

New Westminster Hymnal (1939)

Perhaps the greatest Catholic hymnal of the 20th century

PASSIONTIDE

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Welsh variant of an old French Noël.
'O vous dont les tendres aus.'
(R.R.T.)

ARFON.

77.77.D.

(54)

PASSIONTIDE

MAN of sorrows, wrapt in grief,
Bow thine ear to our relief ;
Thou for us the path hast trod
Of the dreadful wrath of God ;
Thou the cup of fire hast drained
Till its light alone remained.
Lamb of love ! we look to thee :
Hear our mournful litany.

2 By the garden, fraught with woe,
Whither thou full oft wouldst go ;
By thine agony of prayer
In the desolation there ;
By the dire and deep distress
Of that mystery fathomless—
Lord, our tears in mercy see :
Hearken to our litany.

3 By the chalice brimming o'er
With disgrace and torment sore ;
By those lips which fain would pray
That it might but pass away ;
By the heart which drank it dry,
Lest a rebel race should die—
Be thy pity, Lord, our plea :
Hear our solemn litany.

4 **M**an of sorrows ! let thy grief
Purchase for us our relief :
Lord of mercy ! bow thine ear,
Slow to anger, swift to hear :
By the Cross's royal road
Lead us to the throne of God,
There for aye to sing to thee
Heaven's triumphant litany.

[M. BRIDGES, 1800-04]

(55)