

Pange lingua gloriosi

Hymn
III.

P

Ange lingua glo-ri-ó-si Córporis mystéri-um,
Sing, my tongue, the Saviour's glory, Of His Flesh the mystery sing

Sanguínisque pre-ti-ó-si Quem in mundi pré-ti-um
Of the Blood all price exceeding, Shed by our Immortal King

Fructus ventris generó-si Rex effúdit génti-um Amen.
Destined for the world's redemption From a noble womb to spring.

2. Nobis datus, nobis natus
Ex intácta Vírgine,
Et in mundo conversátus
Sparso verbi sémine,
Sui moras incolátus
Miro clausit órdine.
3. In suprémae nocte cœnae
Recúbens cum frátribus,
Observáta lege plene
Cibis in legálibus,
Cibum turbæ duodénæ
Se dat suis mánibus.
4. Verbum caro, panem verum
Verbo carnem éfficit:
Fitque sanguis Christi merum
Et si sensus déficit,
Ad firmándum cor sincérum
Sola fides súfficit.
2. *Of a pure and spotless Virgin,
Born for us on earth below,
He, as Man with man conversing,
Stayed, the seeds of truth to sow.
Then He closed in solemn order
Wondrously His life of woe.*
3. *On the night of that Last Supper
Seated with His chosen band
He, the Paschal victim eating,
First fulfils the Law's command;
Then as food to all His brethren
Gives Himself with His own Hand.*
4. *Word made Flesh, the bread of
nature;
By His Word to Flesh He turns;
Wine into His Blood He changes:
What though sense no change
discerns?
Only be the heart in earnest,
Faith her lesson quickly learns.*

5. TANTUM ERGO SACRAMÉNTUM
Venerémur cernui:
Et antíquum documéntum
Novo cedat rítui
Præstet fides suppleméntum
Sénsuum deféctui.

6. Genitóri Genitóque
Laus et jubilátio,
Salus, honor, virtus quoque
Sit et benedíctio:
Procedénti ab utróque
Compar sit laudátio.
Amen.

5. DOWN IN ADORATION FALLING,
*This great Sacrament we hail,
Ancient types have long departed
Newer rites of grace prevail
Faith for all defects supplying
Where the feeble senses fail.*

6. *Glory let us give and blessing
To the Father and the Son
Honour might and praise
addressing
While eternal ages run
Equal praise to Him confessing
Who proceeds from both as one.
Amen.*

St. Thomas Aquinas, 1224–74
Translated by Fr. E. Caswall 1814–78