

VEXILLA REGIS, Hymn in Honor of the Holy Cross

254

I  
V E-xíl-la Re- gis pród- e- unt: Fulget Cru-cis my-  
sté-ri- um, Qua vi-ta mortem pér-tu-lit, Et mor- te  
vi- tam pró-tu- lit.



The banners of the King go forth, the mystery of the Cross shines, by which life overcame death and by death gave birth to life.



2. Quæ vulne-rá- ta lán-ce-æ Mucróné di-ro, crími-num



Ut nos lavá-ret sór-dibus, Maná- vit unda et sángine.

Which was pierced by the sharp point of the lance, from the stain of sin to wash us, shedding water and blood.



3. Implé-ta sunt quæ cón-ci-nit Da-vid fi-dé- li cármi-ne,



Di-céndo na-ti- ó- nibus: Regná- vit a ligno De- us.

Now is fulfilled what was foretold by David in his faithful hymn, saying to the nations: God has reigned from a tree.



4. Arbor decó-ra et fúl-gi-da, Orná-ta Re-gis púrpu-ra,

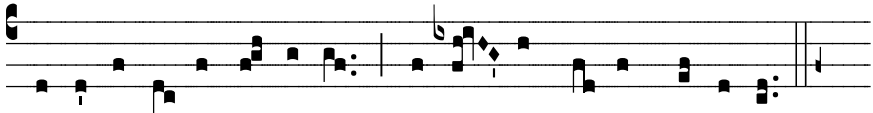


E-lécta digno stí-pi-te Tam san-cta membra tángere.

O tree, fair and radiant, with royal purple adorned, chosen with thy worthy boughs to touch such sacred limbs.



5. Be- á-ta, cu- jus brá-chi- is Pré-ti-um pepéndit sáecu-li:



Sta-té-ra facta córpo-ris, Tu- lítque prædam tárta-ri.

O blessed tree, from whose branches hung the redemption of the world; thou, from whom his body hangs, dost snatch from hell its prey.



6. O CRUX AVE, spes ú-ni-ca, Hoc Passi- ó-nis témpo-re:

*Exaltation of the Holy Cross, Sept. 14: In hac tri-umphi glo-ri-a:*



Pi- is adáu-ge grá-ti- am, Re- ísque de- le crími-na.

Hail, O Cross, our only hope! At this Passiontide, [In this thy triumphant glory,] increase grace to the just and blot out the sin of the wicked.

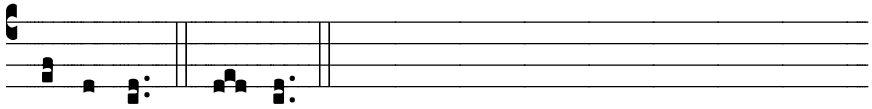
*Vexilla Regis, cont.*



7. Te, fons sa-lú- tis Trí- ni-tas, Colláudet omnis spí-



ri-tus: Qui-bus Cru-cis victó- ri- am Largí- ris, adde



præmi- um. A-men.

Thee, holy Trinity, fount of salvation, let every spirit praise. To whom the victory of the Cross thou givest, give also its prize.