SEQUENCE. Thomas of Celano, Disciple of St. Francis of Assisi. XIII. cent.

Possible Starting Pitch = G

Literal English Translation by Fr. Joseph Connelly (1954)

1. Dies ïrae, dies ëlla,
Sólvet saéclum in favilla:
Tésté Dávid cum Sí-bylla.

1. A day of wrath that
day will be. It will
dissolve the world into
glowing ashes, as David
and the Sibyl have
testified.

2. Quantus tremor est fúturus,
Quando ju-dex
est ventúrus,
Cúncta strícte di-scussúrus!

2. How great a dread
there will be when the
Judge comes to examine
all things in strict
justice.

3. Tuba mi-rum spárgens sónum
Per sepúlcræ re-gi-ónum,
Coget o-mnes ante thronum.

3. The trumpet’s
wondrous call will sound
in toms the world over
and urge everybody
forward to the throne.

4. Mors stupébit, et natúra,
Cum resúrget creatúra,
Judi-cánti responsúra.

4. Death and nature
will stand amazed when
creation rises again to
give answer to its Judge.
5. Liber scriptus pro-feretur, In quo totum conti-netur, Unde mundus judi-cetur.

6. Judex ergo cum sedebit, Quidquid latet apparebit: Nil inультum remanebit.

7. Quid sum mi-ser tunc di-ceturus? Quem patrōnum rogaturus, Cum vix justus sit secūrus?

8. Rex tremēndae majestātis, Qui salvándos salvará gratís, Sálva me, fons pi-etàtis.

9. Recordāre, Jēsu pi-e, Quod sum causa tuae vi-ae: Ne me perídas illa di-e.

5. Then will be brought out the book in which is written the complete record that will decide each man's fate.

6. And when the Judge is seated, all secret sin will be made known, and no sin will go without its due punishment.

7. In such a plight what can I then plead? Or whom can I ask to plead for me, when the just man will be saved only with difficulty?

8. King of dread majesty, You give salvation's grace to all that will be saved. Save me, fount of pity.

9. In Your pity, Jesus, call to mind that I am the reason why You became man. Do not cast me from You on that day.
10. Quaerens me, sedisti lassus: Redemisti Crucem passus: Tantus labor non sit cassus.


12. Inge-misco, tamquam re-us: Culpa rubét vultus me-us: Suppli-cánti parce De-us.


10. It was me You were seeking out when, exhausted, You sat by the well; me that You redeemed when You suffered on the cross. Do not allow such toil to have been in vain.

11. Just and avenging Judge, grant me the grace of pardon before that day of reckoning comes.

12. I groan like one condemned and am red with shame for my sins; spare Your suppliant servant.

13. You forgave Mary and granted the robber’s prayer, and thus gave me hope as well.

14. Though my prayers do not deserve to be heard, yet in Your goodness graciously bring it about that I do not burn in the unquenchable fire.
15. Inter oves locum praestant, Et ab haedis me sequestra, Statuens in parte dextra.


17. Oro supplicet acclinis, Cor contritum quasi cinis: Geret curam mei finis.