**St. Dominic Savio**

**Characters:**

Narrator 1

Narrator 2

Narrator 3

St. Dominic Savio

St. John Bosco

Friend

Fr. Ambrose

Dominic’s Mom and Dad

**Narrator 1:** Dominic arrived at the oratory in 1854 when he was 12 years old. From the very first time he met him, Don Bosco could see that Dominic was someone special.

**Savio:** Hello, Father.

**Don Bosco :** Well, come in my boy, come in. Let me have a look at you. I guess the trip was rather tiring, wasn’t it? Here, give me your bag. Well, the place is yours son. Do you think you’ll like it?

**Savio:** I hope so. (Pause, looking around) Father, what does that sign over the door mean?

**Don Bosco:** That’s Latin, Dominic – Da mihi animas, coetera tolle. It means: Give me souls, take away the rest. It was one of the mottos of St. Francis de Sales.

**Savio:** I see. You do business here in souls, not in money. I like that very much.

**Don Bosco:** Yes, Dominic. Now, would you like to take academic courses or learn a trade?

**Savio:** I think I’d like to take academic courses.

**Don Bosco:** Any reason?

**Savio:** Well, Father, if God wills…I would like to become a priest.

**Don Bosco:** (*looking Savio up and down*) It seems there *is* good material in you, Dominic.

**Savio:** Good material, Father? What is it good for?

**Don Bosco:** It’s good for making a beautiful garment for our Lord.

**Savio:** Well, then Father, you’re the tailor and I’m the cloth. Please make me into a beautiful vestment for the Lord!

**Narrator 1:** And so began a beautiful relationship between the two Saints. Dominic always excelled in his studies and Don Bosco had to actually encourage him to play during recreation instead of study. Dominic always wanted to do what was right, so he listened to every word of advice Don Bosco gave him and put it into practice.

**Narrator 2:** Dominic was a leader among his friends. Especially when it came to living out the Gospel. We now take you back to a moment of recreation in the oratory.

**Savio:** Let’s take a breather! Whew, I’m tired! What a game!

**Friend:** Yeah, you said it Dominic. I must have eaten too much rice this afternoon. I can hardly move! (*Dominic and friend laugh*)

**Savio:** Hey, I’m going to confession tonight. Do you want to come along?

**Friend:** Well……….. I don’t know, Dominic. I hadn’t planned on it.

**Savio:** Come on. Do me a favor. It would be nice to have some company.

**Friend:** Well….. I guess so. I’ll see you after supper!

**Narrator 2:** The young people at the Oratory would often follow Dominic’s example, even if it sometimes took some extra convincing. Dominic knew how to be a servant to his companions. He never complained about having to do any difficult or challenging task, and he was always willing to help his classmates with anything they needed.

**Narrator 3:** Towards the end of his life, Dominic became very sick. He wanted to stay at the Oratory with Don Bosco, but he obediently returned home to be with his family. We now invite you to relive the final moments of Dominic’s life in which he was about to become a faithful citizen of Heaven.

**Savio:** (*slowly and broken*) Father Ambrose..I….know I’m near death. Father, will you leave me something to think about before you leave?

**Fr. Ambrose:** What sort of momento can I give you, Dominic? I’ve done all that I can for you already.

**Savio:** Just….something… to *help* me, Father.

**Fr. Ambrose:** Remember the passion of our Lord, Dominic, and the pain and suffering he endured as he was dying.

**Savio:** Yes, Father. I will. (*pause*) Jesus, ……Mary, …..Joseph…..may I breathe forth my soul with you. (*pause*) Mother, father, goodbye. (*pause*) Oh! I see the most beautiful things! So beautiful!

**Narrator 3:** With these last words on his smiling lips, Dominic entered into his Heavenly reward after having been a faithful citizen of earth. We ask Dominic to intercede for us, that we too may proclaim, “Death rather than sin!”