

Consecration of the Chrism

Paul Inwood

Bishop: Let us pray that God our almighty Father will
 bless this oil so that all who are anointed
 with it may be inwardly transformed and come to share in eternal salvation.

Organ

p
 (♩ = ca. 72)

1

Cantor

Come, O Ho - ly Spir - it, — come! Come, O Ho - ly Spir - it, —

All

Come, O Ho - ly Spir - it, — come!

mp *mf* *mp*

come!

Come, O Ho - ly Spir - it, — come!

* **Bishop:** God our maker, source of all growth in

mf *p*

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*See Composer Notes on page 11.

holiness, accept the joyful thanks and praise we offer in the name of your Church. In the

beginning, at your command, the earth produced fruit-bearing trees. From the fruit of the

olive tree you have provided us with oil for holy chrism. The prophet David sang of the

life and joy that the oil would bring us in the sacraments of your love.

(♩ = ca. 72)

2
Cantor
Come, O Ho - ly Spir - it, ___ come!

All
Come, O Ho - ly Spir - it, ___ come!

Bishop: After the

mp *mf* *p*

avenging flood, the dove returning to Noah with an olive branch announced your gift of peace. This was

Piano accompaniment for the first system of text, consisting of two staves (treble and bass clef) with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). The music features sustained chords and a melodic line in the right hand.

a sign of a greater gift to come. Now the waters of baptism wash away the sins of men, and by the

Piano accompaniment for the second system of text, continuing the musical texture from the first system.

anointing with olive oil you make us radiant with your joy.

Musical score for the Cantor and piano accompaniment. The Cantor part is on a single staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. The piano accompaniment is on two staves (treble and bass clef). A box with the number '3' is placed above the Cantor staff. The lyrics 'Come, O Ho - ly Spir - it, ___' are written below the Cantor staff. The piano accompaniment includes a dynamic marking of *mp*.

come!

Musical score for Soprano/Alto, Tenor, and Bass. The Soprano/Alto part is on a single staff with a treble clef. The Tenor and Bass parts are on two staves (treble and bass clef). The lyrics 'Come, O Ho - ly Spir - it, ___ come!' are written below the Soprano/Alto staff.

Bishop: At your command,

Piano accompaniment for the Bishop's part, consisting of two staves (treble and bass clef). The music features a dynamic marking of *mf* and a *p* dynamic marking.

Aaron was washed with water, and your servant Moses, his brother, anointed him priest.

This too foreshadowed greater things to come. After your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, asked John for

baptism in the waters of Jordan, you sent the Spirit upon him in the form of a dove and by the

witness of your own voice you declared him to be your only, well-beloved Son. In this you clearly

fulfilled the prophecy of David, that Christ would be anointed with the oil of gladness beyond his fellow men.

4

Cantor
Come, O Ho - ly Spir - it, ___ come!

S/All
A Come, O Ho - ly Spir - it, ___ come!

T
B

Bishop: And so,

mp *mf* *p*

Father, we ask you to bless this oil you have created. Fill it with the power of your Holy

Spirit through Christ your Son. It is from him that chrisms takes its name and with chrisms you have

anointed for yourself priests and kings, prophets and martyrs. Make this chrisms a sign of

life and salvation for those who are to be born again in the waters of baptism. Wash away the

evil they have inherited from sinful Adam, and when they are anointed with this holy oil make them

temples of your glory, radiant with the goodness of life that has its source in you.

5

Cantor
Come, O Ho - ly Spir - it, — come! Come, O Ho - ly Spir - it, —

S/All*
A
Come, O Ho - ly Spir - it, — come!

T
B

mp *mf* *meno f*

*Assembly continues to echo Cantor's line.

come!

Come, O Ho - ly Spir - it, — come!

Bishop: Through this sign of chrim grant them

più f *p*

royal, priestly, and prophetic honor, and clothe them with ^{*}incorruption. Let this be indeed the

chrim of salvation for those who will be born again of water and the Holy Spirit. May they come to share

eternal life in the glory of your kingdom. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

*Deliberate reference to "The Trumpet Shall Sound" from Handel's *Messiah*.

6

Cantor

A - men, — A - men, A - men, — A -

S/All

A

A - men, — A - men,

T

B

mp *mf* *meno f*

men, A - men, — A men!

A - men, — A - men, A - men, — A - men!

mf *f*

Preview

Composer Notes

This setting of the consecration of the chrism during the Mass of the Oils intersperses additional assembly invocations in the prayer text.

The assembly repeats each cantor phrase, overlapping the cantor's final note each time. A very brief rehearsal with the assembly is necessary before the service. The assembly's part is always reinforced by the choir, though later in the piece the melody may transfer from the soprano to the alto voice.

The organ accompaniment links the assembly invocations together by sustaining whole-note chords quietly in free time under the Bishop's spoken text, changing from one chord to the next in accordance with the overlaid text.

A companion octavo setting, "Rite of Reception of the Blessed Oils" (edition 30102947), is also available.

—*Paul Inwood*

Preview

Assembly Edition

CONSECRATION OF THE CHRISM

Paul Inwood

Response

Cantor (repeat as needed)

Come, O Ho-ly Spir - it, come.

All (repeat as needed)

Come, O Ho-ly Spir - it, come.

(At the end) Bishop: ...We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Cantor

A - men, a - men. A - men, a

All (sing 3 times)

A - men, a - men.

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