

IN NATIVITATE S. IOANNIS BAPTISTÆ

HYMNUS AD VESPERAS

H. II
U

T queant laxis re-soná-re fi-bris mi-ra gestórum
fámuli tu-ó-rum, sol-ve pollú-ti lá-bi-i re-átum, sancte
Ioán-nes. A- men.

2. Núntius cælo véniens suprémò,
te patri magnum fore nascitúrum,
nomen et vitæ sériem geréndæ
órdine promit.

3. Ille promíssi dúbius supérni
pérdidit promptæ módulos loquélæ;
sed reformásti génius perémp-tæ
 órgana vocis.

4. Ventris obstrúso pósito cubíli
sénseras regem thálamò manéntem;
hinc parens nati méritis utérque
ábdita pandit.

5. Láudibus cives célebrant supérni
te, Deus simplex paritérque trine,
súpplícés ac nos véniám precámur:
parce redémp-tis. Amen.

Text: Paulus Diaconus, c. 720-799

Tune: Plainchant, mode II

VERSIO IN LINGUA ANGLICA



1. O for thy Spi - rit, Ho - ly John, to chast - en
2. Lo! a swift her - ald, from the skies de - scend - ing,
3. Scarce - ly be - liev - ing mes - sage so tran - scend - ent,
4. Thou, in thy mo - ther's womb all dark - ly crad - led,
5. Now as the An - gels cel - e - brate thy prais - es,



Lips sin - pol - lu - ted, fet - tered tongues to loo - sen,
Bears to thy fa - ther pro - mise of thy great - ness;
Him for a sea - son pow'r of speech for - sak - eth,
Knew - est thy Mon - arch, bid - ing in his cham - ber,
God - head es - sen - tial, Tri - ni - ty co - e - qual;



So by thy chil - dren might thy deeds of won - der
How he shall name_ thee, what thy fu - ture sto - ry,
Till, at thy wond - rous birth, a - gain re - turn - eth
Whence the two par - ents, through their children's mer - its,
Spare thy re - deem'd ones, as they bow be - fore_ thee,



Meet - ly be chan - ted.
Du - ly re - veal - ing.
Voice to the voice - less.
Mys - ter - ies ut - ter'd.
Par - don im - plor - ing. A - men.

Text: Paulus Diaconus, c. 720-799; tr. anonymous, *The Hymner*, 1905

Tune: CHRISTE SANCTORUM, 11.11.11.5; La Feillee's *Methode du plain-chant*, 1782