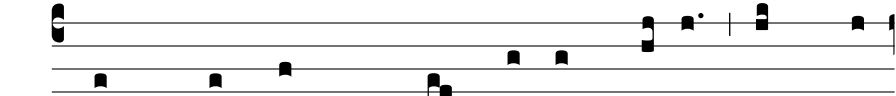


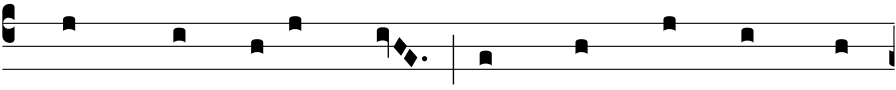
Sing, my tongue, the Saviour's glory

Pange Lingua by St Thomas Aquinas

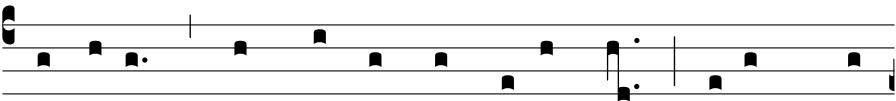
translated by Fr Edward Caswall



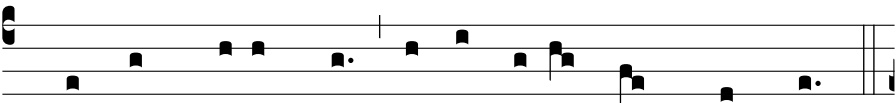
S ing my tongue the Saviour's glo-ry, Of His



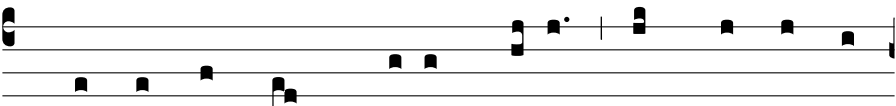
Flesh the mystery sing, Of the Blood all price



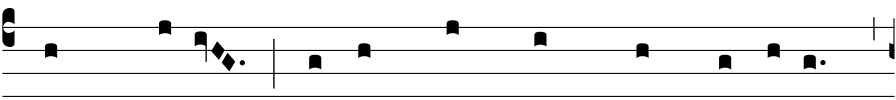
exceeding Shed by our immortal King Destined for




the world's redemption of a noble womb to spring.



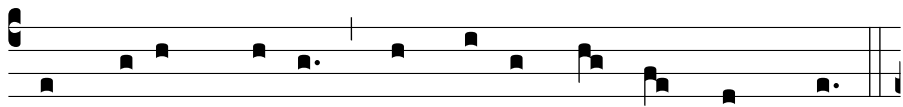
2. Of a pure and spotless Virgin, Born for us on



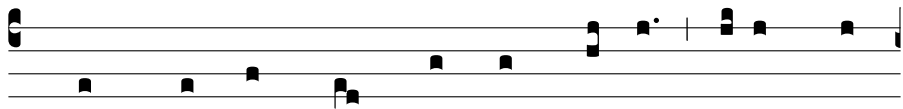
earth be-low, He as man with man conversing,



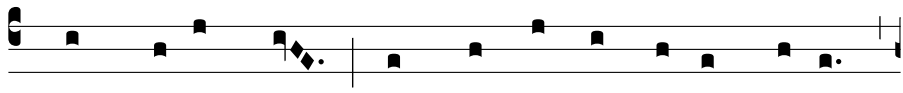
stayed the seeds of truth to sow. Then He closed



in so-lemn order Wondrously His life of woe.



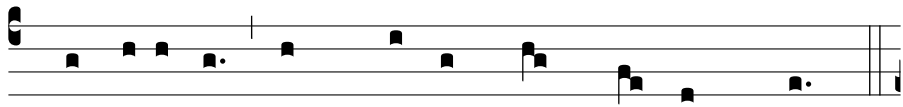
3. On the night of that last supper Seated with



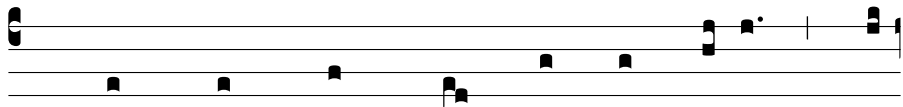
His cho-sen band He, the Paschal vi-ctim ea-ting,



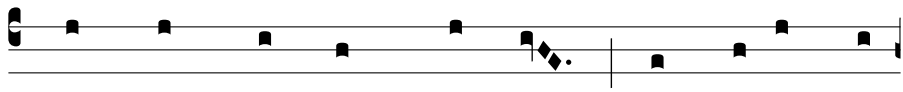
First ful-fils the law's command; Then as food to



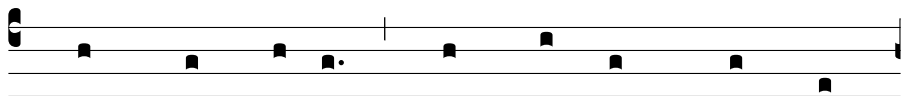
His apostles Gives Himself with His own hand.



4. Word made Flesh, the bread of na-ture; By



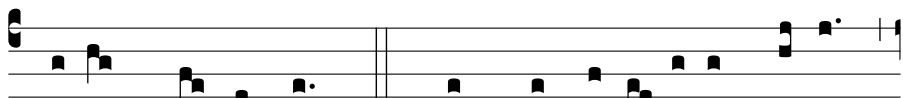
His word to flesh He turns; Wine into His



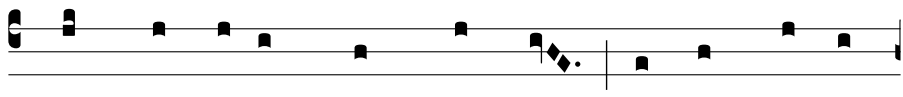
blood He changes What tho sense no change



di-scerns? Only be the heart in earnest, Faith her



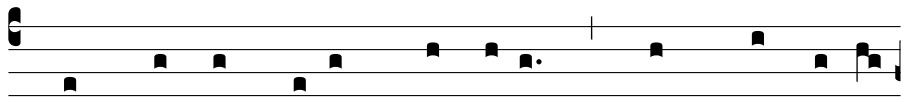
lesson quickly learns. 5. Down in a-do-ration fal-ling,



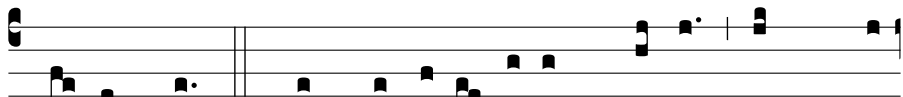
Lo, the sacred Host we hail Lo, o'er ancient



forms departing Newer rites of grace pre-vail



Faith for all de-fects supply-ing Where the feeble



senses fail 6. To the e-ver-lasting Father And the

Son who reigns on high With the Ho-ly Ghost

proceeding Forth from each e-ternal-ly Be salvation,

honour, blessing, Mi-ght and endless ma-jesty. A- men.

Written by St. Thomas Aquinas (1225–1274) for the Solemnity of Corpus Christi, this hymn is considered the most beautiful of Aquinas’ hymns and one of the great seven hymns of the Church.

The rhythm of the Pange Lingua is said to have come down from a marching song of Caesar’s Legions: *Ecce, Caesar nunc triumphat qui subegit Gallias.*

Besides the Solemnity of Corpus Christi, this hymn is also used on Holy Thursday.

The last two stanzas make up the *Tantum Ergo* (Down in Adoration Falling) that is used at Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

There is another Latin hymn starting *Pange lingua gloriosi* written much earlier by Fortunatus. That is used at Good Friday and commemorates the Passion of Our Lord.