



Benigno's



Musical Adventure



Malta



Italy

Naples





Benigno's Musical Adventure

Once upon a time, in the quiet town of Rabat, Malta, a little boy named Benigno Zerafa was born. Benigno's father, Nicola, was a kind surgeon, and his mother, Teresa, loved music. Benigno had seven siblings, and his family later moved to a street called Strada dell' Carmine in Mdina.

When Benigno was only 8 years old, he got his first musical job at the Cathedral of St Paul! He shared a small salary with his brother and learned to sing in the children's choir as a diaconus. Soon, he joined the Cappella Musicale and got a little extra money for singing very high notes.

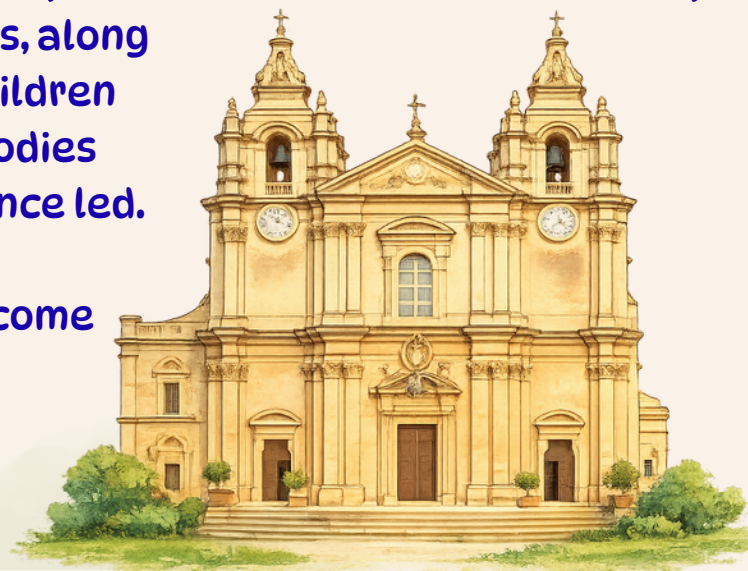
At 11, Benigno travelled to Naples, Italy, to study music at the famous Conservatorio di Santa Maria di Loreto. He became a boarding student at the seminary, learning not only music but also how to become a priest. By the time he was 17, Benigno had already composed three big works, including a special Mass for two choirs!

When he returned to Malta, he was just 18 years old, but already talented enough to be appointed Maestro di Cappella at the Cathedral. His job was very important: he sang, played many instruments, conducted the orchestra, taught young singers, and composed beautiful music for church celebrations.

Even though he loved music, Benigno's heart belonged to the priesthood. He was ordained at 24 and continued composing, directing, and teaching. He wrote music for special events, played the organ, and even started a music school for children at the Cathedral!

Benigno's music was so special that today, all of his works are carefully preserved in the Mdina Cathedral Archives, along with thousands of other manuscripts. Children and music lovers can still explore his melodies and imagine the wonderful concerts he once led.

And so, the boy from Rabat grew up to become a great composer and priest, leaving behind music that still makes Malta's cathedrals sing!





Benigno's Crossword Puzzle!



Fill in the answers about Benigno's life!

Across

3. Where did Benigno stay when he was abroad?
4. What is Benigno's surname?
6. Title of his job.
8. At what age did he join the choir?

Down

1. He had two roles, one as a musician and the other?
2. City where Benigno was born.
5. Where did Benigno Study?
7. Benigno's father job.

