

Benedicta et venerabilis - Virgo Dei genitrix

William Byrd (c.1540-1623)

Superius [Soprano]
 Medius [Alto]
 Contratenor [Tenor]
 Tenor [Tenor]
 Bassus [Bass]

Be - ne - di - cta et ve - ne - ra - bi - lis, es
 Be - ne - di - cta et ve - ne - ra - bi - lis, ve - ne - ra - bi -
 Be - ne - di -
 Be - ne - di - cta
 Be - ne - di -

sa - cra Vir - go Ma - ri - a, Ma - ri - a:
 -lis, es sa - cra Vir - go Ma - ri - a:
 -cta et ve - ne - ra - bi - lis, es,
 et ve - ne - ra - bi - lis, es sa - cra Vir - go Ma -
 -cta et ve - ne - ra - bi - lis, es sa - cra Vir - go Ma -

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quæ si - ne ta - ctu pu - do -
 quæ si - ne ta - ctu pu - do - ris, pu - do - ris,
 sa - cra Vir - go Ma - ri - a, Ma - ri - a: quæ si - ne ta - ctu pu -
 -ri - a, Ma - ri - a: quæ si - ne ta - ctu pu - do -
 -ri - a: quæ si - ne ta - ctu pu - do -

-ris, pu - do - ris, in - ven - ta es ma - ter sal - va - to - ris,
in - ven - ta es ma - ter sal - va - to - ris, in - ven -
-do - ris, pu - do - ris in - ven - ta es ma -
-ris, in - ven - ta es ma - ter sal - va - to - ris, sal - va -
-ris, in - ven - ta es ma - ter sal - va - to - ris,

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in - ven - ta es ma - ter sal - va - to - ris.
-ta es ma - ter sal - va - to - ris, sal - va - to - ris.
-ter sal - va - to - ris, ma - ter sal - va - to - ris.
-to - ris, ma - ter sal - va - to - ris.
in - ven - ta es ma - ter sal - va - to - ris.

Vir - go De - i ge - ni - trix,
Vir - go De - i ge - ni - trix, Vir - go
Vir - go De - i ge - ni - trix, De - i ge - ni - trix, quem to - tus
Vir - go De - i ge - ni -
Vir - go De - i ge - ni - trix, quem to - tus non

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quem to - tus non ca - pit or - bis, in
 De - i ge - ni - trix, quem to - tus non ca - pit or - bis, in tu - a se
 non ca - pit or - bis, in tu - a se vi - sce -
 -trix, quem to - tus non ca - pit or - bis, in
 ca - pit or - bis, in tu - a se clau - sit vi - sce -

tu - a se clau - sit vi - sce - ra, fa - ctus_ ho - mo, fa - ctus_ ho - mo.
 clau - sit vi - sce - ra, fa - ctus_ ho - mo, ho - mo.
 -ra, vi - sce - ra, fa - ctus_ ho - mo.
 tu - a se clau - sit vi - sce - ra, fa - ctus_ ho - mo. Al -
 -ra, fa - ctus ho - mo.

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Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.
 Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia. Al -
 Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia. Al -
 -le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu -
 Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu -

Al - le - lu - ia.
 - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.
 - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.
 - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.
 - - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Blessed and venerable art thou, O Virgin Mary, who, without spot, wast found the Mother of the Saviour.
 Virgin Mother of God, He Whom the whole world containeth not, being made man, shut Himself in thy womb, alleluia.

Source: William Byrd: *Gradualia, ac cantiones sacræ... Liber primus* (2nd edition, 1610), vol.1 nos. 7 & 8.

Text (Versus): Psalm 44: 2

Liturgical function: Votive Mass of the Blessed Virgin from the Purification to Easter, Pentecost to Advent:

Introit: Salve sancta parens - (Alleluia in Paschal Time) - Eructavit - Gloria Patri
Gradual: **Benedicta et venerabilis - Virgo Dei genitrix - (Alleluia before Septuagesima)**
 Communion: Beata viscera

from the Purification to Easter:
 Alleluia (before Septuagesima): Virga Jesse - Alleluia
 Tract (after Septuagesima): Gaude Maria Virgo
 Offertory: Felix namque es

from Pentecost to Advent:
 Alleluia: Post partum - Alleluia
 Offertory: Ave Maria

The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin (8th September), Mass:

Introit: Salve sancta parens - Eructavit - Gloria Patri
Gradual: **Benedicta et venerabilis - Virgo Dei genitrix**
 Alleluia: Felix es sacra Virgo
 Offertory: Beata es Virgo Maria
 Communion: Beata viscera

III.32: *sic.*: no provision made for setting the word *clausit*

IV.37.1: fermata under note

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