

OCPP Choral Series

A Virgin Most Pure

Assembly, SATB Choir, Descant, Keyboard, and Solo Instrument

English Traditional Carol
Arranged by Christopher Walker

INTRO *Rustically* (♩ = ca. 144)

Instrument

Keyboard

The Intro section consists of two staves. The top staff is for an Instrument (likely a descant) and the bottom staff is for a Keyboard. Both are in 3/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The tempo is marked 'Rustically' with a quarter note equal to approximately 144 beats per minute. The dynamics are marked 'mf' (mezzo-forte) and 'sim.' (sostenuto).

VERSES

The Verses section includes vocal lines and keyboard accompaniment. The vocal parts are for Solo, Men, Women, and All. The keyboard part is in 3/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are as follows:

Solo	1.	A	vir - gin	most	pure	the	proph - ets	do	
Men	2.	In	Beth - le - hem	Jew - ly	a	cit - y	there		
Women	3.	But	when	they	had	en - tered	the	cit - y	so
All	4.	Then	they	were	con -	stra	a	sta - ble	to

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From the collection IN FAITH, IN HOPE Songbook #12749 Compact Disc #12750

1. tell, hath brought forth a ba - by, as it hath be -
 2. was, where Jo - seph and Ma - ry to - geth - er did
 3. fair, a num - ber of peo - ple so might - y was
 4. lie, where hors - es and asses they used for to

1. fell; to be our Re - deem - er from death, hell and
 2. pass, and there to be tax - ed with man - y one
 3. there, that Jo - seph and Ma - ry, whose sub - stance was
 4. tie; their lodg - ing so sim - ple they took it no

1. sin, which Ad - am's trans - gres - sion had wrap - ped us in.
 2. more, for Cae - sar com - mand - ed the same should be so.
 3. small, could find in the in - ner there lodg - ing at all.
 4. scorn, but a - gainst the next morn - ing our Sav - ior was born.

REFRAIN

Instrument
f

Descant
f

Soprano/Alto
f

Tenor
f

Bass

Aye, and there - fore___ be___ mer - ry, re - joice, re - joice, set

Aye, and there - fore___ be___ mer - ry, re - joice, and be you mer - ry, set

Aye, and there - fore___ be___ mer - ry, re - joice, be mer - ry, set

sor - row, set sor - row a - side; our___

sor - row___ a - side; Christ___ sus___ our___

sor - row, set sor - row a - side; our

A Virgin Most Pure

SOLO INSTRUMENT

English Traditional Carol
Arranged by Christopher WalkerINTRO *Rustically* (♩ = ca. 144)

§ VERSES 1-4

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (D major) and a 3/4 time signature. It consists of four staves of music. The first staff is the Intro, marked *mf* and *Rustically* with a tempo of approximately 144 beats per minute. It features a melodic line with a slur and a fermata over the final measure, which is numbered 15. The second staff is the Refrain, marked *f*. The third and fourth staves continue the melodic line, with the fourth staff ending with a 'Final' marking. A large, stylized watermark 'MUSIC' is overlaid vertically across the center of the page, partially obscuring the musical notation.

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Performance Notes

Altos may sing the melody with the sopranos, as notated, or they may support the tenors on their line. The verses may be divided among the groups marked, or sung by the complete choir.

Added interest can come through the use of the instrumental part, which can be played up an octave for variety. A string bass or bass guitar may be added to the first beat of each measure. Percussion can also add color: add Indian bells on the first beat of alternate bars and a tambourine in the refrain.

This carol may be heard on the OCP Publications recording, "In Faith, In Hope," edition 12750.

—Christopher Walker

Assembly Edition

A VIRGIN MOST PURE

English Traditional Carol

Verses



1. A vir - gin most pure the proph - ets do
2. In Beth - le - hem Jew - a cit - y there
3. But when they had cit - y so
4. Then they were con - strain'd in a sta - ble to



1. tell, hath brought forth a ba - by, as it hath be -
2. was, where Jo - seph and Ma - ry to - geth - er did
3. fair, a num - ber of peo - ple's might - y was
4. lie, where hors - es and ass - es they used for to



1. fell; to be our Re - deem - from death, hell and
2. pass, and there to be tax - with man - y one
3. there, that Jo - seph and sub - stance was
4. tie; their lodg - ing so sim - ple they took it no



1. sin, which Ad - am's trans - gres - sion wrap - ped us in.
2. more, for Cae - sar com - mand - ed the one should be so.
3. small, could find in the inn there no - ing at all.
4. scorn, but a - gainst the next morn - ing Sav - ior was born.

Refrain



Aye, and there - fore be mer - ry, re - joice, and be you



mer - ry, set sor - row a - side, Je - sus our



Sav - ior was born at this tide

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