FOR THE MOST HOLY

VIRGIN,

A MASS FOR SIX VOICES

[FOR CHURCH CHOIRS]

AND VESPERS TO BE SUNG

BY SEVERAL VOICES,

WITH SEVERAL SACRED SONGS,

SUITED FOR CHAPELS OR THE CHAMBERS OF PRINCES

THE WORK

OF CLAUDIO MONTEVERDI,

RECENTLY COMPOSED

AND DEDICATED TO THE MOST BLESSED POPE PAUL V.

Venice, by Riccianlo Amadino.

1610.

**Deus in adjutorium** meum intende.

Domine ad adjuvandum me festina.

Gloria patri et filio et spiritui sancto:

sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper,

et in secula seculorum. Amen.

*O God, make speed to save me.*

*O Lord. make haste to help me.*

*Glory be to the Father. and the Son. and the Holy Spirit:*

*as it was in the beginning, is now, and forever shall be,*

*world without end. Amen.*

**Antiphon I**

O admirabile commercium: creator generis humani

animatum corpus sumens, de virgine nasci dignatus est:

et procedens homo sine semine,

Largitus est nobis suam deitatem.

*O wondrous exchange! the creator of humankind.*

*assuming a living body, deigned to be born of a virgin:*

*and becoming a man without seed,*

*enriched us with his divinity.*

**Dixit Dominus** Domino meo: sede a dextris meis,

donec ponam inimicos tuos scabellum pedum tuorum.

Virgam virtutis tuae emittet Dominus ex Sion:

dominare in medio inimicorum.

Tecum principium in die virtutis tuae:

in splendoribus sanctorum ex utero

ante luciferum genui te.

Juravit dominus et non penitebit eum:

tu es sacerdos in aeternum

secundum ordinem Melchisedech.

Dominus a dextris tuis

confregit in die irae suae reges.

Judicabit in nationibus, implebit ruinas:

conquassabit capita in terra multorum.

De torrente in via bibet:

propterea exaltabit caput.

*The Lord said to my Lord: be seated at my right hand.*

*until I make of your enemies your footstool.*

*The Lord shall send the rod of your strength out of Zion:*

*reign in the midst of your enemies.*

*Yours is the foundation in the day of your power:*

*in the splendor of holiness. from out of the womb,*

*before the morning star I have borne you.*

*The Lord has sworn and will not repent:*

*you are a priest for ever*

*after the order of Melchizedek.*

*The Lord at your right hand*

*has destroyed kings in the day of his wrath.*

*He will judge the nations. he will fill them with ruins:*

*he will shatter heads in the populous land.*

*From the torrent on the way shall he drink:*

*therefore he will hold his head high.*

Gloria patri ...

*Glory be to the Father*

**Nigra sum**, sed formosa filia Jerusalem.

ldeo dilexit me rex et introduxit in cubiculum suum

et dixit mihi: Surge, amica mea, et veni.

lam hiems transiit, imber abiit et recessit,

fl.ores apparuerunt in terra nostra,

tempus putationis advenit.

*I am dark. but a comely daughter of Jerusalem.*

*Therefore the king loved me and led me into his chamber*

*and said to me: Arise. my love, and come away.*

*Now the winter has passed. the rains are over and gone,*

*and flowers have appeared in our land:*

*the time of pruning is come.*

**Antiphon II**

Ouando natus es ineffabiliter ex virgine, tune implete sunt

scripture: sicut pluvia in vellus descendisti, ut salvum

faceres genus humanum: te laudamus, deus noster.

*By your ineffable birth to a virgin. the scriptures were*

*fulfilled: like rain upon the grass you descended to save*

*humankind: we praise you, our God.*

**Laudate pueri** Dominum:

Laudate nomen Domini.

Sit nomen Domini benedictum,

ex hoc nunc et usque in seculum.

A solis ortu usque ad occasum,

laudabile nomen Domini.

Excelsus super omnes gentes Dominus,

et super coelos gloria eius.

Quis sicut Dominus Deus noster, qui in altis habitat,

et humilia respicit in coelo et in terra:

Suscitans a terra inopem

et de stercore erigens pauperem,

Ut collocet eum cum principibus,

cum principibus populi sui?

Qui habitare facit sterilem in domo,

matrem filiorum laetantem?

*Praise the Lord. O children:*

*praise the name of the Lord.*

*May the name of the Lord be blessed.*

*from this time forth and for evermore.*

*From sunrise until sunset.*

*worthy of praise is the name of the Lord.*

*High above all nations is the Lord.*

*and his glory above the heavens.*

*Who is like unto the Lord our God. who dwells on high*

*and beholds the humble in heaven and earth:*

*raising the helpless from the earth*

*and lifting from the dung heap the poor man.*

*to place him alongside princes.*

*with the princes of his people?*

*Who makes the barren women to keep house.*

*a joyful mother of children?*

Gloria patri …

*Glory be to the Father ...*

**Pulchra es**, amica mea,

suavis et decora filia Jerusalem.

Pulchra es. amica mea. suavis et decora sicut Jerusalem:

terribilis ut castrorum acies ordinata.

Averte oculos tuos a me. quia ipsa me avolare fecerunt.

*You are beautiful. my love,*

*a sweet and comely daughter of Jerusalem.*

*You are beautiful, my love, sweet and comely as Jerusalem:*

*terrible as the sharp lines of an army's camp.*

*Turn your eyes from me, for they have made me flee.*

**Antiphon IIIl**

Rubum quern viderat Moyses incombustum,

conservatam agnovimus fuam laudabilem virginitatem:

dei genitrix, intercede pro nobis.

*In the bush that Moses saw burning, yet unconsumed,*

*we recognize your virginity, gloriously preserved:*

*O Mother of God, intercede for us.*

**Laetatus sum** in his quae dicta sunt mihi:

in domum Domini ibimus. Stantes erant pedes nostri

in atriis tuis Jerusalem:

Jerusalem, quae aedificatur ut civitas

cuius participatio eius in idipsum.

Illuc enim ascenderunt tribus, tribus Domini,

testimonium Israel.

ad confitendum nomini Domini.

Quia illic sederunt sedes in judicio,

sedes super domum David.

Rogate quae ad pacem sunt Jerusalem

et abundantia diligentibus te.

Fiat pax in virtute tua

et abundantia in turribus tuis.

Propter fratres meos et proximos meos

loquebar pacem de te.

Propter domum Domini Dei nostri

quaesivi bona tibi.

*I was glad when they said unto me:*

*we shall go into the house of the Lord.*

*Our feet were standing*

*within your gates, O Jerusalem:*

*Jerusalem, which is built as a city*

*that is compact together.*

*For thither ascend the tribes, the tribes of the Lord,*

*to testify unto Israel,*

*to give thanks to the name of the Lord.*

*For there are set the seats of judgment,*

*the thrones over the house of David.*

*O pray for the peace of Jerusalem,*

*and abundance to those who love you.*

*Peace be within your strength,*

*and abundance within your towers.*

*For the sake of my brothers and my neighbors*

*I will ask peace ofymi*

*For the sake of the house-of the Lord our God*

*I have sought good things for you.*

**Duo seraphim** clamabant alter ad alterum:

Sanctus, sanctus. sanctus Dominus Deus Sabaoth:

plena est omnis terra gloria eius.

*Two seraphim were calling one to the other:*

*Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Hosts:*

*the whole earth is full of his glory.*

Tres sunt qui testimonium dant in coelo:

pater, verbum, et spiritus sanctus:

et hi tres unum sunt/

*There are three who give testimony in heaven:*

*the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit:*

*and these three are one.*

Sanctus, sanctus. sanctus Dominus Deus Sabaoth:

plena est omnis terra gloria eius.

*Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Hosts:*

*the whole earth is full of his glory.*

**Antiphon IV**

Germinavit radix Jesse. orta est stella ex Jacob, virgo

peperit salvatorem: te Laudamus, Deus nester.

*The root of Jesse has blossomed, the star of Jacob has risen:*

*a virgin has brought forth the savior: we praise you, our God*.

**Nisi dominus** aedificaverit domum.

in vanum laboraverunt qui aedificant earn.

Nisi dominus custodierit civitatem,

frustra vigilat qui custodit earn.

Vanum est vobis ante lucem surgere: surgite

postquam sederitis. qui manducatis panem doloris:

cum dederit dilectis suis somnum.

Ecce hereditas domini. filii:

merces, fructus ventri.

Sicut sagittae in manu potentis:

ita filii excussorum.

Beatus vir qui implevit desiderium suum ex ipsis:

non confundetur cum loquetur

inimicis suis in porta.

*Except the Lord build the house,*

*they labor in vain that build it.*

*Except the Lord keep the city,*

*the watchman wakes but in vain.*

*It is vain for you to rise before dawn: rise*

*after you have sat down, you who eat the bread of sorrow:*

*for he has given his beloved sleep.*

*Behold, children are an inheritance of the Lord:*

*and the fruit of the womb, a reward.*

*As arrows in the hand of the mighty,*

*so are children of the vigorous.*

*Blessed is the man who has fulfilled his longing by them:*

*he shall not be confounded when he speaks*

*to his enemies at the gate.*

Gloria patri.

*Glory be to the Father ….*

**Audi coelum** verba mea,

plena desiderio

et perfusa gaudio

.

*Hear, O heaven, my words,*

*full of desire*

*and suffused with joy.*

Die, quaeso, mihi: quae est ista

quae consurgens ut aurora

rutilat. ut benedicam?

*Tell me, I pray: who is she*

*who, rising like the dawn,*

*shines, that I may bless her?*

Die, nam ista pulchra ut luna.

electa ut sol replet laetitia

terras, coelos, maria

*Tell. for she is beautiful as the moon,*

*exquisite as the sun which fills with joy*

*the earth, the heavens, and the seas.*

Maria virgo illa dulcis,

praedicata de prophetis Ezechielis

porta orientalis,

*Mary, that sweet virgin,*

*foretold by the prophet Ezechiel,*

*gate of the rising sun,*

Illa sacra et felix porta,

per quam mors fuit expulsa,

introducta autem vita,

*that holy and happy gate*

*through which death was expelled,*

*but life brought in,*

quae semper tutum est medium

inter homines et Deum.

pro culpis remedium.

*who always is a sure mediator*

*between man and God,*

*a remedy for our sins.*

Omnes hanc ergo sequamur,

quae cum gratia mereamur

vitam aeternam. Consequamur.

*All. let us all then follow her*

*by whose grace we obtain*

*eternal life. Let us seek her.*

Praestet nobis Deus Pater

hoc et Filius et Mater,

cuius nomen invocamus,

dulce miseris solamen.

*May God the Father grant us this,*

*and the Son and the Mother,*

*whose name we invoke,*

*sweet solace for the unhappy.*

Benedicta es, Virgo Maria,

in seculorum secula.

*Blessed are you, Virgin Mary,*

*world without end.*

**Antiphon V**

Ecce Maria genuit nobis salvatorem, quern Joannes

videns exclamavit dicens: ecce agnus Dei, ecce qui tollit

peccata mundi. alleluia.

*Behold, Mary has given birth to our savior. When John saw*

*him, he exclaimed: Behold the Lamb of God, behold him*

*who takes away the sins of the world, alleluia.*

**Lauda, Jerusalem**, Dominum:

lauda deum tuum. Sion.

Quoniam confortavit seras portarum tuarum:

benedixit filiis tuis in te.

Qui posuit fines tuos pacem,

et adipe frumenti satiat te.

Qui emittit eloquium suum terrae:

velociter currit sermo eius. Qui dat nivem sicut lanam:

nebulam sicut cinerem spargit.

Mittit cristallum suum sicut bucellas:

ante faciem frigoris eius quis sustinebit?

Emittet verbum suum, et liquefaciet ea:

flabit spiritus eius, et fluent aquae.

Qui annuntiat verbum suum Jacob:

justitias etjudicia sua Israel. Non fecit taliter omni nationi:

etjudicia sua non manifestavit eis.

*Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem,*

*praise your God, O Sion.*

*For he has strengthened the bars of your gates:*

*he has blessed your children within you.*

*He makes peace within your borders,*

*and fills you with the finest of the wheat.*

*He sends forth his commandment upon the earth:*

*very swiftly runs his word.*

*He gives snow Like wool:*

*he scatters cloud Like ashes.*

*He casts forth his ice like morsels:*

*in the face of his cold, who shall stand?*

*He will send out his word and melt them:*

*his wind will blow and the waters will flow.*

*He reveals his word to Jacob,*

*his statutes and judgements unto Israel.*

*He has not dealt so with any other nation,*

*and he has not shown his judgements to them.*

Gloria Patri ...

*Glory be to the Father ...*

***Sancta Maria, ora pro nobis.***

*Holy Mary, pray for us.*

**Ave maris stella**, Dei mater alma.

Atque semper virgo, felix coeli porta.

*Hail. star of the sea, nurturing mother of God*

*and perpetual virgin, happy gate of heaven.*

Sumens illud ave, Gabrielis ore,

Funda nos in pace, mutans Evae nomen.

*Receiving that "ave" from the mouth of Gabriel.*

*give us peace in abundance, reversing the name "Eva."*

Solva vincla reis, profer Lumen caecis,

Mala nostra pelle. bona cunctis posce.

*Loose the chains of the guilty, bring light to the blind,*

*drive out our evils, seek blessings for all.*

Monstra te esse matrem: sumat per te preces,

Qui pro nobis natus, tulit esse tuus.

*Show yourself to be a mother: May he receive through you*

*our prayers who, born for us, deigned to be yours.*

Virgo singularis, inter omnes mitis,

Nos culpis solutes mites fac et castes.

*Peerless virgin, gentle above all others,*

*when we are freed from sins, make us gentle and chaste.*

Vitam praesta puram. iter para tutum,

Ut videntes Jesum semper collaetemur.

*Grant us a pure life, prepare us a secure way,*

*that, seeing Jesus, we may rejoice forever.*

Sit Laus Deo Patri, summo Christo decus,

Spiritui Sancto, trinus honor unus. Amen.

*Praise be to God the Father, honor to Christ the most high,*

*and to the Holy Spirit, triple honor in one. Amen.*

**Antiphon to the Magnificat**

Senex puerum portabat. puer autem senem regebat:

quern virgo peperit. et post partum virgo permansit.

ipsum quern genuit. adoravit.

*The elder carried the boy, but the boy ruled the elder:*

*whom the virgin bore, and after birth she remained a virgin,*

*and him to whom she gave birth, she adored.*

**Magnificat**anima mea dominum.

et exaltavit spiritus meus in deo salutari meo.

*My soul magnifies the Lord,*

*and my spirit has rejoiced in God my savior.*

Quia respexit humilitatem ancillae suae, ecce enim

ex hoc beatam me dicent omnes generationes.

*For he has regarded the lowliness of his handmaiden:*

*behold, henceforth all generations shall call me blessed.*

Ouia fecit mihi magna qui potens est.

et sanctum nomen eius.

*For he that is mighty has made me great,*

*and holy is his name.*

Et misericordia eius a progenie in progenies

timentibus eum.

*And his mercy is on them that fear him, from generation*

*to generation.*

Fecit potentiam in bracchio suo: dispersit

superbos mente cordis sui.

*He has shown strength with his arm: he has scattered*

*the proud in the imagination of their hearts.*

Deposuit potentes de sede

et exaltavit humiles.

*He has put down the mighty from their seat*

*and exalted the humble.*

Esurientes implevit bonis,

et divites dimisit inanes.

*The hungry he has filled with good things,*

*and the rich he has sent empty away,*

Suscepit Israel puerum suum.

recordatus misericordiae suae.

*He has helped his servant Israel.*

*in remembrance of his mercy.*

Sicut locutus est ad patres nostros,

Abraham et semini eius in secula.

*As it was promised to our forefathers,*

*to Abraham and his seed forever.*

Gloria patri et filio et spiritui sancto.

*Glory be to the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.*

Sicut erat in principio, et nunc. et semper,

et in secula seculorum. Amen.

*As it was in the beginning, is now, and forever shall be,*

*world without end. Amen.*