

May the Angels

For Nan, in loving memory

Polish Carol
adapted by Tom Kendzia

Text from the Funeral Liturgy

$\text{♩} = 69$ *Gently, like a lullaby*

Capo 3: (D) F (D/F#) F/A (A7) C7 (D) F

1.,2. May the an - gels lead you, lead you in - to par - a-dise.

Keyboard Harplike

(D) F (D/F#) F/A (A7) C7 (D) F

1.,2. May the mar - tyrs wel - come you, wel - come you to heav - en.

(A7) C7 (D) F (G/B) F/D (A7) C7

1. Peace will be yours now in the Ho - ly Cit - y.
2. One day we'll see you in the New Je - ru - sa - lem.

(D) (D/F#) (A7) (D)
 F F/A C7 F

1.,2. May the an - gels lead you, lead you in - to par - a-dise.

The first system of music features a vocal line in treble clef and a piano accompaniment in grand staff. The vocal line has a melody with lyrics: "1.,2. May the an - gels lead you, lead you in - to par - a-dise." The piano accompaniment consists of chords and a bass line. A large, bold watermark "SAMPLE" is overlaid on the piano part.

⊕ CODA

(D) (G/D) (G/D) (D) (A7)
 F Bb/F F Bb/F C7 F

* Optional C Instrument

The second system of music includes a CODA section. The vocal line has a final note. The piano accompaniment includes a section for an optional C instrument. A large, bold watermark "SAMPLE" is overlaid on the piano part.

*See performance notes.

SAMPLE

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(♩ = 69) *Gently, like a lullaby*

OPTIONAL SATB

Soprano
Alto
1.,2. May the an - gels lead you to par - a - dise.

Tenor
Bass

1.,2. May the mar - tyrs wel - come you, wel - come you to heav - en.

1. Peace will be yours now in the Ho - ly Cit - y.
2. One day we'll see you in the Je - ru - sa - lem.

1.,2. May the an - gels lead you, lead in - to par - a - dise.

The image shows a musical score for SATB voices. It consists of four systems of music. Each system has a Soprano line (treble clef) and a Bass line (bass clef). The lyrics are written below the notes. A large, stylized watermark 'NALR' is overlaid on the score, with the letters 'N', 'A', 'L', and 'R' positioned over the Soprano and Bass lines of the first, second, third, and fourth systems respectively.

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Performance Notes

This piece is a song of farewell taken from the *In Paradisum* that is part of the prayers of final commendation. The melody is a traditional Polish folk tune, commonly known as “Slizcna Panienska,” which is part of the Polish Christmas tradition. The power of *May the Angels* lies in its simplicity and its sense of calm. Its effectiveness will depend on the singer’s attention to the melodic rhythms and the text so as to convey the sense of hopefulness that prevails in the text. The accompaniment should be as calming as another’s gentle caresses of a sleeping baby. Perform this with that image in mind. The dotted eighth-note rhythm in the last measure should especially be sung smoothly and connected. Regardless of the instrument used to accompany this piece, great care should be taken to convey the softness of a harp. Keyboard players should not play the melody but use the accompaniment provided. Incidentally, I discovered by accident that this piece works very well *a cappella*, especially at the grave.

This octavo also contains an SATB version for choir if you have a funeral choir, or if your choir happens to be singing at a special funeral. On a side note here, having a choir that just sings at all the funerals is a great way to provide an members of the community — whether young or old, hardly known or very popular — with the same sense of ministry that only a good choir can provide. The key words here are simplicity, gentleness, and consolation.

— Tom Kendzia

SAMPLE

Assembly Edition

MAY THE ANGELS

Text from the Funeral Liturgy Polish Carol
adapted by Tom Kendzia

1, 2. May the an - gels lead you, lead you in - to par - a - dise.

1, 2. May the mar - tyrs wel - come you, wel - come you to heav - en.

1. Peace will be yours now in the Ho - ly Cit - y.
2. One day we'll see Je - ru - sa - lem.

1, 2. May the an - gels lead you, lead you in - to par - a - dise.

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SAMS