



Here  
am  
I

**The image on the front cover is from the painting  
on Sr Petra's clothing candle.  
It was inspired by Sieger Köder's Stations of the Cross  
in Wasseralfingen Church, Germany.**

Solemn Profession  
and  
Consecration  
of  
Sr Petra  
(Christine Dorothy)

29<sup>th</sup> JUNE, 2021

Solemnity of Sts Peter & Paul



My heart is ready, O God, my heart is ready.

I will sing, I will sing your praise.

Awake my soul, awake lyre and harp.

I will awake the dawn.

(Psalm 56:8-9)

# Solemn Entrance

TALLIS ORDINAL 9<sup>th</sup> tune C.M.

Thomas Tallis, c. 1505-85

*Veni Creator Spiritus*, attributed to Rabanus Maurus, 776-856,  
translation anonymous

1. Come, O Creator, Spirit come  
From Thy bright heav'nly throne;  
Come, take possession of our souls,  
And make them all thine own.
2. Thou who art called the Paraclete,  
Best gift of God above,  
The living spring, the living fire,  
Sweet unction and true love.
3. Thou who art sev'nfold in thy grace,  
Finger of God's right hand;  
His promise, teaching little ones  
To speak and understand.
4. O guide our minds with thy blest light,  
With love our hearts inflame;  
And with thy strength, which ne'er decays,  
Confirm our mortal frame.
5. Far from us drive our deadly foe;  
True peace unto us bring;  
And through all perils lead us safe  
Beneath thy sacred wing.
6. Through thee may we the Father know,  
Through thee th'eternal Son,  
And thee the Spirit of them both:  
Thrice blessèd three in one.
7. All glory to the Father be,  
With his co-equal Son:  
The same to thee, great Paraclete,  
While endless ages run.

# Penitential Rite

Colin D. Smith, CFC

Chantress: Lord Jesus, You raise us to new life.  
Kyrie eleison.

**ALL: Kyrie eleison.**

Chantress: Lord Jesus, You are our loving Saviour.  
Christe eleison.

**ALL: Christe eleison.**

Chantress: Lord Jesus, You will come again in glory.  
Kyrie eleison.

**ALL: Kyrie eleison.**

# Gloria

Colin D. Smith, CFC

**Glory to God in the highest,  
and on earth peace to people of good will.**

We praise you,  
we bless you,  
we adore you,  
we glorify you,  
we give you thanks for your great glory,  
Lord God, heavenly King,  
O God, almighty Father.

**Glory to God in the highest,  
and on earth peace to people of good will.**

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,  
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,  
you take away the sins of the world,  
have mercy on us;  
you take away the sins of the world,  
receive our prayer.



**Glory to God in the highest,  
and on earth peace to people of good will.**

You are seated at the right hand of the Father,  
have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High,  
Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father.

**Glory to God in the highest,  
and on earth peace to people of good will. Amen. Amen**

## Opening Prayer

# Liturgy of the Word

## First Reading

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

(Acts 12:1-11)

*Now I know that it is indeed true: the Lord has saved me from the power of Herod*

King Herod started persecuting certain members of the Church. He beheaded James the brother of John, and when he saw that this pleased the Jews he decided to arrest Peter as well. This was during the days of Unleavened Bread, and he put Peter in prison, assigning four squads of four soldiers each to guard him in turns. Herod meant to try Peter in public after the end of Passover week. All the time Peter was under guard the Church prayed to God for him unremittingly.

On the night before Herod was to try him, Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, fastened with double chains, while guards kept watch at the main entrance to the prison. Then suddenly the angel of the Lord stood there, and the cell was filled with light. He tapped Peter on the side and woke him. 'Get up!' he said 'Hurry!' – and the chains fell from his hands. The angel then said, 'Put on your belt and sandals.' After he had done this, the angel next said, 'Wrap your cloak round you and follow me.' Peter followed him, but had no idea that what the angel did was all happening in reality; he thought he was seeing a vision. They passed through two guard posts one after the other, and reached the iron gate leading to the city. This opened of its own accord; they went through it and had walked the whole length of one street when suddenly the angel left him. It was only then that Peter came to himself. 'Now I know it is all true' he said. 'The Lord really did send his angel and has saved me from Herod and from all that the Jewish people were so certain would happen to me.'

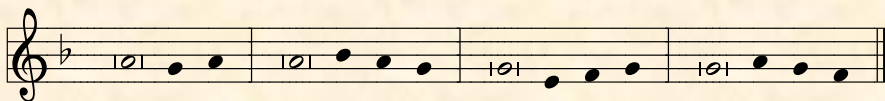
The word of the Lord.

**ALL: Thanks be to God**



# Responsorial Psalm

(Ps 33:2-9. R/- cf. v5.)



Tone: 6d

**R/-** The Lord set me free from | all my fears.

- 1 I will bless the Lord at | all times, \*  
his praise always | on my lips;  
in the Lord my soul shall | make its boast. \*  
The humble shall hear | and be glad. **R/-**
- 2 Glorify the Lord | with me. \*  
Together let us | praise his name.  
I sought the Lord | and he answered me; \*  
from all my terrors he | set me free. **R/-**
- 3 Look towards him and | be radiant; \*  
let your faces not | be abashed.  
This poor man called; | the Lord heard him \*  
and rescued him from all | his distress. **R/-**
- 4 The angel of the Lord is | encamped \*  
around those who revere | him, to rescue them.  
Taste and see that the | Lord is good. \*  
He is happy who seeks | refuge in him. **R/-**
- 5 Revere the Lord, you | his saints. \*  
They lack nothing, those | who revere him.  
Strong lions suffer want | and go hungry \*  
but those who seek the Lord | lack no blessing. **R/-**

## Second Reading

A reading from the second letter of St Paul to Timothy.

*2 Timothy 4:6-8,17-18*

*All that remains now is the crown of righteousness.*

My life is already being poured away as a libation, and the time has come for me to be gone. I have fought the good fight to the end; I have run the race to the finish; I have kept the faith; all there is to come now is the crown of righteousness reserved for me, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give to me on that Day; and not only to me but to all those who have longed for his Appearing.

The Lord stood by me and gave me power, so that through me the whole message might be proclaimed for all the pagans to hear; and so I was rescued from the lion's mouth. The Lord will rescue me from all evil attempts on me, and bring me safely to his heavenly kingdom. To him be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

The word of the Lord.

**ALL: Thanks be to God**



Listen carefully, my daughter, to the master's instructions,  
and attend to them with the ear of your heart.

This is advice from a father who loves you;  
welcome it, and faithfully put it into practice.

(The Rule of St Benedict, Prologue 1)

# Gospel Acclamation

*Mt 16:18*



Tone: 8aVG

**VERSE:** You are Peter, the rock on which I will | build my Church;  
the gates of hell will not hold | out against it.



What is not possible to us by nature,  
let us ask the Lord to supply by the help of his grace.

(The Rule of St Benedict, Prologue 41)

# Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

*(Matthew 16:13-19)*

*You are Peter, and I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven.*

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi he put this question to his disciples, ‘Who do people say the Son of Man is?’ And they said, ‘Some say he is John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.’ ‘But you,’ he said ‘who do you say I am?’ Then Simon Peter spoke up, ‘You are the Christ,’ he said ‘the Son of the living God.’ Jesus replied, ‘Simon son of Jonah, you are a happy man! Because it was not flesh and blood that revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. So I now say to you: You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church. And the gates of the underworld can never hold out against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven: whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.’

The Gospel of the Lord.

**ALL: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

# Homily



God never takes back his gifts or revokes his choice.

(Romans 11:29)

Rite  
of  
Solemn  
Monastic Profession  
and  
Consecration



Dear Jesus,  
help me to spread your fragrance everywhere I go.  
Flood my soul with your spirit and life.  
Penetrate and possess my whole being so utterly,  
that my life may only be a radiance of you.  
Shine through me and be so in me  
that every soul I come in contact with  
may feel your presence in my spirit.  
Let them look up and see no longer me,  
but only Jesus!  
Stay with me and then I shall begin to shine as you shine,  
as to be a light for others;  
the light, O Jesus, will be all from you; none of it will be mine;  
it will be you shining on others through me.  
Let me thus praise you in the way you love best,  
by shining on others around me.  
Let me preach you without preaching by words,  
but by my example,  
by the catching force of the sympathetic influence of what I do,  
the evident fullness of the love my heart bears to you.

(Prayer of St John Henry Newman)



# Call to Profession

*At the end of the Homily, Bishop Brian and Mother Abbess move to the front of the Altar. The sisters stand, facing choir to choir.*

**Bishop Brian:** Sister Petra, the Lord is calling you to seek him in this monastic community.

**Sr Petra:** Here I am Lord. You have called me.

*Sr Petra then leaves her stall and stands in the middle of the Choir where she is joined by the Junior Mistress.*

**Bishop Brian:** Come daughter, listen to the voice of our loving Father calling you to return to him through the labour of obedience, so that, preferring nothing to the love of Christ you may, throughout your whole life, give him glory.

*Sr Petra walks forward with the Junior Mistress and kneels before the Bishop and Abbess. Sisters in the choir face the Altar.*



You do not ask for sacrifice and offerings, but an open ear.  
You do not ask for holocaust and victim.  
Instead, here am I.

(Psalm 39:7-8)

# Interrogation

*Mother Abbess now questions Sr Petra to ascertain her purpose.*

**Mother Abbess:** Sister Petra, by baptism you have renounced sin and you live for God. Here before the Altar, in God's presence and surrounded by your community, your family and your friends, do you will to commit yourself in monastic profession, to follow Christ forever?

**Sr Petra:** Yes, Mother Abbess, I do so will to commit myself.

**Mother Abbess:** Do you desire to prefer nothing to the love of Christ, and binding yourself to him with a free and joyful heart, to promise your stability in this community into which you have asked to be admitted?

**Sr Petra:** Yes, I do so desire.

**Mother Abbess:** Do you desire to live monastic life in poverty supported by the sisterly affection of our community?

**Sr Petra:** Yes, I do so desire.

**Mother Abbess:** Following the example of Christ, who came to do the will of his Father, do you will to live in obedience, according to the Rule of St Benedict?

**Sr Petra:** Yes, I do will to live in Christ's obedience.

**Mother Abbess:** Live, then, in the love and joy of the Holy Spirit.

*The Junior Mistress bows and returns to her stall.*

# Formula of Profession

*The Bishop and Mother Abbess stand to the side of the Altar.  
Sr Petra rises and makes Profession of:*

Conversion of Life  
Stability  
Obedience  
according to the  
Rule of St Benedict.

*The Chart of profession is signed by Sr Petra and then by Bishop Brian and  
Mother Abbess. The Chart is left on the altar.*

*Mother Abbess and Sr Petra bow together.  
Mother returns to her stall and Petra goes and stands in front of the  
Chantress' stall for the Renewal of Vows.*

*The Bishop returns to his Chair*



Baptism is God's sheer, gracious, generous gift.  
Our monastic profession is a response to and built on this gift  
that continue to nurture and sustain.

(Sr Michaela Hedican OSB)

# Renewal of Vows

*The sisters remain standing, facing choir to choir.*

**Mother Abbess:** Let us now renew the vows we made on our own Solemn Profession Day.

**Sisters:** I, Sr.....renew my Profession, promising Stability, Conversion of Life and Obedience, according to the Rule of our Holy Father Benedict and the Constitutions of this Abbey of the Presentation of Our Lord in the Temple, before God and all his saints.



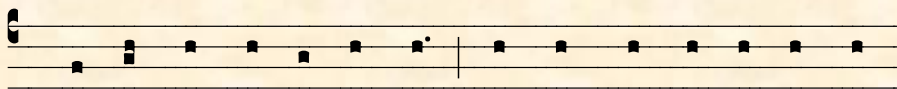
He who gives himself to God by religious profession renounces everything; he comes to God with all that he has, all that he is: 'Behold, I come,' and he offers all this to God, keeping nothing back. This is what it means to be a living sacrifice, to offer a holocaust.

(Bl Columba Marmion)

# The Suscipe

*The sisters remain standing, facing the Altar.*

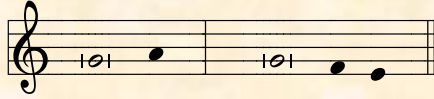
*In accordance with monastic tradition Sr Petra now sings the Suscipe three times. The sisters in the choir repeat the Suscipe each time.*



# Litany of the Saints

*The Sisters kneel.*

*The “Suscipe” being concluded, Sr Petra prostrates in the centre of the Church and is covered with the Pall.*



C: Lord, have mercy.

**ALL: Lord, have mercy.**

C: Christ, have mercy.

**ALL: Christ, have mercy.**

C: Lord, have mercy.

**ALL: Lord, have mercy.**

C: Holy Mary Mother of God.

**ALL: Pray for us.**

C: Holy Virgin of Virgins.

**ALL: Pray for us.**

C: Sts Michael, Gabriel, Raphael and all you holy angels, who sing God's glory, uniting with the hymn of the universe.

**ALL: Pray for us.**

C: Sts Anne and Joachim, associated by God's own choice with the mystery of his presence among all people.

**ALL: Pray for us.**

C: St John the Baptist and St Joseph who beheld the humanity of Christ and recognised his divinity.

**ALL: Pray for us.**



C: St Peter and St Paul, St John and St Mary Magdalene, and all you holy apostles, who have preached the Good News of Jesus Christ.

**ALL: Pray for us.**

C: St Stephen and St Lawrence and all you holy martyrs who have borne in your body the passion of Christ.

**ALL: Pray for us.**

C: St Agatha and St Christina, St Agnes and St Cecilia, and all you holy ones who have offered your body as a sacrifice of praise.

**ALL: Pray for us.**

C: St Athanasius and St Ambrose, St John Chrysostom, Sts Basil and Gregory Nazianzen, and all you holy doctors who have strengthened the Church in unity and in the fullness of truth.

**ALL: Pray for us.**

C: St Macrina who renounced all to follow Christ in simplicity and fidelity of life.

**ALL: Pray for us.**

C: Holy Father Benedict, who teaches us to walk by the guidance of the Gospel, and to prefer nothing to the love of Christ.

**ALL: Pray for us.**

C: St Scholastica and all you holy virgins who have hastened to answer the call of God, and have stretched forward with your whole being to gain Christ.

**ALL: Pray for us.**

C: St Augustine of Canterbury and St Bede the Venerable and all you holy monks who sought the glory of God in all things.

**ALL: Pray for us.**

C: St Thomas More, St John Fisher and all you martyrs of England who loved the Church and its unity.

**ALL: Pray for us.**

C: St Francis and St Clare and all who found truth and joy in the Pascal Mystery of the Lord.

**ALL: Pray for us.**

C: St Catherine of Siena, St Teresa of Avila and all you holy nuns who with hearts enthralled by Christ have built up his kingdom in the Church.

**ALL: Pray for us.**

C: St Therese of Lisieux, St Bernadette of Lourdes and all those poor in spirit who knew God to be all their holiness.

**ALL: Pray for us.**

C: St Gertrud the Great who praised the mightiness of God in the glory of the Church's liturgy.

**ALL: Pray for us.**

C: St Hilda, St Mildred, and all the holy nuns of England, who gave their lives in total obedience to Christ.

**ALL: Pray for us.**

C: St Hildegard, on whom the Father shed the light of his Word.

**ALL: Pray for us.**

C: St Boniface and St Lioba who brought Benedictine monastic life to the people of Germany.

**ALL: Pray for us.**

C: St Gertrud and St Mechtilde of Hackeborn and all to whom the love of God gave liberty of spirit.

**ALL: Pray for us.**

C: Blessed Maria Gabriella who gave your life for Christian Unity.

**ALL: Pray for us.**

C: St Mary MacKillop who taught us to keep our minds in peace and persevere in constancy and courage.

**ALL: Pray for us.**

C: Blessed Columba Marmion who revealed to us the way of abandonment to God, and the beauty of obedience in the footsteps of Christ.

**ALL: Pray for us.**

C: All you saints who lived in the spirit of our holy Father Benedict.

**ALL: Pray for us.**

C: All you holy ones, women and men who have been gathered into Christ's Resurrection.

**ALL: Pray for us.**

# Intercessions

C: Be pleased, O Lord, to shed more and more the gifts of the Holy Spirit on the Pope and all the ministers of the Church.

**ALL: By your Holy Spirit, hear us, O Lord.**

C: Be pleased, O Lord, to make your Church grow in truth and love to the fullness of Christ her head.

**ALL: By your Holy Spirit, hear us, O Lord.**

C: Be pleased, O Lord, to unite all Christian Churches in the unity of Christ your Son.

**ALL: By your Holy Spirit, hear us, O Lord.**

C: Grant strength, O Lord, to those who seek you in monastic communities in Australia.

**ALL: By your Holy Spirit, hear us, O Lord.**

C: Be pleased, O Lord, to bring to fullness of life the pioneering work of John Bede Polding in the Australian Church.

**ALL: By your Holy Spirit, hear us, O Lord.**

C: Lord we pray for our Sr Petra's parents, Tarminggus and Winda. May your presence bless them with peace and joy, surrounding them in all their needs and supporting them in love.

**ALL: By your Holy Spirit, hear us, O Lord.**

C: Lord we pray for our Sr Petra's sisters and their families, Caroline and Petrus, Agnes and Stephanie, and for her friends old and new who have walked with her during her life's journey to you.

**ALL: By your Holy Spirit, hear us, O Lord.**

C: Be pleased, O Lord, to sanctify and consecrate Sr Petra.

**ALL: By your Holy Spirit, hear us, O Lord.**

C: Be pleased to lead her by your grace in the way of truth and love.

**ALL: By your Holy Spirit, hear us, O Lord.**

C: May she live by faith.

**ALL: Amen.**

C: May she be strong in temptation.

**ALL: Amen.**

C: May she walk in newness of life.

**ALL: Amen.**

C: May she be learned in Holy Scripture.

**ALL: Amen.**

C: May she be untiring in prayer.

**ALL: Amen.**

C: May she be zealous for obedience.

**ALL: Amen.**

C: May she be cheerful in good works.

**ALL: Amen.**

C: May she be known for compassion.

**ALL: Amen.**

C: May she be diligent and skilled in her work.

**ALL: Amen.**

C: May she live in meekness and humility.

**ALL: Amen.**

C: May she be established in peace.

**ALL: Amen.**

C: May she be perfectly conformed to the image of your Son.

**ALL: Amen.**

C: May she seek always to do the things that please the Father.

**ALL: Amen.**

C: May she respond by her whole life to the Father's will.

**ALL: Amen.**

C: Be pleased, O Lord, to make us all advance with courage on the way of faith, with our hearts completely open to you.

**ALL: Amen.**

C: Jesus, Son of the Living God, graciously hear us.

**ALL: By your Holy Spirit, hear us, O Lord.**

C: Christ, hear us.

**ALL: Christ, hear us.**

C: Christ, graciously hear us.

**ALL: Christ, graciously hear us.**

C: Hear, O Lord, the prayer of your Church - in your love, look in mercy on Sr Petra whom you have called to monastic life and lead her in the way of salvation.

**ALL: Amen.**



# The Surge

*The Litany and Intercessions being concluded, Mother Abbess comes forward, the pall is removed as the Chantress sings "The Surge".*



*ff*

Sur- ge quae dor- mis et ex- sur- ge

*fff*

a mor- tu- is et il- lum- in- a- bit te

Chris- tus.

**Surge quae dormis  
Et exsurge a mortuis  
Et illuminabit te Christus.**

Translation: Arise, thou who sleepest  
Arise from the dead  
And Christ will enlighten you.

*Mother Abbess taps Sr Petra on the shoulder with her staff and she arises.  
Mother Abbess then returns to her stall.*

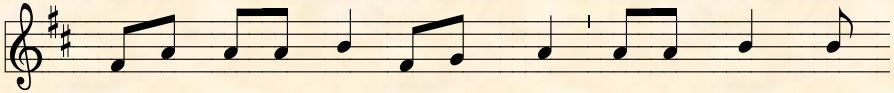
# Consecration

*The Sisters stand, facing the Altar. Sr Petra remains standing.  
Bishop Brian comes forward for the Consecration.*

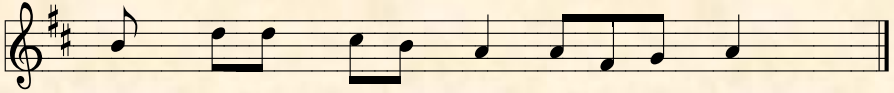
**Bishop Brian:** Sr Petra, do you desire to be consecrated to God before all here present, and to be recognised in the Church as a sign of her union with Jesus Christ the Son of the Most High God.

**Sr Petra:** Yes, with all my heart I do desire this. In your presence, Bishop Brian, and before the Holy People of God, relying on the mercy of God, I declare my irrevocable resolution to persevere in consecrated virginity.

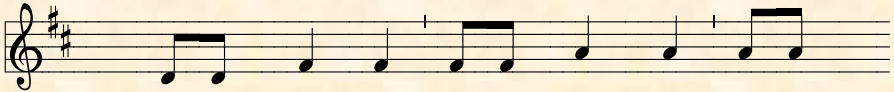
*Sr Petra sings the following:*



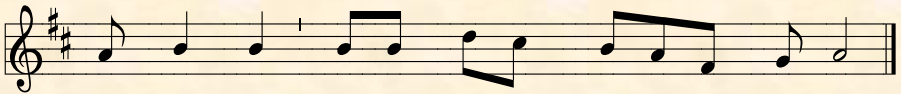
**Sr:** For love of my Lord Je- sus Christ I have turned from



the king- dom of this world and all its charms



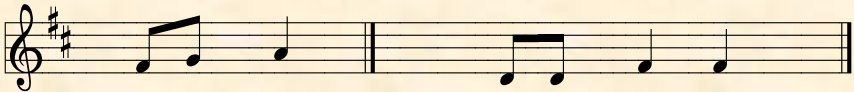
**Choir:** I have seen him, I have loved him I have



be- lieved him, I have set my heart on him a- lone.



**Sr:** My heart is o- ver- flow- ing. I sing my song



to the Lord.

**Choir:** I have seen him.....

*Sr Petra and the sisters in the Choir kneel.*

*Bishop Brian presents a lighted candle to Sr Petra and then consecrates Sr Petra to God.*

## Prayer of Consecration

Lord God, Creator of the world and Father of all people, we praise and thank you. Be with us, eternal and all-powerful God: you have chosen us in Jesus Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy, to live by love in your presence, and to be your adopted children in your well-beloved Son.

At every stage in history you have set aside women and men to serve you in the obedience of faith, and to be holy as you are holy. It was thus that you chose Abraham, calling him to leave his father's house for the country that you would show him.

You have chosen a people from the race of Abraham and have consecrated that people by giving it your name. When your people crossed the desert you sustained them by speaking to them heart to heart and you worked marvels on their behalf by the power of your hand.

When they were poor and abandoned, you made an alliance with them out of love. When they wandered away from your friendship, you yourself led them back. When they sought you, your fatherly care anticipated them at every turn, until they came back at last to the land of liberty.

But, above all, Father, we bless you for bringing us the knowledge of the truth through Jesus Christ your Son, our Lord. Born of the Virgin Mary, he delivered your people from sin; by dying on the cross and by his resurrection he gave them the pledge of future glory. Seated at your right hand he has sent the Holy Spirit who calls many women and men to be Jesus' disciples consecrated to the glory of your name by following the counsels of the Gospel.

Today your house resounds with a new song, because Sr Petra, in response to your call, comes to offer herself to your service. For you, Lord, she has left all.

*Extending his hands over Sr Petra, Bishop Brian continues:*

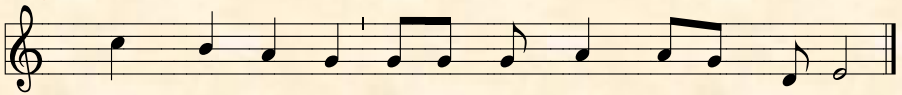
And now Father, we pray you: set the heart of Sr Petra on fire with your Holy Spirit. May the face of Christ shine upon her and may all who see her discover his presence in the Church. Father, look in love upon Sr Petra, sanctify her; bless her.

*Here Bishop Brian sprinkles Sr Petra with holy water.*

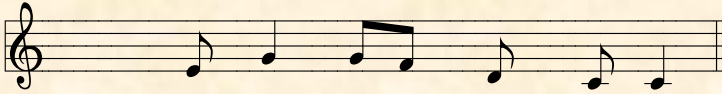
Keep her forever. Give her, Lord, the fruits of your Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, magnanimity, kindness, confidence in others, graciousness and self-control. May your Spirit be her life. May he be the source of all she does, and keep her in your love. And do you, Father, lead us all alike, to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**ALL: Amen.**

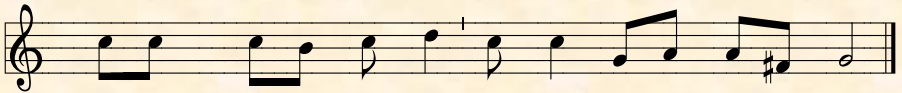
*The prayer being ended the Chantress and Choir stand choir to choir and sing:*



**Ch:** Come, cho- sen one, I will en- throne my- self in you.



**Choir:** The King de- sires your beau- ty.



**Ch:** Lis- ten daugh- ter and see, in- cline the ear of your heart.



**Choir:** The King de- sires your beau- ty.

*Sr Petra rises and places her candle on the altar.*

*Mother Abbess joins Bishop Brian in front of the Altar.*

*The Choir remain standing, facing the Altar.*

# Signs of Consecration

## The Cowl

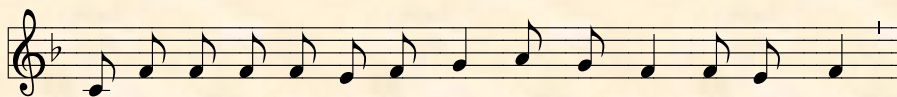
**Bishop Brian:** Give heed to our prayers, O Lord, and graciously bless ✠ this COWL, in which we clothe our Sr Petra. With the help of your grace may she be unswerving in her dedication to you, and so be found worthy to receive the reward of eternal life. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**ALL:** Amen

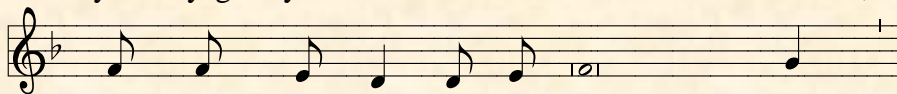
*The Abbess clothes her with the Cowl saying:*

**Mother Abbess:** Receive the habit of St Benedict. Be faithful to the promise of Stability, Conversion of Life and Obedience you have made before God and his holy angels and you will enjoy their everlasting companionship, together with all the saints who have worn this holy habit before you.

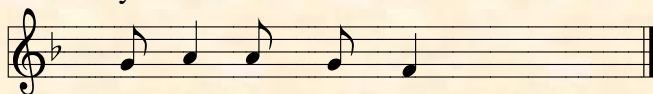
*Sr Petra remains standing and sings the following:*



My on- ly glo-ry is the cross of our Lord Je-sus Christ,



by which the world has been crucified to me



and I to the world. (Gal 6:14)

# The Veil

*Sr Petra kneels to receive the veil.*

*Mother Abbess holds the Veil and Bishop Brian says the Prayer of Blessing over the Veil:*

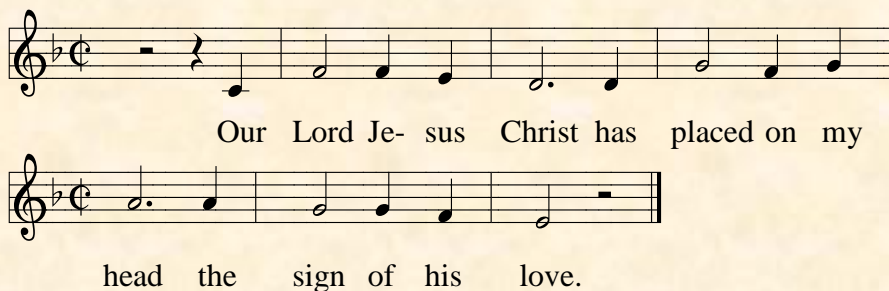
**Bishop Brian:** I now bless ✠ this sacred VEIL, by which all may know that you have left the world and dedicated yourself to Jesus Christ. May he protect you from all harm and bring you to life everlasting.

**ALL:** Amen

*Mother Abbess hands the Veil to Sr Petra, saying:*

**Mother Abbess:** Receive this Veil as a sign of your consecration. Remember always that you are vowed to the service of Christ and of his body the Church.

*Sr Petra stands and sings the following:*



Our Lord Je- sus Christ has placed on my  
head the sign of his love.

The musical notation consists of two staves in G major (one sharp) and common time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the song, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The lyrics are written below the notes.



# The Ring

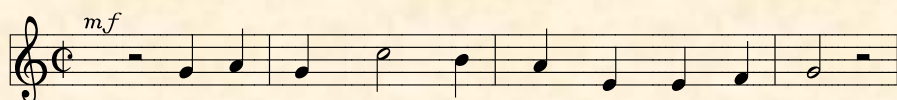
*Sr Petra kneels to receive the ring.*

*Mother Abbess hands the Ring to the Bishop. Bishop Brian places the ring on Sr Petra's finger.*

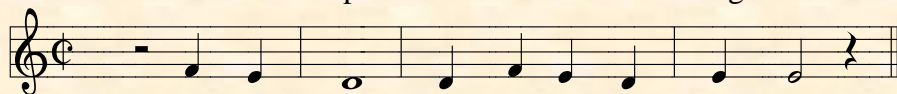
**Bishop Brian:** I espouse you to Jesus Christ, Son of the Most High God; may he ever keep you safe. Receive this RING of fidelity, the sign of the Holy Spirit. If you are faithful in his service, you will be called his spouse and receive an everlasting crown.

✠ In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

*Sr Petra stands and sings the following:*



I am e- spoused to him whom an- gels serve.



Sun and moon mar- vel at his beau- ty.

# The Psalter

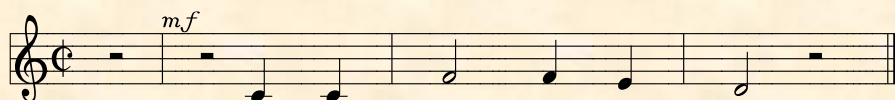
*Sr Petra kneels to receive the Psalter.*

*Mother Abbess holds the Psalter and Bishop Brian says the Prayer of Blessing over the Psalter:*

**Bishop Brian:** May God's blessing ✠ come upon this Book of the Prayer of the Church. Prefer nothing to the Work of God. Day and night sing his praise and give him glory in the Church.

*Mother Abbess hands the Psalter to Sr Petra.*

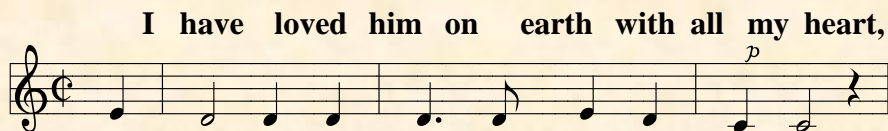
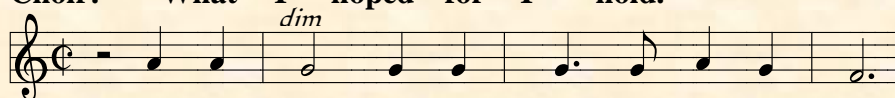
*Sr Petra stands and sings the following:*



**Sister:** What I longed for I see.



**Choir:** What I hoped for I hold.



and now I am one with him in hea- ven.

*The Bishop returns to his Chair*

*The Community take its place for the Kiss of Peace*

# The Kiss of Peace

*This solemn Kiss of Peace signifies the full acceptance of the newly professed sister into her monastic community.*

*The first exchange is between Mother Abbess and Sr Petra.*

**Mother Abbess:** Sr Petra we confirm that you are now one with us as a full member of our monastic community sharing all things in common with us now and in the future.

*Then Sr Petra goes around to each sister in the community and exchanges the Kiss of Peace.*

*In extending the palms of their hands upwards, Mother Abbess and the sisters signify their acceptance and reception of Sr Petra into the community.*



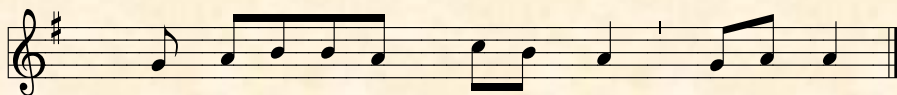
As we progress in this way of life and in faith,  
we shall run on the path of God's commandments,  
our hearts overflowing with the  
inexpressible delight of love.

(RB Prologue 49)

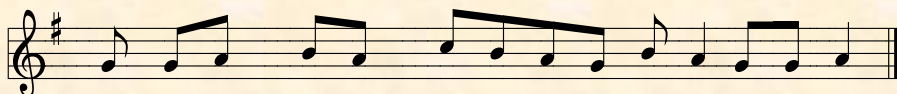
*While the Kiss of Peace is exchanged with each sister, the following is sung by the Chantresses:*

## Where Charity and Love are Found

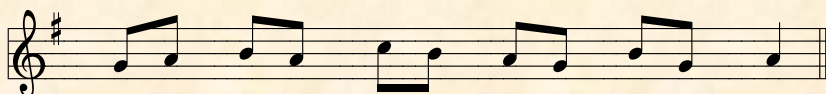
The Simple Gradual - Gregory Murray OSB



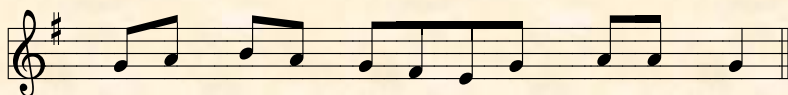
**ALL:** Where cha- ri-ty and love are found, God is there.



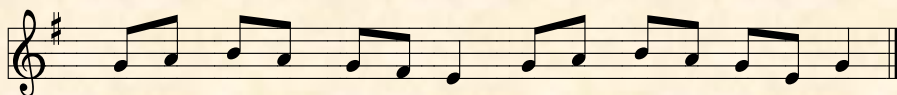
CH: The love of Christ has ga-thered us to- ge-ther in-to one.



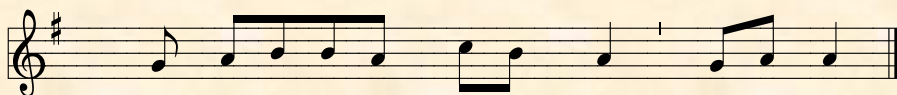
**ALL:** Let us then re- joice and be glad in him.



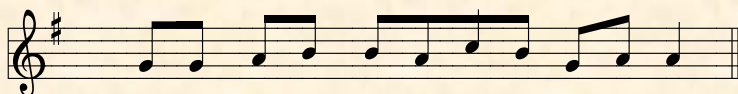
CH: Let us fear and love the liv- ing God.



**ALL:** Let us love each o- ther from the depths of our heart.



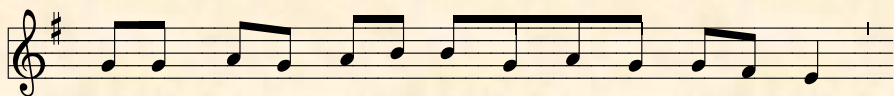
**ALL:** Where cha- ri-ty and love are found, God is there.



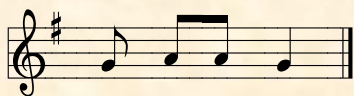
CH: There- fore when we are to- ge- ther.



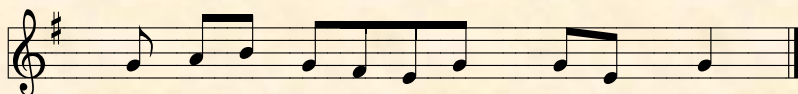
**ALL:** Let us take heed not to be di-vi- ded in mind.



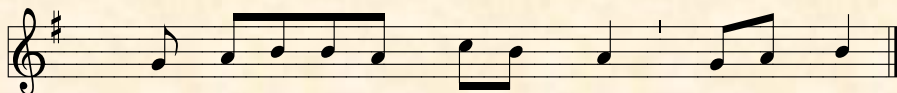
CH: Let there be an end to bit- ter- ness and quar- rels,



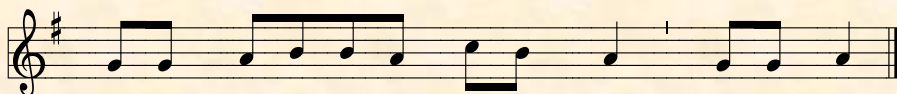
an end to strife.



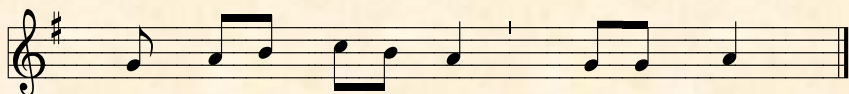
**ALL:** And in our midst be Christ our God.



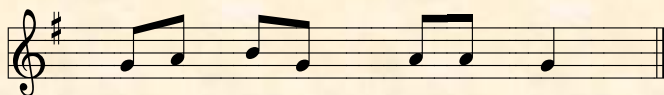
**ALL:** Where cha- ri-ty and love are found, God is there.



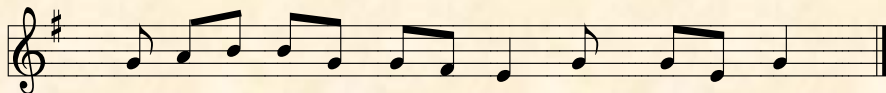
CH: And in com- pa- ny with the bless'd may we see:



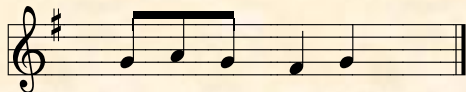
**ALL:** Thy face in glo- ry, Christ our God.



**ALL:** Pure and un- bound- ed joy.



**ALL:** For ev- ver and e- ver, with- out end.



**ALL:** A- men.

*At the end of the Kiss of Peace Mother Abbess and Sr Petra bow together and return to their stalls. The Community then follows.*

*The Altar is set-up for the Liturgy of the Eucharist*

# Liturgy of the Eucharist

## Preparation of the Gifts

Organ Voluntary



I thank you for your faithfulness and love  
which excel all we ever knew of you.

On the day I called, you answered;  
you increased the strength of my soul.

(Psalm 137:2-3)

## Holy, Holy (Sanctus)

Colin D. Smith, CFC

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.

## Memorial Acclamation

Colin D. Smith, CFC

We proclaim your Death, O Lord,  
and profess your Resurrection  
until you come again.

## Solemn Amen

Colin D. Smith, CFC

Amen; Amen; Amen; Amen.



# The Lord's Prayer

Sr Hildegard Ryan OSB

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread,  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom,  
the power and the glory are yours  
now and for ever.

## Lamb of God (Agnus Dei) Colin D. Smith, CFC

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.

# Communion

## Here I am Lord

by Dan Schutte

1. I, the Lord of sea and sky  
I have heard my people cry  
All who dwell in darkness now  
My hand will save  
I who make the stars of night  
I will make their darkness bright  
Who will bear my light to them?  
Whom shall I send?

**REFRAIN:** Here I am, Lord. It is I Lord  
I have heard you calling in the night  
I will go, Lord, where you lead me  
I will hold your people in my heart

2. I the Lord of snow and rain  
I have borne my people's pain  
I have wept for love of them  
They turn away  
I will break their hearts of stone  
Give them hearts for love a-lone  
I will speak my words to them  
Whom shall I send?
3. I the Lord of wind and flame  
I will tend the poor and lame  
I will set a feast for them  
My hand will save  
Finest bread I will provide  
Till their hearts be satisfied  
I will give my life to them  
Whom shall I send?

# Post Communion

## Veni Sponsa Christi

Veni, Sponsa Christi,  
veni, veni, Sponsa Christi,  
veni, Sponsa Christi,  
veni, veni, Sponsa Christi,  
accipe coronam,  
accipe, accipe coronam,  
accipe coronam, accipe, accipe,  
accipe coronam,  
quam tibi Dominus  
praeparavit in aeternum.

**Translation:** Come, bride of Christ,  
receive the crown which the Lord  
has prepared for you for all eternity.

# Concluding Prayer

## Papal Blessing

*Sr Petra comes forward after the Veni Sponsa Christi.*

*Bishop Brian presents the Blessing from our Holy Father, Pope Francis, to Sr Petra.*

**Bishop Brian:** Sister Petra, on this day of your Solemn Profession,  
I present to you the Blessing of our Holy Father,  
Pope Francis.

## Solemn Blessing

*The Solemn Blessing is given then all sing the “Te Deum”.*



Sing a new song to the Lord,  
his praise in the assembly of the faithful.  
Let them praise his name with dancing  
and make music with timbrel and harp.

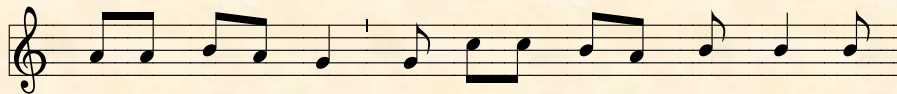
(Psalm 149:1,3)

# Te Deum

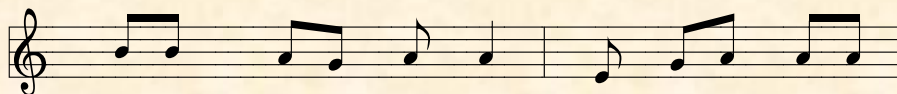
MS1 Stanbrook Abbey



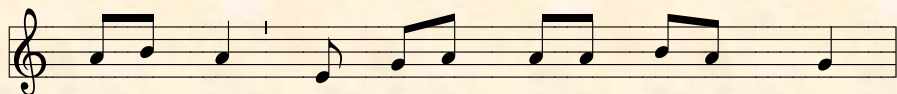
To you, O God, we give our praise, ac-claim- ing



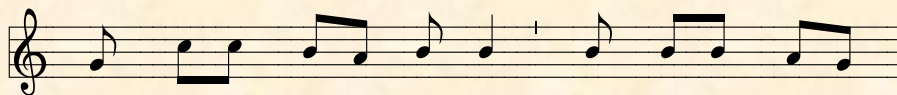
you to be the Lord. To you, E-ter-nal Fa-ther, the



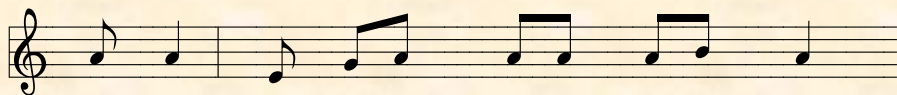
world bows down in hom-age. The an-gels and an-



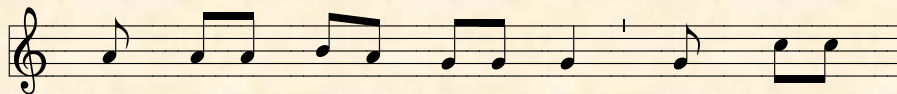
gel-ic Pow'rs all sing your ev-er-last-ing praise.



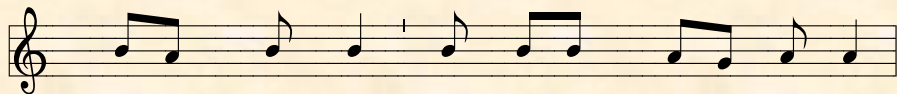
They cry out, 'Ho-ly, ho-ly, the Lord of hosts is



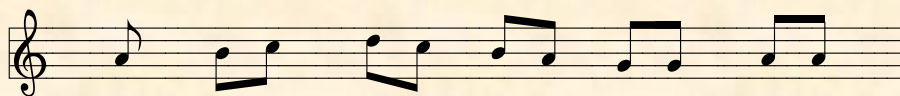
ho-ly!' You fill the heav'ns and all the earth



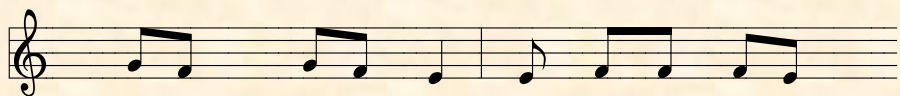
with glo-ry and with ma-jes-ty. The twelve a-



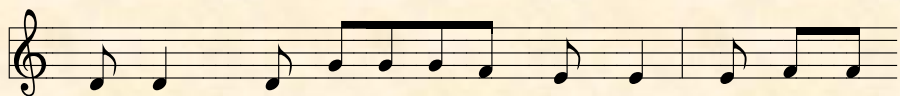
pos-tles praise you, the pro-phets and the mar-tyrs.



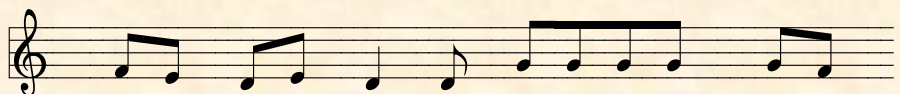
Through- out the world, from end to end, your ho- ly



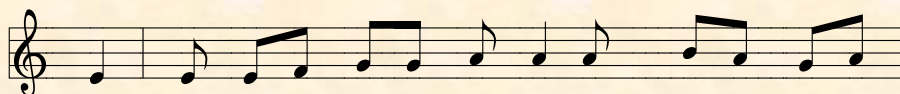
Church pro- claims her faith: In you, E- ter- nal



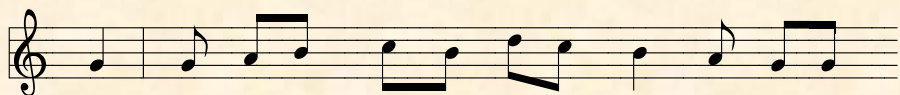
Fa- ther, whose ma- jes- ty is bound- less, in Je- sus



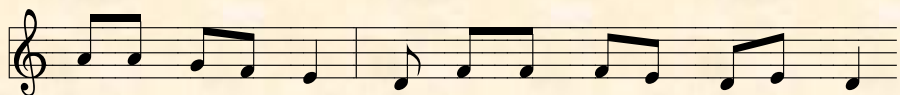
Christ, your on- ly Son, true God to be a- dored by



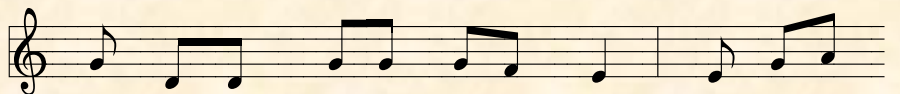
all, And in the Ho- ly Spi- rit who pleads for us with



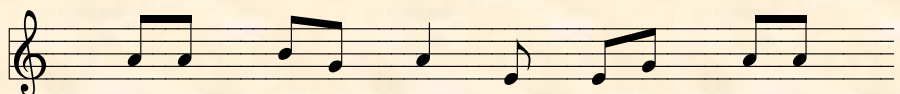
you. You are the King of glo- ry, Christ, the Fa- ther's



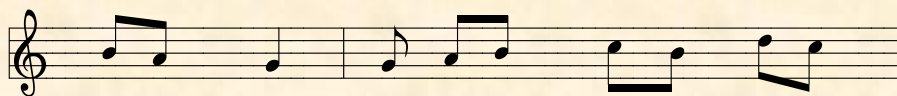
ev- er-last- ing Son. Be- com- ing man to save man- kind,



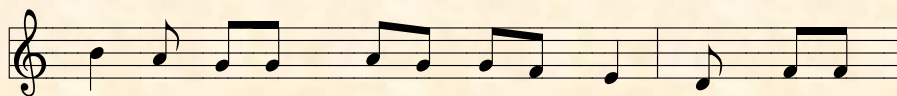
you did not spurn the Vir- gin's womb. You ov- er-



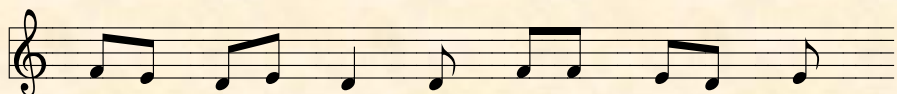
came the sting of death and, to your faith- ful,



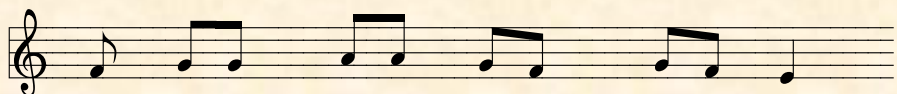
o- pened heav'n. You sit en- throned at God's right.



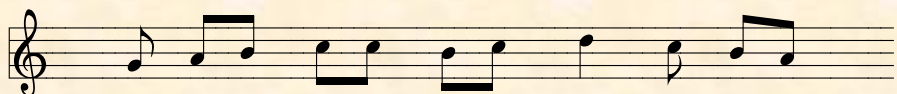
hand, the Fa- ther's glo- ry is your own. We know that



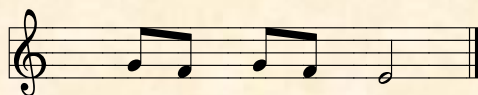
you will be our judge, and there- fore we im- plore



your help who shed your pre- cious blood for us:



Give us a place a- mong your saints, in glo- ry



that will ne- ver end.



The Master is here and is calling for you.  
She rose up at once and went to Him.

(John 11:28-29)



This ceremony  
is taken from the  
*French Monastic Ritual*  
for Benedictine Nuns,  
approved in 1974  
by the Sacred Congregation for  
Worship  
as being based on the  
*Ordo Consecrationis Virginum*, 1970.



My gratitude to each one of you celebrating my  
Solemn Profession with me today,  
those present here and those linked online.

Special thanks to the members of my family  
for their unconditional love  
and to my sisters in community  
for their acceptance and love in our shared journey  
so far and into our future.

May God bless you all.

God has created me  
to do Him some definite service  
He has committed some work to me  
which He has not committed to another.  
I have my mission.  
I may never know it in this life  
but I shall be told it in the next.  
I am a link in a chain, a bond of connection between persons  
He has not created me for naught.  
I shall do good, I shall do His work.  
I shall be an angel of peace,  
a preacher of truth in my own place, while not intending it  
if I do but keep His commandments.  
Therefore I will trust Him,  
wherever I am I can never be thrown away.  
If I am in sickness, my sickness will serve Him,  
my perplexity, my perplexity will serve Him.  
If I am in sorrow, my sorrow may serve Him.  
He does nothing in vain. He knows what He is about.  
He may take away my friends.  
He may throw me among strangers.  
He may make me feel desolate,  
make my spirits sink, hide my future from me.  
Still He knows what He is about.

St. John Henry Newman



**VIA INTEGRITATIS PAX**