

THE DOMINICAN LITURGICAL CENTER OF KRAKÓW

Eleven Choral Pieces

from the

Convocation of Catholic Leaders

for SATB ensembles

music of
Paweł Bębenek
Jacek Galuszka, O.P.
Michał Kłos
Urszula Rogala
Stefan Stuligrosz
Jacek Sykulski

In Poland there has been something of a hidden revolution in liturgical music, beginning in the 1990's with the formation of the Dominican Liturgical Center in Kraków and its commissioning of well over one thousand pieces of liturgical music by Dominican friars and the young composers in their orbit. The point was not to create something "new" or "exciting," but rather to tap into the sound of the eternally prayerful: the simplicity of the human voice, singing in four parts, influenced by the Byzantine and Orthodox musical traditions very much alive in Poland's neighbors. The addition of orchestral instruments serves to bring a variety of colors to the enterprise, but is meant only to reinforce the impact of the text and deepen the prayers of the worshiper.

Polish Dominicans have been applying their particular liturgical approach and sound in the United States for a decade and a-half, and have served all over, including

- Church of Notre Dame New York City
- Columbia University Catholic Ministry New York City
- Providence Academy Minneapolis, MN
- St. Thomas Aquinas University Parish Charlottesville, VA
- ❖ Holy Name Cathedral Anchorage, AK
- ❖ St. Thomas More Newman Center Tucson, AZ
- ❖ Blessed Sacrament Parish Seattle, WA
- Univ. of Washington Newman Center Seattle, WA
- ❖ St. Catherine of Siena Newman Center Salt Lake City, UT

They've worked with students and parishioners of all ages, constantly expanding and refining the corpus of their music translated into English, and the music at the Convocation of Catholic Leaders is the natural fruit of those years of prayer, joyful witness to the Christian life, and musical adaptation.



Dominicans especially cherish Gregorian chant, and yet they believe that the beauty of sacred music does not belong to one particular genre. It flows from a basic requirement found in different musical styles, which might be summed up as, it's all about God, and He's a Mystery. Inexpressible and ineffable, the Mystery of God is always ahead of us, approached but never comprehended, and therefore our liturgical music—filled with awe and love for Him—should reflect that fundamental humility. Most of this music is antiphonal, where a short refrain is repeated several times, interspersed with Scriptural verses, reflecting the very structure of the Mass propers themselves (the antiphons at Entrance, Offertory, and Communion).

1 2 3 4 6
7
8
9 10 12 13
14
16 17

The unfamiliarity of this beautiful choral music gives us a chance to experience God anew at each liturgy. We can't apply our usual "traditional music = conservative" or "contemporary music = liberal" thinking. We must become open to the vastness of God, and beauty offers us a powerful means of doing that: true beauty calls us out of ourselves, orients us to something greater, and stirs up a longing for the transcendent. Sacred music, the expression of the deepest human yearning for the most profound Mystery of Love, creates in us a special dimension whereby we can be permeated and transformed by the Eternal beauty of God himself.

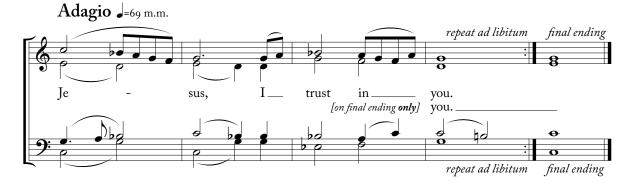
With voices raised and hearts opened, let us pray.



Jesus, I Trust in You

text from St. Faustina's image of the Divine Mercy

music: Paweł Bębenek English adaptation: Christopher Mueller



This piece is conceived as a slow and simple four-measure ostinato refrain that repeats and builds. The orchestral accompaniment greatly enhances the effect, but even in an *a cappella* performance, a beautiful pyramid of sound can be erected.

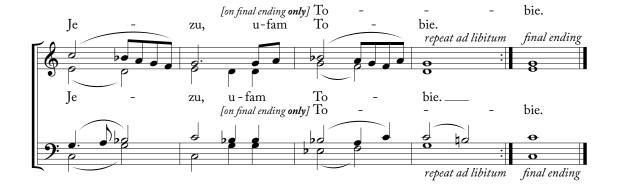
One way to achieve that effect is to begin with the tenor voice alone, singing it through twice. Then add the alto voice, for another two repetitions. On the fifth pass, add the bass voice, singing twice more. Then on the seventh pass, add the soprano melody, and repeat the antiphon many more times. (This is the order that the voices are added in the orchestral score.)

As an alternate suggestion, begin with the soprano melody, and after two passes, add the alto line; after two more passes, the tenor, and then after two more, the bass, such that the pyramid is grown in inverse order.

Once all the voice parts have entered, the piece may be sung with increasing dynamics over time, or contrasting dynamics on various repeats. Perhaps on the ninth or tenth pass, individual voices might start improvising their own counterpoint. Or various voice parts might *not* sing for a few passes, and then re-enter later.

There is a lot that can be done, coloristically and texturally, with this beautiful and simple antiphon. The *final ending*, as its name suggests, should only be sung to end a performance.

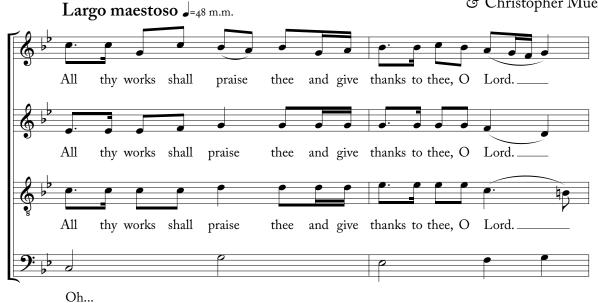
The piece is equally effective in its original Polish, pronounced Yeh-zoo ooh-fahm Toh-byeh.

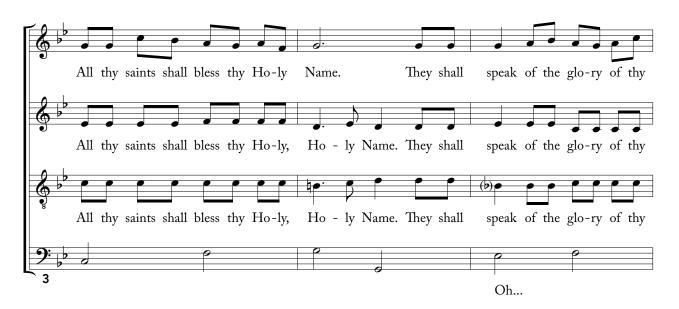


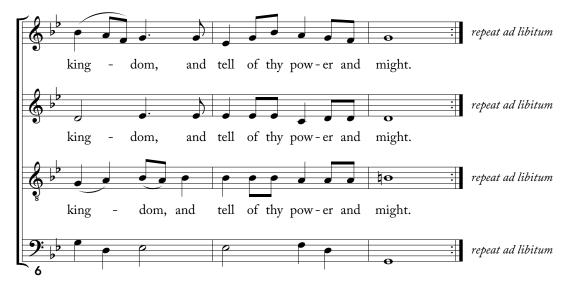
Psalm 145

Introit from the Missa de Sanctis

music: Paweł Bębenek English adaptation: Łukasz Miśko, O.P. & Christopher Mueller







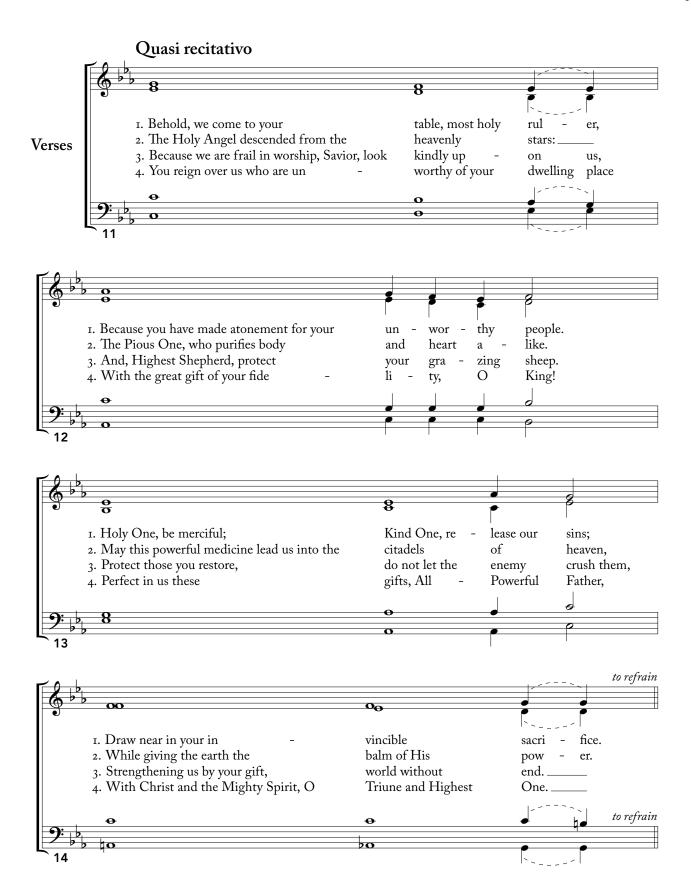
Thanks Be to You, O Lord

music: Paweł Bębenek

text: ON RECEIVING THE EUCHARIST Radpert of St. Gall (late 9th-cent.)

translation: Boniface Endorf, O.P. & Łukasz Miśko, O.P.

Largo affettuoso J=48 m.m. Refrain O__ Lord, for your bod - y Thanks be to you, and your blood, for these 2. 1. fine er - a - bun - dant gifts praise__ we you. praise_ you. to verses



Welcome, Bread of Life

music: Paweł Bębenek

text: anonymous, 14th-century translation: Łukasz Miśko, O.P. & Christopher Mueller

Ma

For

In

Those

Larghetto J=60 m.m. 1. Wel - come, Bread of Life, where God, be - yond 2. Wel - come, flow - ing heav'n's foun tain, a - bun dance, 3. Wel - come, gold - en from the de - scend heav'ns man na, 4. Wel - come, E den's fect Gar pre - cious fruit from per den; 5. Wel - come, lone hap ness, when God my heart fills; ker of the heav'ns and earth, is found: our trea sure! God that held with in we know is your sub stance; de light ful our hearts taste and un end ing; who taste the Tree of Life, when grant ed par don, Wel - come, blest lief, all who face world's ills; re to this Ful - ly Wel-come, won-drous Drink, which to de - sir - ous minds is sa - tis - fy ing. tell all man - kind His Gra - ces show of e - ter - nal pow'r; His you Light - ness, Noth - ing in the world sur it infla - vor, pass - es or sa vor. fruit God's Yea! who that shall of death no long - er; love fear is strong You with am seek - ing sweet-est tears and sigh - ing; For ___ you I'm cry



Gloria tibi Domine

Glory to you, O Lord, and to your holy name. Glory to the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Michał Kłos



Missa Spei: Kyrie

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

cf. Psalm 6:3; 41:5, 11 Urszula Rogala



Missa Spei: Gloria

text: 2nd-century hymn

based on the Kyrie from Missa Spei by Urszula Rogala and an Alleluia by Jacek Sykulski arranged by Christopher Mueller





Missa Spei: Sanctus

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest!

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!

cf. Isaiah 6:3, Revelation 4:8, Matthew 21:9; cf. Psalm 118:26 Urszula Rogala



Missa Spei: Agnus Dei

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.

cf. John 1:29; cf. the GLORIA text

Urszula Rogala



Soul of Christ, Sanctify Me

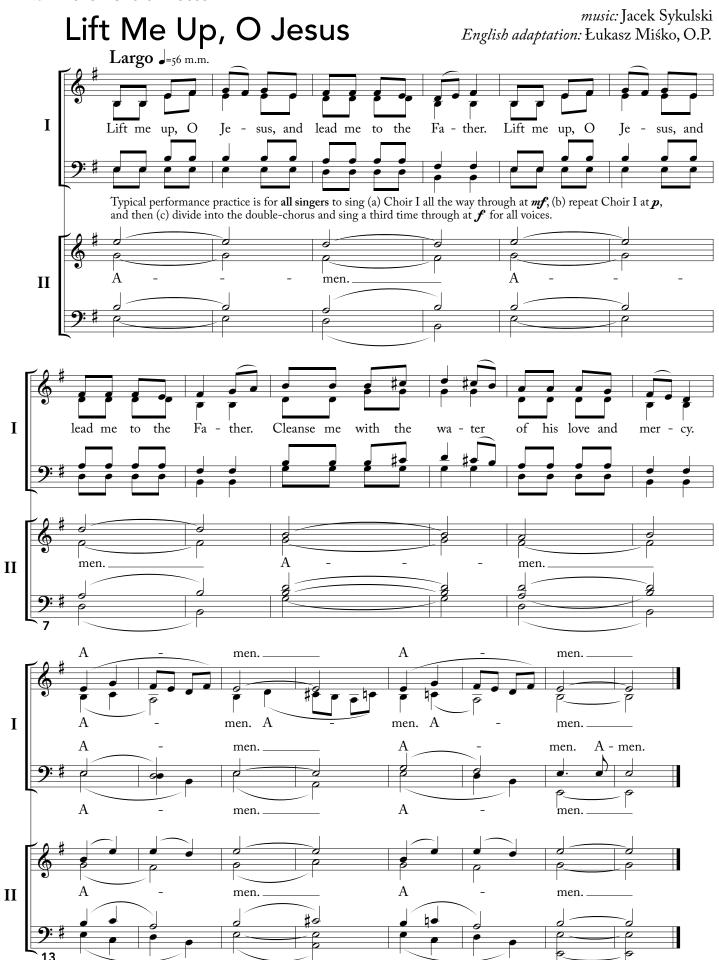
text: anonymous, 14th-century

tune: Stefan Stuligrosz

arrangement & adaptation: Cezary Paciorek,
Łukasz Miśko, O.P., Christopher Mueller

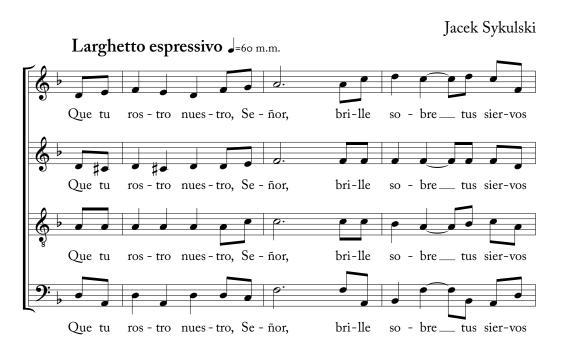


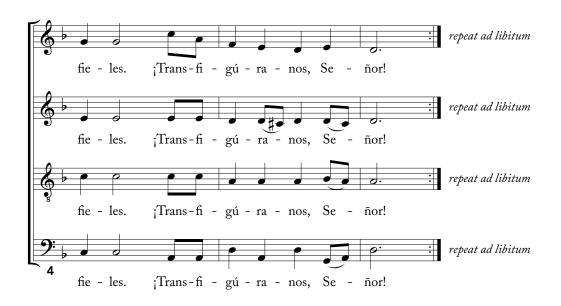




Que tu rostro

May your face, O Lord, shine upon your faithful servants. Transfigure us, O Lord!



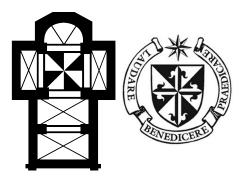


Many of the pieces in this folio were composed with an instrumental accompaniment:

Godhead Here in Hiding & Zbliżam się w pokorze Jesus, I Trust in You & Jezu ufam Tobie Psalm 145 Thanks Be to You, O Lord & Dzięki Ci, Panie Welcome, Bread of Life & Witaj Pokarmie These Newborn Lambs & Oto są baranki młode Missa Spei

To purchase instrumental parts, or to make other inquiries about the music and work of the Dominican Liturgical Center, please visit us online:

http://www.dlc.foundation/



For more information about the role of polyphony and chant in the Mass, or to learn about other new choral works for the liturgy, please visit the websites of our collaborators:



http://www.polyphonyandchant.org/

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the sacred choral works of CHRIS MUELLER

http://www.benesonarium.com/