians to avoid

- Madonna
  - Like a prayer film clip – sex scenes with a saint in a church
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# Musicians to avoid

- Madonna

- Confessions tour – she is crucified, and then comes down from cross alive



# Musicians to avoid

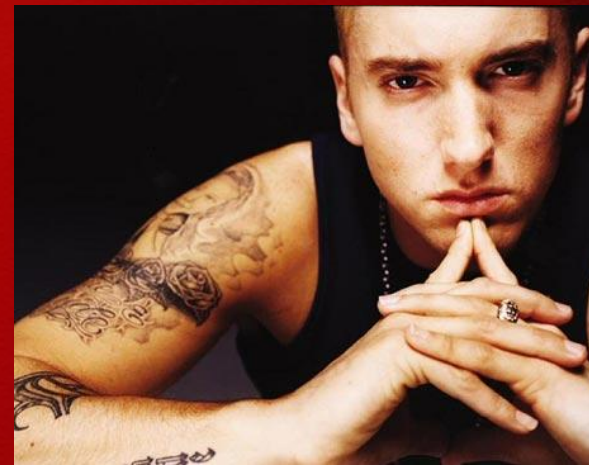
- AC/DC
  - “Someone else is steering me ...I become possessed when I’m on stage.” Angus Young of AC/DC 1985





# Musicians to avoid

- EMINEM
  - Promotes
    - Suicide
    - Sex before marriage
    - Promiscuous sex
    - Violence (gangs, guns, revenge)
      - “all i know is this uzis for spraying on S Club Juniors”
    - Filthy language
      - “F--- this Beat  
F--- ure Song  
F--- this Life  
Its goin on to long “
    - Drug use
      - “The Feds are cuming but i cant be assed running im so weeded that i cant stop mumbling” (verbal suicide)





If a song glorifies what opposes God, a Christian should not purposefully listen to it.

## The content of the lyrics

Neither the purpose nor the style of music are determinant as to whether a Christian should listen to secular music, it is the content of the lyrics that must be considered.

### U2

•Ps 6:3 "My soul is in anguish. How long, O LORD, how long?"

•Ps 94:3 "How long will the wicked, O LORD, how long will the wicked be jubilant?"

•Habakkuk 1:2 "How long, O LORD, must I call for help, but you do not listen? Or cry out to you, "Violence!" but you do not save?"

Yeah, though I walk  
In the valley of shadow  
Yeah, I will fear no evil  
I have cursed thy rod and staff  
They no longer comfort me  
Love rescue me

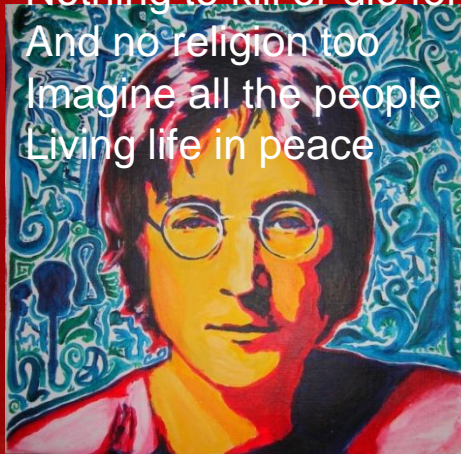


### John Lennon

Imagine there's no Heaven  
It's easy if you try  
No hell below us  
Above us only sky  
Imagine all the people  
Living for today

Imagine there's no countries  
It isn't hard to do  
Nothing to kill or die for

And no religion too  
Imagine all the people  
Living life in peace



### George Michael

I don't need no bible  
Just look in my eyes





# The life style of the Artist

Even if the lyrics seem ok we must look at the lifestyle of the artist and consider if it is right to support him/her.

Elton John



Lyrics seem ok  
but proudly gay!

Darren Hayes



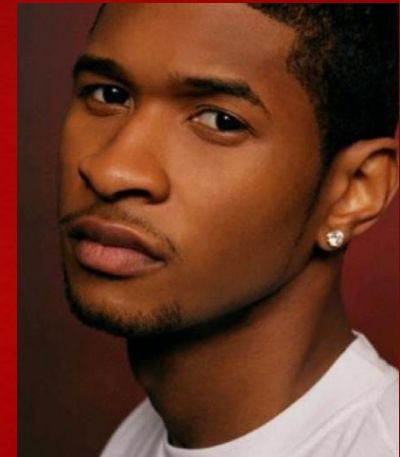
Lyrics seem ok  
but married a  
man!

PINK



Lyrics seem ok  
but filmclips are  
very sexual!

Usher



Lyrics seem ok  
but filmclips are  
very sexual!

**If an artist glorifies what opposes God, a Christian should not purposefully listen his/her music.**

# The life style of the Artist

Even if the lyrics seem ok we must look at the lifestyle of the artist and consider if it is right to support him/her.

Rihanna & Chris  
Brown



Lyrics seem ok  
but sexual &  
violent!

Beyonce



Lyrics seem ok  
but dresses very  
provocatively!

Justin Timberlake



Lyrics, concerts  
(FutureSex /  
Loveshow tour) &  
lifestyle disgusting!

Christina Aguilera



Lyrics seem ok  
but filmclips are  
very sexual!

**If an artist glorifies what opposes God, a Christian should not purposefully listen his/her music.**



# Music and Teen Suicide

- 90% of teens thinking of suicide today listen to the music of their favourite artist expressing themselves in the same or similar way
- 35% of teens commit suicide to the music they listen to.
- We must make it clear that it is NOT the music that leads to the suicide but the music and lyrics may push the person over the edge.



# Fill your mind with good stuff not rubbish

- There is nothing wrong with music. What is wrong is
  - Lyrics
  - Videos Clips
  - Hidden message that enters your mind
- whatever a person allows to occupy his mind will sooner or later determine his speech and his actions.
- “bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ...” (2 Cor 10:5)



**Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ  
Jesus... (Phil 2:5)**



# The style of music

- The issue of music styles can be very different among Christians.
- There are Christians who wish for music to be used extensively and others who wish to not use music to the extent that they demand that no musical instruments be used.
- There are Christians who only desire to sing the hymns.
- There are Christians who want more upbeat and contemporary music.



# The style of music - instruments

- We use music and instruments in our hymns like the triangle and the cymbals during the mass and outside the mass we encourage the use of other musical instruments such as the piano
- The Bible mentions numerous kinds of string instruments and wind instruments.
- While the Bible does not specifically mention drums, it does mention other percussion instruments (Psalm 68:25; Ezra 3:10).
- The Bible nowhere declares any form of musical instrument to be ungodly.
- There is no biblical basis to declare any particular style of music to be ungodly





# You be the Judge



- Listening to music is not condemned in the Coptic Orthodox Church
  - it's misuse and abuse is condemned.
  - It's potential to brain wash and influence in negative ways is condemned.
  - King David wrote most of the Psalms and put them to music. The music had a positive spiritual effect which lead him to contemplate on God's glory and power and might. The Psalms prompted him to praise God, and thank Him. The Psalms encouraged King David to repent and contemplate on God's love, mercy and justice.
  - The Angels in heaven in Isaiah 6, praise the Lord and sing unto His Holy Name. Therefore the fathers of the Church often describe the hymns of the Church as another language... that of the Seraphim and Cherubim. In other words, when we praise God through singing... we are speaking the angelic language...we join with the angles in their language of praise and blessing.
  - Shout joyfully to the Lord, all the earth; Break forth in song, rejoice, and sing praises. (Ps 98:4)
  - St. Anthony the great advised his disciples to sing before retiring for the night and as soon as they woke up from sleep.
  - Singing church hymns unites all the congregation together in one voice and one harmony, signifying the unity we receive from partaking of the Holy Body and Honoured Blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

**speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs,  
singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord (Eph 5:19)**

# Glory to God

- Although the Church does not condemn music, obviously, the best kind of music we can listen to is that which praises and glorifies God.
- There are very talented Christian musicians in nearly every musical genre, ranging from rock, to rap, to reggae.
- There is nothing inherently wrong with any particular style of music. It is the lyrics that determine whether a song is “acceptable” for a Christian to listen to.
- But if a style of secular music, whether in the music itself or in the lyrics, leads you to think about or get involved in something that does not glorify God – it should be avoided.





# Meditate on what is good

Finally, brethren,  
whatever things are true,  
whatever things are noble,  
whatever things are just,  
whatever things are pure,  
whatever things are lovely,  
whatever things are of good report,  
if there is any virtue and if there is  
anything praiseworthy –  
meditate on these things.

(Philippians 4:6)

**Glory Be to God for ever  
and ever. AMEN.**





**BACK UP SLIDES**

# Fill your mind with good stuff not rubbish

- whatever a person allows to occupy his mind will sooner or later determine his speech and his actions. This is the premise behind “Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy--meditate on these things.” (Philippians 4:8)
- “bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ...” (2 Cor 10:5) These Scriptures give a pretty clear picture of the kind of music we SHOULD NOT listen to

