

A

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/brébeuf/list/>

ABECEDARIUS

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

This Alphabetical Hymn— from the fifth century — is by Caelius 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.

ASOLIS ortus cárdine
Ad usque terræ límitem,
Christum canámus Príncipem,
Natum María Vírgine.

*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.*

A so - lis or - tus cár - di - ne Ad us - que ter - ræ lí - mi - tem,
A - far from where the sun doth rise To lands be - neath the west - ern skies,

Chri - stum ca - ná - mus Prin - ci - pem, Na - tum Ma - rí - a Vír - gi - ne.
Hom - age to Christ our King we pay, Born of a Vir - gin's womb this day.

BEÁTUS Auctor sáculi
Servíle corpus índuit:
Ut carne carnem líberans,
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.*

Be - á - tus Au - ctor sá - cu - li Ser - ví - le cor - pus ín - du - it:
less - èd Cre - a - tor, thou didst take A ser - vant's like - ness for our sake,

Ut car - ne car - nem lí - be - rans, Ne pér - de - ret quos cón - di - dit.
And didst in flesh our flesh re - store To bid thy crea - ture live once more.

ASTÆ Paréntis víscera
Caeléstis intrat grátia:
Venter puéllæ bájulāt
Secréta, quæ non nóverat.

*Heavenly grace enters
the body of the chaste Bearer:
the womb of the Maiden bears
secrets that she has not learned.*

Ca - stæ Pa - rén - tis ví - sce - ra Cæ - lé - stis in - trat grá - ti - a:
haste was the womb where thou didst dwell, Of heav'n - ly grace the hid - den cell;

Ven - ter pu - él - læ bá - ju - lat Se - cré - ta, quæ non nó - ve - rat.
Nor might the bless - èd Maid pro - claim Whence her dread Guest in se - cret came.

DOMUS pudíci pécóris
Templum repén-te fit Dei:
Intácta nésciens 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.*

Do - mus pu - dí - ci pé - cto - ris Tem - plum re - pén - te fit De - i:
Down from on high God came to rest His glo - ry in a sin - less breast;

In - tá - cta né - sci - ens vi - rum, Con - cé - pit al - vo Fí - li - um.
O - be - dience at his word be - lieved, And vir - gin in - no - cence con - ceived.

ENÍTITUR puérpera
Quem Gábriel prædíxerat,
Quem ventre matris géstiens
Baptísta clausum sénserat.

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

En - í - ti - tur pu - ér - pe - ra Quem Gá - bri - el præ - dí - xe - rat,
re long, that ho - ly Child she bore By Ga - briel's mes - sage named be - fore,

Quem ven - tre ma - tris gé - sti - ens Ba - ptí - sta clau - sum sén - se - rat.
Whom, yet un - born, with ea - ger pride, The swift fore - run - ner proph - e - sied.

FENO jacére pértulit,
Præsépe non abhórruit:
Parvóque 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.*

Fe - no ja - cé - re pér - tu - lit, Præ - sé - pe non ab - hór - ru - it:
ast doth he sleep, where straw doth spread A hum - ble man - ger for his bed;

Par - vó - que la - cte pa - stus est Per quem nec a - les é - su - rit.
A Moth - er's milk that strength re - newed Which gives the birds of heav'n their food.

GAUDET chorus cæléstium,
Et ángeli canunt Deo;
Palámque fit pastóribus
Pastor, Créator ómnium.

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

Gau - det cho - rus cæ - lé - sti - um, Et án - ge - li ca - nunt De - o;
lo - ry to God, the an - gels cry; Earth hears the ech - o from on high;

Pa - lám - que fit pa - stó - ri - bus Pa - stor, Cre - á - tor ó - mni - um.
Man - kind's true Shep - herd and its Lord By shep - herd hearts is first a - dored.

It continues with the letter "H."
Cf. the Brébeuf Hymnal for the
remaining letters. ❖