This score, #34943, is part of the “Brébeuf Extension Series,” a private initiative that aims to adorn and augment the Saint Jean de Brébeuf Hymnal project. All these scores are being added to the magnificent Brébeuf Portal: https://www.ccwatershed.org/brebeuf/list/

**BECEDARIUS**

*Paired with “Whitehead,” a melody found in the Brébeuf Hymnal.*

This Alphabetical Hymn—from the fifth century—is by Cælius Sedulius (a Catholic poet).

Literal translation courtesy of Sophia Institute Press. Alphabetical metrical translation (“Afar from where the sun doth rise”) by Monsignor Ronald Knox.

**A**

SOLIS ortus cárdine
Ad usque terræ limitem,
Christum canámus Principem,
Natum Maria Virgine.

*From the hinge of the sun’s rising to the boundary of the land, let us sing Christ our Sovereign, born of the Virgin Mary.*

**B**

EÁTUS Auctor sǽculi
Servile corpus induit:
Ut carne carmem liberans,
Ne pérderet quos cóndidit.

*The blessed Founder of the world puts on the body of a slave: that freeing their flesh with his flesh, he might not lose those whom he fashioned.*

**C**

ASTÆ Paréntis viscera
Cæléstis intrat grátia:
Venter puélæ bájulat
Secrétæ, quæ non nóverat.

*Heavenly grace enters the body of the chaste Bearer: the womb of the Maiden bears secrets that she has not learned.*
DOMUS pudici pécitoris
Templum repén-te fit Dei:
Intácta nés-ciens virum,
Concépit alvo Fílium.

The house of a modest heart
suddenly becomes the temple
of God: | one uncompromised,
who knows not man, | conceives
the Son in her womb.

NÍTITUR puépera
Quem Gábríel préxi-xerat,
Quem ventre matris géstiens
Baptista clausum sén-serat.

The expectant Mother brings
forth him whom Gabriel foretold,
whom the Baptist perceived exulting,
enclosed in his mother’s womb.

ENO jacére pértilit,
Præsépe non abhórruit:
Parvoque lacte pastus est
Per quem nec ales ésurit.

He submitted to lying in hay,
did not recoil from the manger:
and he by whom no bird goes hungry
was fed with a little milk.

AUDET chorus caél-stium,
Et án-geli ca-nunt Deo;
Palámque fit pastóribus
Pastor, Créátor ómnium.

The choir of heavenly ones rejoices,
and Angels sing to God; | and
clearly known to shepherds becomes
the Shepherd and Creator of all.

It continues with the letter “H.”
Cf. the Brébeuf Hymnal for the
remaining letters.*