

to the nuns of St Mary's Convent, York

4. A maiden most gentle

Words by ANDREW CARTER*
(b. 1939)

French traditional melody
arranged by ANDREW CARTER

Allegretto ♩ = 108

VOICES SOPRANOS *mp*

1. A

ORGAN *mp*

Ped.

The first system of the musical score is for the beginning of the piece. It features a vocal line for sopranos and an organ accompaniment. The tempo is marked 'Allegretto' with a quarter note equal to 108 beats per minute. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/4. The organ part includes a 'Ped.' (pedal) marking. The vocal line begins with a rest followed by a note on the first staff.

5

maid - en most gen - tle and ten - der we _ sing: Of Ma - ry the

The second system of the musical score includes the vocal line and organ accompaniment. The vocal line starts at measure 5 with the lyrics 'maid - en most gen - tle and ten - der we _ sing: Of Ma - ry the'. The organ accompaniment continues with a steady rhythmic pattern.

10

mo - ther of Je - sus our _ King. A - ve, a - ve, a -

The third system of the musical score includes the vocal line and organ accompaniment. The vocal line starts at measure 10 with the lyrics 'mo - ther of Je - sus our _ King. A - ve, a - ve, a -'. The organ accompaniment continues with a steady rhythmic pattern.

*paraphrased from The Venerable Bede

Also available separately (X266)

22 A maiden most gentle

15

- ve Ma - ri - a, A - ve, a - ve, a - ve Ma - ri - a.

21 Voices unaccompanied

2. How bless'd is the birth of her hea-ven-ly child, Who came to re-

p

SPORTARE

27

- deem us in Ma - ry so mild. A - ve, a - ve, a - ve Ma - ri -

33

- a, A - ve, a - ve, a - ve Ma - ri - a.

PIANO

mf

Ped.

39

TENORS and BASSES

mf

3. The arch - an - gel Ga - briel fore -

43

- told by his call The Lord of cre - a - tion, and

SOPRANOS
and ALTOS

mp

47

Sa - viour of all. A - ve, a - ve, a - ve Ma - ri -

Man.

52

- a, A - ve, a - ve, a - ve Ma - ri - a.

24 A maiden most gentle

57 Voices unaccompanied

mf *mf* *f* *mf*

T. 8

4. Three kings came to worship with gifts rich and rare, And marvelled in

B. 1 *mf* *f*

B. 2 *mf* *mf*

63

SOPRANOS *mp*

~~we~~ at the babe in her care. A - ve, a - ve, a - ve Ma - ri -

OU

ALTOS 1 & 2 *mp*

A - ve, a - ve Ma - ri -

69

- a, A - ve, a - ve, a - ve Ma - ri - a.

- a, A - ve, a - ve Ma - ri - a.

mf

Ped.

75

ALL VOICES (unis.)

(8)

5. Re - joice and be glad at this Christ - mas we -

80

pray; Sing praise to the Sa-viour, sing end-less 'A-ve'.

1st time: *p* unaccompanied
2nd time: *f* with organ

S.
A.
T.
B.

A-ve, a-ve, a-ve Ma-ri-a, A-

(Organ 2nd time only)

f

Ped.

89(97)

2nd time: **Rall.**

(2nd time only)

-ve, a-ve, a-ve Ma-ri-a.

2nd time: **Rall.**

(2nd time only)

f

Ped.

*Composer's note 1997: The original (Choir 1) melody printed in earlier editions at this point, is best omitted altogether in favour of clean harmony and a strong soprano descant. The tune is in any case present for the most part in the tenor line.