

# A People's Latin Mass

Dom Gregory Murray

# A PEOPLE'S MASS

DOM GREGORY MURRAY

In parish churches it would seem desirable for the congregation to take an active part in the singing of Mass. Hitherto efforts to encourage the practice have largely failed because it has been assumed that the plainsong Masses of the Kyriale are within the capacity of unskilled singers. The simple fact is that these plainsong Masses were never intended for congregational use; they were composed for highly trained choirs, and their worthy performance demands long hours of practice and a vocal technique far beyond the powers of an ordinary congregation.

If our people are to sing at Mass, they must be provided with music which they can readily grasp, learn by heart and sing with ease; music which presents no greater difficulty than an ordinary hymn-tune.

A PEOPLE'S MASS is an attempt to supply this need.

In the Gloria it is suggested that the sections be sung antiphonally by choir and congregation: the choir singing "Et in terra, etc.," the congregation replying with "Laudamus, etc.," and so alternately to the end. (Until the congregation is familiar with the music, it would be better for only two members of the choir to sing the choir sections, the rest of the choir assisting the congregation). Similarly in the Credo, for which the popular traditional melody has been retained.

The Kyrie, Sanctus, Benedictus and Agnus could be sung throughout by choir and congregation in unison.

## KYRIE

The musical score consists of four systems of music. Each system contains three staves: soprano (G clef), alto (C clef), and bass (F clef). The piano accompaniment is shown below the vocal staves. The music is in common time and uses a key signature of one sharp (G major). The vocal parts sing in unison throughout. The lyrics are as follows:

Ky - ri - e e - léi - son, Ky - ri - e e - léi son, Ky - ri -  
e e - léi - son. Chri - ste e - léi - son, Chri - ste e -  
léi - son, Chri - ste e - léi - son. Ky - ri - e e - léi -  
son, Ky - ri - e e - léi - son, Ky - ri - e e - léi - son.

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# GLORIA

*Priest:*



Gló - ri - a in ex - cé - sis De - o

*Choir:*

Et in ter - ra pax ho - mí - ni - bus bo - nae vo - lun -

tá - tis Lau - dá - mus te, Be - ne - dí - ci -

*Choir:*

mus te. A - do - rá - mus te, Glo -

ri - fi - cá - mus te. Grá - ti - as á - gi - mus ti -

bi pro - pter ma - gnam gló - ri - am tu - am.

*Choir:*

Dó - mi - ne De - us Rex cae - lé - stis, De - us Pa - ter óm

Musical score for the first section of the choir part. The music is in common time (indicated by 'C') and consists of two staves. The top staff uses soprano and alto clefs, while the bottom staff uses bass and tenor clefs. The vocal parts are primarily composed of eighth and sixteenth notes, with some sustained notes and rests.

*People:*

dai - po - tens. Dó - mi - ne Fi - li u - ni - gé - ni - te,

Musical score for the people's response. The music is in common time (indicated by 'C') and consists of two staves. The top staff uses soprano and alto clefs, while the bottom staff uses bass and tenor clefs. The vocal parts are primarily composed of eighth and sixteenth notes, with some sustained notes and rests.

*Choir:*

Je - su Chri - ste. Dó - mi - ne De - us, A - gnu s De -

Musical score for the second section of the choir part. The music is in common time (indicated by 'C') and consists of two staves. The top staff uses soprano and alto clefs, while the bottom staff uses bass and tenor clefs. The vocal parts are primarily composed of eighth and sixteenth notes, with some sustained notes and rests.

*People:*

i, Fi - li - us Pa - tri - sis. Qui tol - lis pec - cá - ta -

Musical score for the people's response. The music is in common time (indicated by 'C') and consists of two staves. The top staff uses soprano and alto clefs, while the bottom staff uses bass and tenor clefs. The vocal parts are primarily composed of eighth and sixteenth notes, with some sustained notes and rests.

*Wise*

di, mi - se - ré - re no - bis.

*Choir:*

Qui

Musical score for the wise person's response. The music is in common time (indicated by 'C') and consists of two staves. The top staff uses soprano and alto clefs, while the bottom staff uses bass and tenor clefs. The vocal parts are primarily composed of eighth and sixteenth notes, with some sustained notes and rests.

red - bis pec - cá - ta mun - di, sú - sci-pe de - pre - ca - ti -

Musical score for the final section of the choir part. The music is in common time (indicated by 'C') and consists of two staves. The top staff uses soprano and alto clefs, while the bottom staff uses bass and tenor clefs. The vocal parts are primarily composed of eighth and sixteenth notes, with some sustained notes and rests.

*People:*

ó - nem no - stram. Qui se - des ad déx - te-ram

Pa - tris, mi - se - ré - re no - bis.

*Choir:*

Quó - ni - am tu so - lus san - ctus, tu so - lus

Dó - mi - nus, tu so - lus al - tís - si - mus, Je - su

Chri - ste. Cum San - cto Spí - ri - tu in

gló - ri - a De - i Pa - tris, A - - - - men.

# SANCTUS- BENEDICTUS

(b. 15) San - ctus, San - ctus, San - ctus, Dó - mi - nus De - us

Sá - ba - oth Ple - ni sunt cae - li et ter - ra gló - ri - a

tu - a. Ho - sán - na in ex - cé -

- sis. Be - ne - dí - ctus qui ve - nit

in nó - mi - ne Dó - - - mi - ni:

Ho - sán - na ' in ex - cé - - - sis.

## Memorial Acclamations...

We pro-claim your Death, O Lord, and pro-fess your Res-ur-rec-tion  
 un-till you come a-gain.

**DR** 29 When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we pro-claim your  
 Death, O Lord, un-till you come a-gain.

**DR** 30 Save us, Savi-or of the world, for by your Cross and Res-ur-rec-tion  
 you have set us free.

Amen

Strong ( $\text{♩} = 84-88$ )

Gm Eb Dm7 Gm F Bb Cm Gm D Eb F  
 ev - er. A - men, a - men, a -  
 C Gm F Bb Cm Gm D Eb F Dm7 G  
 men! A - men, a - men, a - men!

rit.

## AGNUS DEI

A - gnu s De - i, qui tol - lis pec - cá - ta mun -

di mi - se - ré - re no - bis. A - gnu s De -

i, qui tol - lis pec - cá - ta mun - di mi - se -

ré - re no - bis. A - gnu s De - i, qui

tol - lis pec - cá - ta mun - di do - na no - bis pa - cem.