Mittit ad virginem Non quem vis ángelum, 
Sed fortí tudinem, Súum archángelum, 
Amátor hóninis. 
Fórtém expédiat Pro nóbis núnium, 
Natúre fáciet Ut prejudícium 
In párthi virgínis. 
Natúram súperet Nátus rex glóriæ, 
Régnét et Ímperet, Et zýma scóríë 
Tóllat de médíco. 
Superbiéntium Térat fastígía, 
Cólla sublíum Cálçans vi própríia, 
Pótens in prélíco. 
Fórás ejúciet Mundánum príncipem, 
Mátrénuque fáciet Sécum participem 
Pátris impérii. 
Exí, qui míttéris hec dóna dícere: 
Revéla vétéris Velámen líttere, 
Vírúté núntii. 

Accédé, núntia: Dic, áve, cóminus; 
Dic, pléna grátiá; Dic, témum dóminus; 
Et dic, ne tímeas. 
Virgo suscipias Déi deposítiunum, 
In quæ perfícias Cástæa propósitiunum, 
Et vótum téneas. 
Audit et súsceptí Puëllá núntiunum; 
Crédit et cóncipt, Et párít fílium, 
Sed admirábilem 
Consiliárium Humání générís, 
Et dǽm fórýum, Et pártem pósterís, 
In pácé stábilem. 
Qui nos sálvet 
per ómnia seculórum sécula. 
Amen. 

—Peter Abelard (1079-1142)

Mittit ad virginem

He sends to the virgin not just any angel, but the strength, the archangel himself, the lover of mankind. May he declare for us the mighty message, may he effect in nature the preordained birth by a virgin. May the born king of glory overcome nature: May he reign and rule, and the weight of dross may he remove from our midst. May he frighten the highest of the proud, treading upon the very necks of the exalted, mighty in battle. May he throw out the worldly prince, and make his mother a partner with him in his father's kingdom. Go forth, you who send these gifts, to speak: remove the veil from the ancient writings by the strength of the news.

Come close, messenger, say "Hail" in person; say "full of grace," say "the Lord is with you," and say "fear not." Virgin, may you take up what God has set down, in which to accomplish your chaste intention and keep your vow. The maiden hears and accepts the message; she believes and conceives and bears a son, but a wondrous Counselor of the human race, and God of the strong, father of those to come, and steadfast in peace. Who heals us through all ages of ages. Amen.

Josquin des Prez 
French; c.1452-1521


19 Mar 2021
any angel, but the strength.

the archangel himself.

the lover of mankind. May he
declare for us the mighty message,

may he effect in

nature
the preordained

birth by a virgin.

the born king of glory overcome nature:
he reign and rule,

and
the weight of dross may he remove from our midst.

May he frighten the highest of the
proud.
treading upon

Sublimis immum Cals cans vi pro-

Sublimis immum Cals cans vi pro-

Subpri-a, Potens in praelio.
Foras

Subpri-a, Potens in praelio.
Foras

The very necks of the exalted.

Mighty in battle.

May he
throw out the worldly prince, and make

his mother a partner with him in his father's

kingdom. Go forth, you who send these gifts,
to speak: remove from the ancient

writings the veil

by the strength of the news.
Secunda pars:

Come close, messenger, say "Hail" in person; say "full of grace;" say "the Lord is with you;" and say "fear not."

\begin{align*}
147 & \quad \text{Ac-cé-de, nún-tí-a: Dic, á-ve,} \\
152 & \quad \text{có-mi-nus; Dic, plé-na grá-ti-a; Dic, té-cum} \\
157 & \quad \text{có-mi-nus; Dic, plé-na grá-ti-a; Dic, té-cum} \\
161 & \quad \text{dó-mi-nus; Et___ dic____, ne tí-me-}\end{align*}
Virgin, may you take up

what God has set down.

in which to accomplish
your chaste intention

and keep your vow.
The maiden hears and accepts the message:

she believes and conceives and bears a son,

but a wondrous Counselor
of the human race, and God of the

strong, father of those to come, and

steadfast in peace.
Altersations: To ease SATB performance, we exchanged alto and tenor parts in (bar:quarter) 38.1–43.4, 125.3–4, 133.3–134.4, 147.1–162.2, 192.6–194.2, and 200.6–202.6.