

HYMN

Caeli Deus Sanctissime

Literal English Translation: Fr. Joseph Connelly's *Hymns of the Roman Liturgy* (1954 Imprimatur from the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Birmingham) p. 80. The descant is based on a version by Christopher Robinson (*Novello Book of Descants*, 2007) and can only be utilized by those who own that fine collection. The hymn tune ("Gonfalon Royal") was composed by Sir Percy Carter Buck (d. 1947) and first published in *Fourteen Hymn Tunes* (1913). Melody source: *Catholic Hymn Book* (London Oratory, 1998) p. 140. The tune was originally paired with *Vexilla Regis* ("Flag of the King"). A *Gonfalon* ("flag") was traditionally carried during Catholic processions.

1. Most holy God of the firmament,
You adorn with resplendent radiance
the lightsome regions of the universe
and enhance them with beauty and
light.

Priest
Intones



Cae - li De - us san - ctis - si - me,

2

Men

Qui lú - ci - das mun - di pla - gas Can - dó - re pin - gis

9

Men

í - gne - o, Au - gens de - có - ro lú - mi - ne:

2. When You kindled the sun's fiery
disk, You also gave the moon her
orbit and the stars a speedy course...

14

Ladies

2. Quar - to di - e qui flám-me - am Dum so - lis ac - cén - dis ro - tam,

20

Ladies

Lu - nae mi - ní - stras ór - di-nem, Va - gós - que cur - sus sí - de - rum:

3. ...thus marking a line of separation for night
and day and affording an easily recognizable
sign for the beginnings of the month.

27

Ladies

3. Ut nó - cti - bus vel lú - mi - ni Di-rem-pti - ó - nis tér - mi - num,

Men

3. Ut nó - cti - bus vel lú - mi - ni Di-rem - pti - ó - nis tér - mi-num,

33

Ladies

Pri - mór - di - is et mén - si - um Si - gnum da - res no - tís - si - mum;

Men

Pri - mór - di - is et mén - si - um Si - gnum da - res no - tís - si - mum;

4. Drive out the darkness from our hearts, wash away
defilement from our souls, loosen the chain of our guilt
and remove completely the heavy burden of our sins.

40

Ladies

4. Ex - pél - le no - ctem cór - di - um, Ab - stér - ge sor - des mén - ti - um,

Men

4. Ex - pél - le no - ctem cór - di - um, Ab - stér - ge sor - des mén - ti - um,

46

Ladies

Re - sól - ve cul - pae vín - cu - lum, E - vér - te mo - les crí - mi - num.

Men

Re - sól - ve cul - pae vín - cu - lum, E - vér - te mo - les crí - mi num.

Organist will improvise before the final verse:

53

Soprano (descant)

5. Prae - sta, Pa - ter pi -

Alto

5. Prae - sta, Pa - ter pi -

Men

5. Prae - sta, Pa - ter pi -

5. Grant this most loving Father and You, the only Son, equal to the Father and, with the Spirit, the Paraclete, reigning through the ages.

55

Soprano (descant)

is - si-me, Pa - trí - que com - par Ú - ni - ce, Cum

Alto

-is - si - me, Pa - trí - que com-par Ú - ni - ce, Cum

Men

-is - si - me, Pa - trí - que com-par Ú - ni - ce, Cum

59

Soprano (descant)

Spí - ri - tu Pa - rá - cli - to, Re - gnans per o - mne

Alto

Spí - ri - tu Pa - rá - cli - to, Re - gnans per o - mne

Men

Spí - ri - tu Pa - rá - cli - to, Re - gnans per o - mne

63

Soprano (descant)

saé - cu - lum. A - - - men.

Alto

saé - cu - lum. A - - - men.

Men

saé - cu - lum. A - - - men.