



Christmas

In Harvard Square



The Boys of St. Paul's Choir School




1. O Come All Ye Faithful
2. O Magnum Mysterium
3. Once In Royal David's City
4. Omnes De Saba Venient
5. Hark! The Herald Angels Sing
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TOTAL PLAYING TIME: 61:04



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Christmas-time is a beautiful opportunity for the contemplation of the wonder of the Nativity of Our Lord. This recording has been a blessing and an opportunity to share our special community at St. Paul's Choir School, the only Catholic boys choir school in the US. Having just celebrated our 50th anniversary of founding, in the midst of the great renaissance that is taking place at our school, sharing this music allows us to collaborate in the great endeavor that is the New Evangelization. Sacred choral music, especially that which is centered on the Incarnation of our Lord, can serve to inspire countless people to rediscover, embrace anew or even encounter for the first time the gift of the Son of God made man. Through this music we invite you the listener to be transported to Harvard Square to share in the angelic beauty of the centuries old tradition of the boys choir as we celebrate together

Christmas in Harvard Square.

-Fr. Michael Drea,
Pastor, St. Paul Parish
Senior Chaplain,
Harvard Catholic Center

1.  **come all ye faithful** Melody by J. F. Wade 1711-1788, Text by Frederick Oakley 1802-1880.
Descant by John Robinson b.1983

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem.
Come and behold Him, born the King of angels:
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

God of God, Light of Light,
Lo, He abhors not the virgin's womb;
Very God, begotten, not created:
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
Glory to God in the highest:
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning,
Jesu, to Thee be glory given;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing:
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

2.  **magnum mysterium** Composed by T.L. Victoria 1548-1611, Text from Matins of Christmas

O magnum mysterium
et admirabile sacramentum,
ut animalia viderent Dominum natum
jacentem in praesepe.
O beata Virgo cujus viscera meruerunt
portare Dominum Jesum Christum Alleluia.

O great mystery
and wonderful sacrament,
that animals should see the newborn Lord
lying in a manger.
O blessed is the virgin whose womb was worthy
to bear the Lord Jesus Christ. Alleluia.

3. **Once in royal David's city** Melody by H.J. Gauntlett 1805-1876, Text by C. F. Alexander 1818-1895, Descant and arrangement by John Robinson b.1983

Once in royal David's city
Stood a lowly cattle shed,
Where a mother laid her Baby
In a manger for His bed:
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ her little Child.

He came down to earth from heaven,
Who is God and Lord of all,
And His shelter was a stable,
And His cradle was a stall;
With the poor, and mean, and lowly,
Lived on earth our Savior holy.

And through all His wondrous childhood,
He would honor and obey,
Love and watch the lowly maiden,
In whose gentle arms He lay:
Christian children all must be
Mild, obedient, good as He.

Not in that poor lowly stable,
With the oxen standing by,
We shall see Him; but in heaven,
Set at God's right hand on high;
When, like stars, His children crowned
All in white shall wait around.

4. **Omnes de saba venient** Composed by Jacob Handl 1550-1591, Text from Isaiah 60: 6 and 1

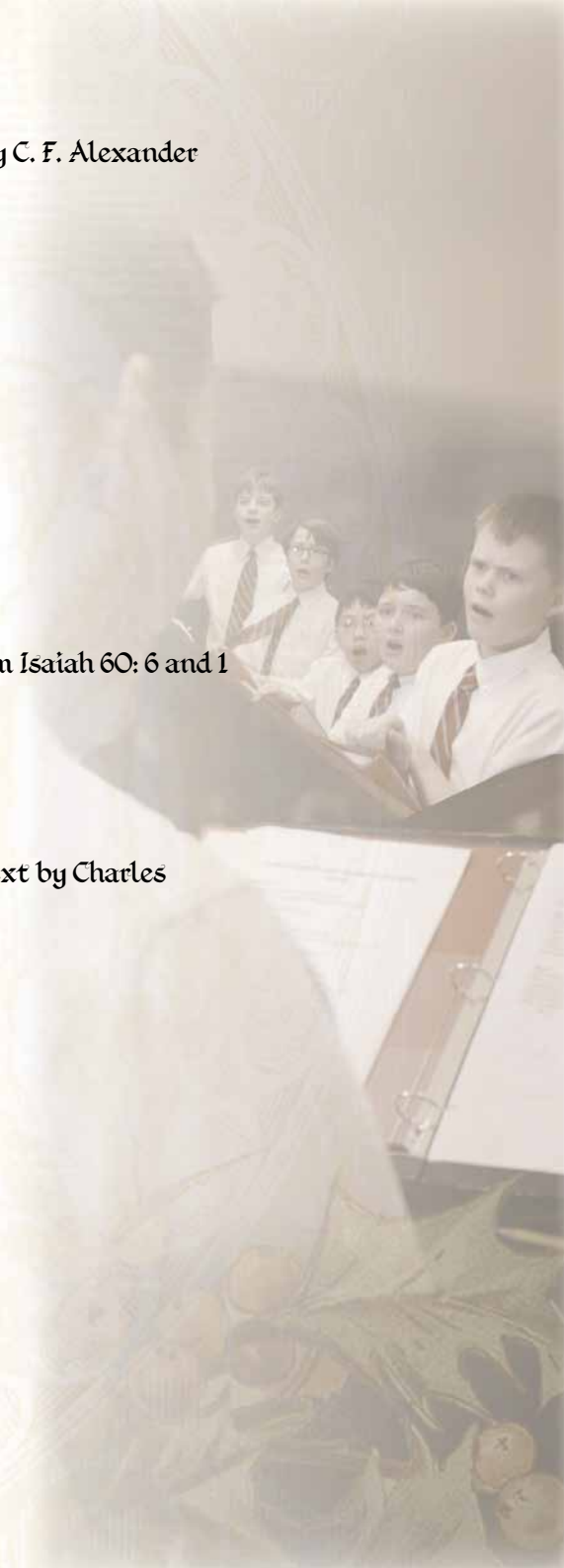
Omnes de Saba venient aurum et
thus deferentes et laudem Domino
annuntiantes. Alleluia.

All they from Sheba shall come bringing
gold and frankincense and declaring
praise to the Lord. Alleluia.

5. **Hark! the herald angels sing** Melody by Felix Mendelssohn 1809-1847, Text by Charles Wesley 1707-1788, Descant and arrangement by John Robinson b.1983

Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations rise,
Join the triumph of the skies;
With the angelic host proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!"
Christ, by highest heaven adored;
Christ the everlasting Lord;
Late in time, behold Him come,
Offspring of a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;

Hail the incarnate Deity,
Pleased as Man with man to dwell,
Jesus our Emmanuel.
Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!"
Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace!
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings,
Risen with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays His glory by,
Born that man no more may die.
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth.
Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!"



6. **Jesus christ, the apple tree** Composed by Elizabeth Poston 1905-1987, Text by Joshua Smith c.1695-1795, (Copyright OCP) (*Soloist Owen Lewis*)

The tree of life my soul hath seen,
Laden with fruit and always green:
The trees of nature fruitless be
Compared with Christ the apple tree.

His beauty doth all things excel:
By faith I know, but ne'er can tell
The glory which I now can see
In Jesus Christ the apple tree.

For happiness I long have sought,
And pleasure dearly I have bought:
I missed of all; but now I see
'Tis found in Christ the apple tree.

This fruit doth make my soul to thrive,
It keeps my dying faith alive;
Which makes my soul in haste to be
With Jesus Christ the apple tree.

7. **Mater ora filium** Melody Irish Traditional Arr. Charles Wood 1866-1926, Arrangement by John Robinson b.1983 Text Anonymous 15th Century (*Soloists Colin Lapus and Christian Landry*)

Mater ora filium ut post hoc exilium
Nobis donet gaudium beatorum omnium.

Fair maiden, Who is this bairn
That thou bearest in thine arm?
Sir it is a Kingis Son,
That in heaven above doth won.

Man to Father He hath none,
But Himself God alone;
Of a maiden He would be born,
To save mankind that was forlorn.

Mother, pray thy Son that after this exile
He may grant us the joy of all the blessed.

Three Kings brought Him presents:
Gold, myrrh, and frankincense,
To my Son full of might,
King of Kings and lord of right.

Fair maiden, pray for us
Unto thy Son, sweet Jesus,
That He will send us of His grace
In heaven on high to have a place.

8. **The little road to bethlehem** Composed by Michael Head 1900-1976, Text by Margaret Rose 1802-1880 (Copyright Boosey and Hawkes 1936) (*Soloists Mark Flynn and Christian Landry*)

As I walked down the road at set of sun,
The lambs were coming homewards, one by one,
I heard a sheep-bell softly calling them
Along the little road to Bethlehem.

Beside an open door, as I drew nigh,
I heard sweet Mary sing a lullaby.

She sang about the lambs at close of day
And rocked her tiny King among the hay.
Across the air the silver sheep-bell rang,

"The lambs are coming home," sweet Mary sang,
"Your Star of gold is shining in the sky,
So sleep, my little King, go lullaby."

9. **The infant king** Melody Basque Anonymous Arranged by John Robinson b.1983, Text by S. Baring-Gould 1834-1924 (Soloist Mark Flynn)

Sing lullaby! Lullaby baby, now reclining,
Sing lullaby! Hush, do not wake the infant King.
Angels are watching, stars are shining
Over the place where He is lying: Sing lullaby!
Sing lullaby! Lullaby baby, now a-sleeping,
Sing lullaby! Hush, do not wake the infant King.
Soon will come sorrow with the morning,
Soon will come bitter grief and weeping: Sing lullaby!

Sing lullaby! Lullaby baby, now a-dozing,
Sing lullaby! Hush, do not wake the infant King.
Soon comes the cross, the nails, the piercing,
Then in the grave at last reposing: Sing lullaby!
Sing lullaby! Lullaby! is the babe awaking?
Sing lullaby! Hush, do not stir the infant King.
Dreaming of Easter, gladsome morning,
Conquering death, its bondage breaking: Sing lullaby!

10. **In the bleak midwinter** Composed by Harold Dark 1888-1976, Text by Christina Rossetti 1830-1894 (Soloists Mark Flynn and Devin Drerup)

In the bleak midwinter frosty wind made moan,
Earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone;
Snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow,
In the bleak midwinter long ago.
Our God, heaven cannot hold Him nor earth sustain;
Heaven and earth shall flee away when He comes to reign:
In the bleak midwinter a stable-place sufficed
The Lord God Almighty, Jesus Christ.

Enough for Him, Whom cherubim worship night and day,
A breastful of milk and a mangerful of hay;
Enough for Him, Whom angels fall down before,
The ox and ass and camel which adore.
What can I give Him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd I would bring a lamb,
If I were a wise man I would do my part,
Yet what I can I give Him, give my heart.

11. **sing of a maiden** Composed by John Robinson b.1983, Text Middle English 15th Century

I syng of a mayden that is makeles, (Maria)
Kyng of alle kyngs to here Sone che ches. (Maria)
He came also styлле wher His moder lay, (Maria)
As dew in aprille that fallyt on the spray. (Maria)
Moder and mayden was neuer non but che: (Maria)
Wel may swych a lady Godes moder be. (Maria)

I sing of a maiden that is matchless, (Maria)
King of all kings for her Son she chose. (Maria)
He came as still where His mother lay, (Maria)
As dew in April that falls on the spray. (Maria)
Mother and maiden there was never any but she: (Maria)
Well may such a lady God's mother be. (Maria)

12. **Puer natus est** Gregorian Chant Introit for the third Mass of Christmas Day, Text from Isaiah and Psalm 97 (Soloist Robert Marchant)

Puer natus est nobis,
et filius datus est nobis:
cujus imperium super humerum ejus;
et vocabitur nomen ejus,
magni consilii Angelus.

Cantate Domino canticum novum,
quia mirabilia fecit.

Gloria Patri et Filio et Spiritui Sancto,
sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper,
et in saecula saeculorum. Amen.

A Boy is born to us,
and a Son is given to us,
upon Whose shoulders authority rests;
and His name will be called
the Angel of great counsel.

Sing to the Lord a new song,
because He has done wondrous things.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy
Spirit, as it was in the beginning, and is now, and
ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

13. **Ding dong merrily on high** Melody 16th century French, Text by G. R. Woodward 1848-1934,
Arranged by David Willcocks (copyright OUP)

Ding dong! merrily on high
in heaven the bells are ringing;
Ding dong! verily the sky
is riven with angel-singing:
Gloria, hosanna in excelsis!

E'en so here below, below,
let steeple bells be swungen,
And io, io, io,
by priest and people sungen:
Gloria, hosanna in excelsis!

Pray you, dutifully prime
your matin chime, ye ringers;
May you beautifully rhyme
your eve-time song, ye singers:
Gloria, hosanna in excelsis!

14. **A maiden most gentle** Melody French Traditional, Text and Arrangement
by Andrew Carter b.1939 (copyright OUP)

A maiden most gentle and tender we sing:
Of Mary the mother of Jesus our King.
Ave, ave, ave Maria.

How blessed is the birth of her heavenly Child,
Who came to redeem us in Mary so mild.
Ave, ave, ave Maria.

The archangel Gabriel foretold by his call

The Lord of creation and Savior of all.
Ave, ave, ave Maria.

Three kings came to worship with gifts rich and rare
And marveled in awe at the Babe in her care.
Ave, ave, ave Maria.

Rejoice and be glad at this Christmas, we pray,
Sing praise to the Savior, sing endless "Ave."
Ave, ave, ave Maria.

15. **Still still still** Melody and text German Folk Tune, Arranged by John Robinson b.1983
(Soloist Christopher Jaehnig)

Still, still, still,
Let all the world be still.
For Mary lays her Son to rest,
Sing to Him softly at her breast.
Still, still, still,
Let all the world be still.
Sleep, sleep, sleep,
My dearest Baby, sleep.
The angels all rejoice and sing,

Heaven for Your delight shall ring.
Sleep, sleep, sleep,
My dearest Baby, sleep.
Joy, joy, joy!
My heart is filled with joy!
The God of love has left His throne,
Made this humble earth His own.
Joy, joy, joy!
My heart is filled with joy!

16. **Dominus dixit** Gregorian Chant Introit for Midnight Mass, Text from Psalm 2
(Soloist Thomas Potts)

Dominus dixit ad me: Filius meus es tu,
ego hodie genui te.
Quare fremuerunt gentes
et populi meditati sunt inania?
Gloria Patri et Filio et Spiritui Sancto,
sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper,
et in saecula saeculorum. Amen.

The Lord said unto Me: You are My Son,
today I have begotten You.
Why do the nations conspire
and the peoples plot in vain?
Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy
Spirit, as it was in the beginning, and is now, and
ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

17. **Angels we have heard** Melody Traditional French, Text by J. Chadwick
1813-1882, Descant and arrangement by John Robinson b.1983

Angels we have heard on high,
Singing sweetly through the night;
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their brave delight:
Gloria in excelsis Deo.
Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why these songs of happy cheer?
What great brightness did you see?
What glad tidings did you hear?
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Come to Bethlehem and see
Him Whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee
Christ, the Lord, the newborn King:
Gloria in excelsis Deo.
See Him in a manger laid
Whom the angels praise above;
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid,
While we raise our hearts in love:
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

18. Angelus ad virginem Melody and Text 14th Century Irish, Arr. David Willcocks (Copyright OUP)

Angelus ad virginem sub intrans in conclave,
Virginis formidinem demulcens, inquit, "Ave!
Ave, regina virginum; coeli terraeque Dominum
Concipies et paries intacta salutem hominum;
Tu porta coeli facta, medela criminum."

"Quomodo conciperem quae virum non cognovi?
Qualiter infringerem quod firma mente vovi?"
"Spiritus Sancti gratia perficiet haec omnia;
Ne timeas, sed gaudeas, segura quod castimonia
Manebit in te pura Dei potentia."

Ad haec virgo nobilis respondens inquit ei:
"Ancilla sum humilis Omnipotentis Dei.
Tibi coelesti nuntio, tanti secreti conscio,
Consentiens et cupiens videre factum quod audio;
Parata sum parere, Dei consilio."

Eia mater Domini, quae pacem reddidisti
Angelis et homini, cum Christum genuisti;
Tuum exora filium ut se nobis propitium
Exhibeat et deleat peccata: praestans auxilium
Vita frui beata post hoc exilium.

The angel, coming secretly to the virgin's room, calming
the virgin's fears, said, "Hail! Hail, queen of virgins; The
Lord of heaven and earth You shall conceive, and you shall
give birth intact to the salvation of mankind; you, made the
gateway of heaven, the cure for sins."

"How shall I conceive, seeing that I know not a man?
How shall I make an infraction, I who made a vow with
my firm mind?" "The grace of the Holy Spirit will do all
this; Fear not, but be joyful and safe, because chastity will
remain in you, pure power of God."

To these words the noble virgin responded to him:
"I am the humble handmaiden of the omnipotent God.
By your heavenly announcement I am made aware of such
secrets, I consent and want to see what I hear done;
I am ready to obey God's will."

Come, mother of the Lord, who has given peace back
to angels and man when you bore Christ;
Pray your Son to be gracious to us,
Let Him show and wash away our sins: giving help
to enjoy a happy life after this exile.

19. There is no rose Composer and text Anonymous 15th Century English, Arranged by John
Robinson b.1983 (Soloists Robert Marchant, Mark Flynn, Christian Landry, Thomas Potts)

There is no rose of such virtue For in this rose contained was The angels sung the shepherds to:
As is the rose that bare Jesu; Heaven and earth in little space; Gloria in excelsis Deo; (Glory to God in the highest)
Alleluia. Res miranda. (Wondrous thing.) Gaudeamus. (Let us rejoice.)

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The choir of st. paul's HARVARD square

1st trebles

Scott Czerwinski
Owen Lewis
Adrian Goode
Christopher Jaehnig
Robert Marchant
Thomas Potts
James Peruzzi
James O'Donovan

2nd trebles

Colin Lapus
Christian Casiano
An Ngo
Timothy O'Brien
Christian Landry
Mark Flynn
Roman Natale
Chris Glynn

altos

Martin Near
Robert Crowe
Von Bringhurst

tenors

Devin Drerup
Gareth McLinn
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