

A Medieval Christmas: Hodie Christus Natus Est
TEXTS and TRANSLATIONS

Uterus hodie virginis floruit

Nec matrem dum gignit libido torruit
Que virgo permanens virum aborruit
O partus mirabilis

De radice lesse virga progreditur
Et de virgule flos Christus exoritur
Cuius in Libano cedrus extollitur
O partus mirabilis

Hic flos davitico signatus calamo
Et sponsus regio procedens talamo
Celesti seculum perunxit balsamo
O partus mirabilis

Hic flos est in Syon rosa nec aruit
Et in Ierusalem lilium conduit
Utrisque genera cruce composuit
O partus mirabilis

Adest Sponsus qui est Christus
vigilate, virgines!
pro adventu cuius
gaudent et gaudebunt homines.

Venit enim liberare
gentium origins,
quas per primam sibi matrem
subjugarunt demones.

Hic est Adam qui secundus
per prophetam dicitur,
Per quem scelus primi Ade
a nobis diluitur.

Hic pendit ut celesti
patrie nos redderet
ac de parte inimici

Today the womb of the virgin has flourished,
she conceived and became a mother without lust,
she who refrained from knowing man by remaining a virgin.
O wonderful birth.

From the root of Jesse a shoot has sprouted
and from that small shoot is born a flower, Christ,
which prospers like a cedar in Lebanon.
O wonderful birth.

This flower, spoken of in the writings of David,
is as a bridegroom coming out of the royal brainstem,
anointing the world with heavenly balm.
O wonderful birth.

This lily-white flower is the flower of Zion, a rose that does not fade,
which illuminates Jerusalem,
and brings both natures on the Cross.
O wonderful birth.
(Translation: Anne Azéma)

The bridegroom is here. He is Christ.
- Stay awake, you maidens!
Mankind rejoices, and shall rejoice,
at his coming.

He comes to free
the sources of nations,
which the devils had enslaved
by our first mother.

He is the one whom the prophet
calls the second Adam,
by whom the first Adam's crime
is cleansed from us.

He hung on the cross
to return us to our heavenly home,
and to lead us away

liberos nos traheret.

Venit sponsus, qui nostrorum
scelerum piacula
morte lavit atque crucis
sustulit patibula.

Oiet Virgines, aiso que vos dirum:
aiseet presen que vos comandarum –
attendet un espos, Iesu salvaire a nom:

Gaire noi dormet!

Aisel espos que vos hor attendet!

Aisel espos que vos hor attendet
venit en terra per los vostres pechet,
de la virgine en Betleem fo net,
e flum Iorda lavet e bateet.

Gaire noi dormet!

Aisel espos que vos hor attendet!

Eu fu batut, gablet e laideniet,
sus e la crot batut e claufiget,
eu monumen desoentre pauset.

[Gaire noi dormet!]

Aisel espos que vos hor attendet!]

E resors es! la scriptura o dii.
Gabriels soi, eu [m'a] trames aici;
attendet lo, que ia venra praici!

Gaire noi dormet!

Aisel espos que vos hor attendet!

Nos virgines que ad vos venimus
negligenter oleum fudimus:
ad vos orare, sorores, cupimus
ut ad illas quibus nos credimus –
dolentas, chaitivas, trop i aven dormit!

Nos comites huius itineris
et sorores eiusdem generis;
quamvis male contigit miseris
potestis nos reddere superis!
dolentas, chaitivas, trop i aven dormit!

free from the faction of the adversary.

The bridegroom is coming
who by death washed away
the penalty of our sins
and endured the cross.

(Translation by permission, Lawrence Rosenwald)

Listen, maidens, to what we shall tell you:
and do at once what I shall command you!
Wait for the bridegroom, Jesus the Saviour is his name.

Don't fall asleep!

The bridegroom whom you await is here!

He came on earth for your sins,
was born of the Virgin in Bethlehem,
was washed and baptized in the Jordan River.

Don't fall asleep!

The bridegroom whom you await is here!

He was beaten, mocked, abused,
Lifted up on the cross and crucified;
he was placed in the tomb.

Don't fall asleep!

The bridegroom whom you await is here!

And he rose – the scripture tells it!
I am Gabriel: he sent me here.
Wait for him: he shall come soon.

Don't fall asleep!

The bridegroom whom you await is here!

(Translation, by permission, Lawrence Rosenwald)

We maidens who are approaching you
have spilt our oil carelessly:
sisters, we want to appeal to you
as the ones in whom we trust –
we, wretched in our grief, have slept too long!

We are your companions on this journey
and sisters of the same blood;
though things have turned out badly for us, pitiful,
you can restore us to the place on high!
we, wretched in our grief, have slept too long!

Partimini lumen lampadibus,
pie sitis insipientibus,
pulse ne nos simus a foribus
cum vos sponsus vocet in sedibus.
dolentas, chaitivas, trop i aven dormit!
[...]

Amen dico vos ignosco
Nam caretis lumine.
Quo qui pergunt procul pergunt
hujus aule limine.
Alet chaitivas!
Alet malaureas!
A tot jorns mais vos so penas livreas
En en enfer ora seret menais.
Dolentas, chaitivas!
Trop i avetz dormit. [...]

Verbum Patris Humanatur, O, O!
dum puella salutatur, O, O!
salutata fecundatur
viri nescia.
Ey, ey, eya, nova gaudia!

Novus modus geniture, O, O!
sed excedens vim nature, O, O!
dum unitur creature
creans omnia.
Ey, ey, eya, nova gaudia!

Audi partem preter morem, O, O!
virgo parit salvatorem, O, O!
creatura creatorem,
patrem filia.
Ey, ey, eya, nova gaudia!

In parente salvatoris, O, O!
non est parens nostri moris, O, O!
virgo parit, nec pudoris
marcent lilia.
Ey, ey, eya, nova gaudia!

Homo Deus nobis datur, O, O!
datus nobis demonstratur, O, O!
dum pax terris nuntiatur,

Share with us the light from your lamps,
take pity on us – we have been foolish -
lest we be driven from the gates
when the bridegroom calls you to your places.
we, wretched in our grief, have slept too long!
[...]
(Translation: Peter Dronke)

Amen I say, I know you not,
for you have no light:
those who lose it must go far
from the threshold of this court.
Away with you, wretches,
away with you, luckless ones:
for ever more suffering shall be your lot!
Into hell you shall now be led!
Wretches in your grief,
You have slept too long [...]
(Translation: Peter Dronke, Anne Azéma)

The word of the father is made man,
while a maiden is greeted;
the greeted one is fruitful
without knowledge of man.
Behold, new joys!

A new manner of birth,
but exceeding in power of nature,
when the creator of all things
is made creature.
Behold, new joys!

Hear of a birth beyond precedent:
a virgin hath given birth to the savior,
the creature bears the Creator,
the daughter, the Father.
Behold, new joys!

In the savior's birth
there is no parent of our kind:
a maiden gives birth,
nor do the lilies of her chastity wither.
Behold, new joys!

The God-Man is given us,
the given one is shown to us,
while peace is announced to the nations

celis gloria.

Ey, ey, eya, nova gaudia!

Judea et Jerusalem

nolite timere: cras egrediemini,

et Dominus erit vobiscum, alleluia

Gloria Patri et Filio, et Spiritui Sancto.

Sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper,

Et in saecula saeculorum. Amen.

Dominus veniet,

occurite illi, dicentes:

Magnum principium, et regni ejus non erit finis:

Deus, fortis, dominator,

principes pacis, alleluia, alleluia

Lux refulget de supernis edita

Adest dies a prophetis edita

Gaudeat ecclesia

Resonantes inclita preconia

Resonando clara natalicia

Emmanuel! Emmanuel!

Cuius nomen claruit in Israel.

Mainte chanson ai fait de grant ordure

Més, se Dieu plaist, jamés n'en avrai cure.

En moi a petit eu

Bien et sens et mesure

Or me tieng a deceu

Quant si lonc tens me dure.

Bien ai mon cuer esmeu,

Car por chanter l'ai meu

De la roïne pure

Par qui somes esleu

En grant joie et receu

Et fors de grant ardure:

C'est la douce mere Dieu,

Qui de dolor nos cure,

Rendu nos a le bon lieu

Ou joie toz jors dure.

Mout fu Marie et precieuse et bele

Certes, mout fu fine et nete pucele.

L'angre li fu envoiés

Qui li dist la novele

Que Dex seroit alaitiés

and glory to the heavens.

Behold, new joys!

Judea and Jerusalem

be not afraid. Set out tomorrow

and the Lord shall be with you, alleluia.

Glory to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,

World without end. Amen.

The Lord will come,

go to meet him, saying:

His kingdom is great and will never end;

He is God the Mighty One, the ruler,

the prince of Peace, Alleluia, alleluia

The light shines forth from above;

Here is the day that the prophets foretold.

Let the Church rejoice,

Singing forth humble entreaties,

Resounding out the brilliant birth.

Emmanuel, Emmanuel!

Whose name rings forth loudly in Israel.

I have composed many songs beautifully made,

but if it please God, I shall never again care about them.

In me there has been little

good or sense or control.

Now I think I was deceived

that it lasted so long.

My heart is certainly stirred,

for I have begun to sing

about the pure queen

by whom we are chosen

and received in great joy

and kept from burning.

She is the sweet mother of God

who cures our sorrow,

who brought us to the good place

where joy lasts forever.

Mary was very precious and beautiful,

certainly a pure and spotless maiden.

The angel was sent to her

to give her the news

that God would be fed

Dou lait de sa mamele.

Ne fu mie desvoies
L'angre, mes bien avoies,
Qui li dist: "Damoisele,
Ave Marie, or m'oiez:
Dex c'est a vos avoies,
Car mere vos apele."

Marie a ses euz baissies,
Quant entent la novele,
Et puis les a rehaucies,
Saint Gabriel apele:

"Amis, di moi coment enfanteroie
Ne coment fruit en mes flans porteroie,
Quant nul home ne conois
Ne nul n'en prenderoie.
Mout sembleroit grant ennuis
Se sanz home engendroie."

"Douce Marie, entent moi:
Tu porteras Dieu .IX. mois,
Ne pas ne t'en esfroie".
"Amis, quant vos en iroiz,
A Dieu de par moi dirois
Que je sui toute soie;

De moi face li douz rois
Ses voloires, je l'otroie.
S'ancele sui, car c'est drois,
Et si en ai grant joie."

Veine pleine de ducur,
Veir espoir de vie
Chere mere al creatur
De tuz biens garnie.
Duz confort
En doel eplur,
Al besoigne aye,
Veir sucur al peccheur,
Ki laist sa folie.
Ave Maria.

Wus portastes Jhesu Crist,
Virgine entere pure.
Cil ki ciel e terre fist

on the milk from her breast.

The angel was not wrong,
but very right,
who said to her: "Young lady,
hail, Mary, listen to me:
God has come to you,
for he calls you mother."

Mary lowered her eyes
when she heard the news
and then raised them
and asked St. Gabriel:

"Friend, tell me how I shall give birth
or bear fruit in my body,
when I have known no man
and shall never take one.
It would be very distressing
that I could be pregnant without a man."

"Sweet Mary, listen to me:
You will bear God for nine months,
do not be afraid."
"Friend, when you leave,
tell God for me
that I am completely his;

let the sweet king do
his will with me, I grant it.
I am his handmaid, for that is right,
and I have great joy from that.

Source full of sweetness,
True hope of life,
Beloved Mother of the Creator,
Filled with all good.
Gentle consolation
In pain and anguish,
Help for those in need,
True salvation for the sinner,
Who repents of his foolishness.
Hail Mary.

You bore Jesus Christ
Virgin, most pure,
The One Who made heaven and earth

E toute creature
Char e sanc dedenz vus prist
Sanz point de blesure,
K'il pur nous en la croiz mist
Amort aspre e dure.

Ave Maria.

Priez pur nus ton enfant,
Virgne sule mere,
Ki nus soit verray guarant
Vers l'enfernal lere.
Sucurables e aydant
A la mort amere
E nus doinst la joie grant
Du ciel par ta proiere,
Ave Maria.

Edi be thu hevne queen

Folkes froure and engles blis,
Moder unwemmed and maiden clene,
Swich in world non other nis.
On thee hit is wel eth sene,
Of all wimmen thu havest thet pris;
Mi swete levedi, her mi bene
And reu of me yif thi wille is.

Spronge blostme of one rote,
The Holi Gost thee reste upon;
Thet wes for monkunnes bote
And heore soule to alesen for on.
Levedi milde, softe and swote,
Ic crie thee merci, ic am thi mon,
Bothe to honde and to fote,
On alle wise that ic kon.

Thu ert eorthe to gode sede;
On thee lighte the heovene deugh,
Of thee sprong theo edi blede
The Holi Gost hire on thee seugh.
Thu bring us ut of kare of drede
That Eve bitterliche us breugh.
Thu sschalt us into heovene lede;
Welle swete is the ilke deugh.

Moder, ful of thewes hende,
Maide dreigh and wel itaucht,

and all creatures,
[became] Flesh and blood in Your body
Without any injury,
He Who was put on the cross for us
and died brutally and painfully.

Hail Mary.

Pray Your child for us,
Only Virgin Mother,
That He may be for us a true protector
Against the robber from hell.
That He may help and save us
At the bitter death,
And grant us the full joy
Of heavenly bliss, through Your prayer,
Hail Mary.

(Translation: Anne Azéma)

Blessed be thou, queen of heaven,

people's comfort and angels' bliss,
maid unblemished, mother pure,
such as no other is in the world.
In thee it is very evident
that of all women thou hast the highest place.
My sweet lady, hear my prayer
And show pity on me if it is thy will.

Blossom sprung from a single root,
the Holy Ghost rested upon thee;
that was for mankind's salvation,
and to free their souls in exchange for one.
Gentle lady, soft and sweet,
I beg forgiveness, I am thy man,
both hand and foot,
in every way that I can be.

Thou art soil for good seed,
on thee the heavenly dew alighted;
from thee sprang that blessed fruit -
the Holy Ghost sowed it in thee.
Bring us out of the misery and fear
That Eve bitterly brewed for us;
thou shalt lead us into heaven -
very sweet to us is that same dew.

Mother full of gracious virtues,
maiden patient and well-instructed,

Ic em in thine love bende,
And to thee is al mi draucht.
Thu me sschildghe from the feonde,
Ase thu ert freo, and wilt and maucht;
Help me to mi lives ende,
And make me with thin sone isaught.

Dal ciel venne messo novello

ciò fo l'angel Gabriello,
nella cità di Galilea
(là 'v'era la gente iudea;
favellavano in lingua ebraea
in cità et in castello)

ch'è chiamata Naçarèth(e),
là u' la vergene nacque et stette.
Sponsata era a Iosephe
secondo la legge, coll'anello.

*Dal ciel venne messo novello
ciò fo l'angel Gabriello.*

L'angelo fo messo da Dio,
ben començò et ben finio:
saviamente, sença rio,
annuntiò lo suo libello:

“Ave Maria, gratia plena,
Dio ti salvi, stella serena!
Dio è con teco che ti mena
enn-el paradiso bello.

*Dal ciel venne messo novello
ciò fo l'angel Gabriello.*

Del tuo ventre uscirà tal fructo
ke salvirà lo mundo tutto
unde 'l diavolo avirà corocto
sì parrà grande 'l flagello”

“Come fie quel che tu ài decto?
Nol credo a torto né a dritto,
e ben ne posso far disdetto:
non cognosco hom, vecchio né fancello.”

Dal ciel venne messo novello

I am in the bonds of thy love
and all my attraction is towards thee.
Shield thou me, yes from the fiend,
as thou art generous and art willing and able,
and help me to my life's end
and reconcile [me] with thy son.
(Translation: E.J. Dobson)

From heaven came a new messenger

which was the angel Gabriel,
to a city of Galilee
— where lived Jewish folk
speaking in the Hebrew tongue
in town and castle—,

which was called Nazareth,
where the Virgin was born and lived;
she was promised to Joseph
according to the law, with a ring.

*From heaven came a new messenger
which was the angel Gabriel.*

The angel was a messenger from God,
he started and finished his message well,
wisely, flowingly,
he made his announcement:

“Hail Mary, full of grace!
God save you, star serene!
God is with you, leading
into the beautiful Paradise.

*From heaven came a new messenger
which was the angel Gabriel.*

“From your womb will come such fruit
which will save the whole world;
the Devil will have reason to weep,
yes, he shall be whipped smartly.”

“How could this be,
Rightly or wrongly,
I can rightfully doubt it,
as I do not know any man, young or old.”

From heaven came a new messenger

ciò fo l'angel Gabriello.

L'angelo disse “Non temere,
tu se' a Dio sì a piacere,
altra madre non vole avere
se non voi, con k'io favello.

Filiol di l'Altissimo fie chiamato,
Iesù Cristo in oni lato:
per lui fi' 'l mondo salvato
et tracto de le man del fello.

*Dal ciel venne messo novello
ciò fo l'angel Gabriello.*

Respose la kiara stella:
“Io son qui ke so' su' ancella,
sia secundo la sua favella:
cusì mi chiamo et apello!”

*Dal ciel venne messo novello
ciò fo l'angel Gabriello.*

Sancta Maria graciae – Dou way, Robin
Duplum: Sancta mater gratiae, stella claritatis
visita nos hodie plena pietatis.

Veni, vena veniae mox incarceratis,
solamen angustiae, fons suavitatis.

Recordare, mater Christi, quam amare tu flevisti;
juxta crucem tu stetisti, suspirando viso tristi

O, Maria, flos regalis, inter omnes nulla talis;
Tuo nato specialis nostrae carnis parce malis

O, quam corde supplici locuta fuisti,
Gabrielis nunci i cum verba cepisti.

'En ancilla Domini', propere dixisti;
vernum vivi gaudii post hoc perperisti.

Gaude, digna, tam benigna caeli solio;
tuos natos, morbo stratos, redde filio.

Tenor: Dou way, Robyn, the child wile weep;
dou way Robyn.

which was the angel Gabriel.

The angel said: “Do not be afraid,
you have pleased God,
he does not want any other mother,
if not you, with whom I speak.

Little Son of the Most High,
he will be called Jesus Christ,
through him the world will be saved
and freed from the hand of the wicked.”

*From heaven came a new messenger
which was the angel Gabriel.*

Then the bright star, answered:
“Here am I, Your handmaiden,
let it be according to your word,
Since he called upon me.”

*From heaven came a new messenger
which was the angel Gabriel.*

Sancta Maria graciae – Dou way, Robin
Duplum: Holy mother of grace, star of brightness,
visit us today, full of compassion.

Come soon, channel of pardon, to those in prison,
as a solace of misery, a source of sweetness.

Remember, mother of Christ, how bitterly thou didst weep;
thou didst stand beside the cross sighing at the sad sight.

O Mary, royal flower, among all women nonesuch,
in thy son unequalled, forgive the sins of our flesh.

O, with how humble a heart thou didst speak
when thou didst receive the words of Gabriel the messenger.

‘Behold the handmaid of the Lord’ thou didst quickly say;
thereafter thou didst bear the springtime of living joy.

Rejoice, worthy lady, so gracious, in the throne of heaven;
restore thy children, brought low by vice, to the Son.

Tenor: Stop it, Robin, the child will weep;
stop it Robin.

Magi videntes stellam,
dixerunt ad invicem:
Hoc signum magni regis est:
eamus et inquiramus eum,
et offeramus ei munera,
aurum thus et myrrham.
[Alleluia]

Pois que dos reys nostre Senhor
quis de seu linage decer,
con razon lles fez est' amor
en que lles foi apareçer.

Esto foi quand' en Beleen
de Santa Maria nasceu
e a treze dias des en
aos tres Reys apareceu,
que cada u per seu sen
ena estrela connoceu
com' era Deus Rey; e poren
de longe o foron veer,

*Pois que dos Reys Nostro Sennor
quis de seu linage decer,
con razon lles fez est' amor
en que lles foi apareçer.*

Ben das insoas de Sabá
e de Tarsso, que son no mar,
e d'Arabia, u gran gent' á
e muitas terras de passar.
Mas pero eran lonj' alá
mui toste os fezo chegar
a Beleen aquel que á
sobre todas cousas poder.

*Pois que dos Reys Nostro Sennor
quis de seu linage decer,
con razon lles fez est' amor
en que lles foi apareçer.*

Ena estrela lles mostrou
com' era om' e Rey e Deus;
poren cada u lle levou...
oferta dos tesouros seus.

(Translation: E. J. Dobson)

The magi, seeing the star,
said, each in turn:
“This is the sign of a great king!
Let us go and look for him
and offer him gifts,
gold, frankincense and myrrh.”
[Alleluia]

Since our Lord chose to descend from the line of kings, it is only
right that He should show his love for them by appearing to them.

This occurred when He was born in Bethlehem to Holy Mary, and
thirteen days later, He appeared to the Three Kings, and each one in
his wisdom recognized by the star that He was God the King.
Therefore, they came from afar to see Him,

*Since our Lord chose to descend from the line of kings, it is
only right that He should show his love for them by appearing to
them.*

from as far as the islands Sheba and Tarshish, which are in the sea,
and from Arabia, where there are many people and vast lands to
cross. However, although they were there far away, He who has
power over all things quickly brought them to Bethlehem.

*Since our Lord chose to descend from the line of kings, it is
only right that He should show his love for them by appearing to
them.*

By the star He showed them how He was man and King and God.
Therefore, each one took Him an offering of his treasures. And the
Star guided them to the land of the Jews where Herod asked them:
“On what business did you come?”

E a estrela os guyou
ate ena terra dos judeus,
u Erodes lles demandou:
«Que vestes aqui fazer?»

*Pois que dos Reys Nostro Sennor
quis de seu linage decer,
con razon lles fez est' amor
en que lles foi apareçer.*

Eles responderon-ll' assi:
«Na estrela vimos que Rey
mui nobre naçera aqui,
Sennor dos judeus e da lei.»
Diss' Erodes: «Creed' a mi,
ca bon consello vos darei:
id', e pois tornardes des i,
ar y-lo-ei eu connoçer.»

*Pois que dos Reys Nostro Sennor
quis de seu linage decer,
con razon lles fez est' amor
en que lles foi apareçer.*

Eles foron-sse logu' enton
e viron a estrela yr
ante ssi de mui gran randon,
e começárona seguyr;
mas quand' en Beleen foi, non
se quis de sobr' ela partir,
ata que entraron u Don
Jesu-Cristo viron seer

*Pois que dos Reys Nostro Sennor
quis de seu linage decer,
con razon lles fez est' amor
en que lles foi apareçer.*

Nos braços da que muit' afan
sofreu con el e muito mal.
E eles logo manaman
deron-lle sa oferta tal:
ouro de que aos reis dan,
encenso por espirital,
mirra de que os mortos van
ungir por nunca podreçer.

*Since our Lord chose to descend from the line of kings, it is
only right that He should show his love for them by appearing to
them.*

They answered him thus: “By the star we saw that a very noble king
had been born here, lord of the Jews and the law. Said Herod:
“Believe me, for I shall give you good counsel. Go, and when you
return, I shall go also to meet him.”

*Since our Lord chose to descend from the line of kings, it is
only right that He should show his love for them by appearing to
them.*

They went on their way at once and saw the star going rapidly before
them and began to follow it. However, when it reached Bethlehem, it
shone directly over it and would not move until they entered where
they saw Jesus Christ lying

*Since our Lord chose to descend from
the line of kings, it is only right that
He should show his love for them
by appearing to them.*

in the arms of Her who suffered much sorrow and grief with Him.
Without delay, they gave Him their offerings: gold which befits
kings; incense because it is spiritual; myrrh, with which they anoint
the dead so that they will never decay.

Since our Lord chose to descend from

*Pois que dos Reys Nostro Sennor
quis de seu linage decer,
con razon lles fez est' amor
en que lles foi apareçer.*

*the line of kings, it is only right that
He should show his love for them
by appearing to them.*
(Translation: Kathleen Kulp-Hill)

Heu, heu, heu!

Quomodo gaudebo dum mortua membra videbo;
Dum sic commota fuero per viscera tota?
Me facient vere pueri sine fine dolore.
O dolor!
O patrum mutaque gaudia matrum!
Ad lugubres luctus lacrymarum
fundite fluctus Jedee florem,
patrie lacrymando dolorem.

Nolite timere ecce enim evangelizo vobis
gaudium magnum quod erit omni populo
quia natus est vobis hodie salvator
qui est Christus Dominus in civitate David
et hoc vobis signum invenietis infantem
pannis involutum et positum in praeseptio
gloria in excelsis Deo et in terra pax
in hominibus bonae voluntatis.

Quem videstis, Pastores dicite,
annuntiate nobis in terris quis apparuit?
Natum vidimus et choro angelorum
collaudantes Dominum. Alleluia.

Salve, virgo singularis
Virgo manens Deum paris,
Ante saecula generatum
Corde Patris:
Adoremus nunc creatum
Carne Matris.

Nos, Maria, tua prece
A peccati purga foece;
Nostri cursum incolatus
Sic dispone
Ut det sua frui natus
Visiione.

Por nos virgin madre
rog' a Deus teu Padre

Alas, alas, alas!

How shall I rejoice, when I see the dead limbs;
when I have been so distressed through all my heart?
Verily, the Children will make me grieve without end.
O grief!
O altered joys of fathers and mothers,
mournful lamentations.
Pour out floods of tears in weeping for our sorrow
for the flower of the land of Judea.

(And the angel said unto them,)

Fear not, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy,
which shall be to all people.
For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour,
which is Christ the Lord.
And this shall be a sign unto you; You shall find the babe
wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.
Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace,
good will toward men.
(Translation: King James Bible)

Whom did you see, shepherds, say,
tell us who has appeared?
We saw the new-born child and choirs of angels
praising the Lord, alleluia.
(Translation: Anne Azéma)

Hail, Virgin most marvellous
Who, remaining Virgin, bearest God
Begotten before the ages
In the heart of the Father:
Let us adore Him Who took flesh
From the Mother.

O Mary, by your prayers
Set us free from our Sins;
And so dispose the course of our life
That we may be made worthy
To enjoy His birth,
The Vision.

For us, Virgin Mother,
pray to God your Father

Et Fill'e amigo.
Rog a Deus, teu Padre
Et Fill'e amigo.

A deus que nos preste
Rogalle
Pois este Teu Fill'e amigo.
Rogalle
Pois este Teu Fill'e amigo.

Roga, que nos valla,
Pois el é sen falla
Teu Fill'e amigo.
[P]ois el é sen falla
Teu Fill'e amigo.

Por nos virgen madre
rog' a Deus teu Padre
Et Fill'e amigo.
Rog a Deus, teu Padre
Et Fill'e amigo.

Hodie Christus natus est
hodie Salvator apparuit:
hodie in terra canunt Angeli,
laetantur Archangeli:
hodie exsultant iusti, dicentes:
Gloria in excelsis Deo, alleluia.

Triplum: **Campanis cum cymbalis**
omnis chorus hominum
liris et psalteriis
laudent celi dominum
organis ac singulis
modis dando iubilum
cum iocosis notulis
laudetur per seculum.

Duplum: **Honoremus dominam**
dignam celi curie
electam regiam
matrem Regis glorie
semper iubilatio
sit matri post filium
devota oratio
pro statu fragilium.

and Son and friend,
pray to God your Father
and Son and friend.

Pray to God that he help us,
pray to Him,
since He is your Son and friend,
pray to Him
since He is your Son and friend.

Pray that he protect us
because He is without fault
your Son and friend,
since he is without fault,
your Son and friend.

For us, Virgin Mother,
pray to God your Father
and Son and friend,
pray to God your Father
and Son and friend.
(Translation: John Sidwick)

Today Christ is born;
today the Savior has appeared;
today the Angels sing,
the Archangels rejoice;
today the righteous rejoice, saying:
Glory to God in the highest. Alleluia!

Triplum: **With bells and cymbals,**
Let the whole choir of mankind
praise the Lord
with lyres and psalteries,
let us praise the Lord of heaven
Let Him be praised joyfully
each to their own ways of singing notes,
praising forever.

Duplum: **Let us honour the Lady,**
worthy of the court of heaven,
chosen to be the royal
mother of the King's glory,
Let there be always jubilation
for the Mother after the son,
and devoted prayer
for those in weakness.

Tenors (untexted)

Gregis pastor Tityrus
Asinorum Dominus
Pastor est et Asinus.
Eya, eya, eya,
Vocat nos ad varia
Titirus Cibaria [...]

Ad onorem Titiri
Festa colunt baculi
Satrape et satiri.
Eya...

Laudes demus Titiro
Cum melodis organo
Resonante timpano.
Eya...

Veneremus Titirum
Qui nos propter baculum
Invitat ad epulum.
Eya...

Digna laudes congrua
Deduc nos ad Pascua
Titire melliflua
Eya...

De pastore Titiro
Gratulans hec concio
Benedicat domino !
Eya...

Tenors: (untexted)

(Translation: Anne Azéma)

Tityrus, shepherd of the flock,
herds asses too;
he is a shepherd and an ass himself.
Yo, ho, ho!
Tityrus has invited us
to a rich feast.

Croziars and officials and satyrs
attend the feast given
in honour of Tityrus.
Yo, ho, ho...

Praises indeed to Tityrus
with melodies on instruments
and the resounding drum.
Yo, ho, ho...

We honour Tityrus
who on account of his crook
invites us to the banquet.
Yo, ho, ho...

With worthy and appropriate praise
O Tityrus lead us
to the sweet pastures.
Yo, ho, ho...

Now all of us
give thanks to the shepherd Tityrus
and bless the Lord!
Yo, ho, ho...

(Translation: John Sidwick and Anne Azéma)

All translations (c)