

Mass in Three Voices

William Byrd

Arranged and edited by Christopher Moore

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1543-1623

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Version 1.0- July 2000

The English composer William Byrd was one of the undoubted masters of polyphonic vocal music. His Mass in Three Voices was originally written for Alto, Tenor and Bass, and is one of the few examples of this combination in the literature.

This mass is presented here arranged for Soprano, Alto and Bass. The soprano part is identical to the original tenor part and can of course be sung by tenors rather than sopranos as per the original. The major impetus to rearrange the mass was the fact that many smaller choirs do not often have tenors, but sopranos are invariably present.

There are five parts to the Mass.

- Kyrie: This has rearranged to better suit modern usage. The original three-fold Kyrie as written has been expanded into a six-fold Kyrie. Please note that this is the editor's rearrangement, and need not necessarily be followed.
- Gloria
- Credo
- Sanctus and Benedictus : Although two separate pieces in the original, the Sanctus and Benedictus have been combined into one here according to modern usage.
- Agnus Dei

A keyboard obbligato has been provided, but it should be noted that the mass was originally intended to be sung *a cappella*. Solo/Tutti markings and dynamics are also editorial, and are suggestive only.

The editor would appreciate feedback on this arrangement, and any suggestions for improvement. E-mail may be sent to [cid_moore@optusnet.com.au](mailto:cld_moore@optusnet.com.au).

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Version History

July 2000 1.0 First version

Mass in Three Voices - Kyrie

William Byrd

1st time Alto Solo

Soprano

Ky - ri - e e - le - son Chris - te e - le - i - son

Alto

Bass

Keyboard

7

Soprano (S): Ky - ri - e Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son

Alto (A): e e - le - i - son, Ky - ri - e e - le - - - - i - son

Bass (B): Ky - ri - e e - le - - i - - - - son

Klarinettenbass (Kb.): Harmonic support with sustained notes and rhythmic patterns.

Mass in Three Voices - Gloria

William Byrd

Soprano: Et in ter - ra pax ho - mi - ni - bus bo - nae vo - lun -
Alto: Et in ter - ra pax ho - mi - ni - bus bo - nae vo-lun - ta -
Bass: Et in ter - ra pax ho - mi - ni - bus
Keyboard: (piano part)

This section shows the first four measures of the Gloria. The vocal parts (Soprano, Alto, Bass) sing the Latin text "Et in ter - ra pax ho - mi - ni - bus bo - nae vo - lun -" in unison. The piano part (Keyboard) provides harmonic support with sustained notes and chords.

S: ta - tis bo - nae vo-lun - ta - - - - tis Lau - da - mus te
A: tis bo - nae vo-lun - ta - - tis Lau - da - mus te
B: bo - nae vo - lun - ta - - tis Lau - da - mus te
Kb: (piano part)

This section continues the Gloria. The vocal parts (Soprano, Alto, Bass) sing the text "ta - tis bo - nae vo-lun - ta - - - - tis Lau - da - mus te" in unison. The piano part (Keyboard) provides harmonic support with sustained notes and chords.

9

S Be - ne - di - ci - mus te A - do - ra - mus te Glo - ri - fi -
A Be - ne - di - ci - mus te A - do - ra - mus te Glo -
B Be - ne - di - ci - mus te A - do - ra - mus
Kb { *p* *mf*

13

S ca - mus te Glo - ri - fi - ca - mus te Glo - ri - fi - ca - mus te
A ri - fi - ca - mus te Glo - ri - fi - ca - mus te
B te Glo - ri - fi - ca - mus te Glo - ri - fi - ca - mus te
Kb { *f*

17

S Gra - ti - as a - gi - mus ti - bi Prop - ter mag -
A Gra - ti - as a - gi - mus ti - bi Prop - ter mag - nam glo - ri -
B Gra - ti - as a - gi - mus ti - bi Prop - ter mag - nam glo - ri -
Kb { *p*

41

Soprano (S): te Je-su Chris - te Do-mi-ne De -
Alto (A): su Chris - - - - te
Bass (B):
Kornoelje Bassoon (Kb): { Chris - - - - te

Solo

p

S: us, Ag - nus De - i Fi - li - us Pa - - -
 A:
 B: Do - mi - ne De - us, Ag - nus De - i Fi - li - us
 Kb {
 S: tris Qui tol - lis pec - ca - ta mun -
 A:
 B: Qui tol - lis pec - ca - ta mun - - - di
 Kb {
 S: Pa - tris Qui tol - lis pec - ca - - - ta mun -
 A:
 B:
 Kb {
 S: di Mi - se - re - re no - - - bis no -
 A: Mi - se - re - re no - - - bis Mi - - - se - re - re no -
 B:
 Kb {
 S: di Mi - se - re - re no - bis Mi - se - re - re

69

S dex - ter-am Pa - tris ad dex - ter-am Pa - - - tris Mi -

A des ad dex - ter-am Pa - - - - - tris

B Qui se - des ad dex - ter-am Pa - tris

Kb { P p

73

S se - re - re no - bis Mi - se - re - re no - - - bis

A Mi - se - re - re no - bis Mi - se - re - re no - - - bis

B Mi - se - re - re no - - - bis

Kb { - - - - -

77 **Tutti**

S Quo - ni - am tu so - lus sanc - tus Tu so - lus Do - mi -

A Quo - ni - am tu so - lus sanc - tus Tu so - lus Do - mi -

B Quo - ni - am tu so - lus sanc - tus Tu

Kb { mf

93

S
ri - a De - i Pa - - - tris In glo - - - ri -

A
In glo - - - ri - a De - - - i Pa - - - tris

B
tu Spi - ri - tu In glo - - - ri - a De - - - i Pa - - -

Kb

97

S a De - i Pa - - - - tris A - - - -

A In glo - ri - a De - i Pa - - - - tris A -

B tris De - i Pa - - - - tris A -

Kb

101

Soprano (S): men A - - - men

Alto (A): men A - - - men

Bass (B): men A - - - men

Kornoelje Bass (Kb): men A - - - men

Mass in Three Voices - Credo

William Byrd

Soprano
Alto
Bass
Keyboard { *f*
Tutti

Pa - trem om - ni - po - ten - - tem fac - to - rem
Pa - trem om - ni - po - ten - - tem
Pa - trem om - ni - po - ten - - tem

This section of the musical score consists of four staves. The top three staves represent vocal parts: Soprano (treble clef), Alto (treble clef), and Bass (bass clef). The fourth staff represents a Keyboard instrument (bass clef). A brace groups the Keyboard and Bass staves, with a dynamic marking 'f' placed above the Keyboard staff. The vocal parts sing a three-part setting of the Latin mass text 'Pater noster qui es in celis sancte fac nos ducere in quietem'. The bass part continues the melody after the keyboard part begins its entry.

S
A
B
Kb

5
coe - - - li et ter - - - rae vi - si - bi -
fac - to - rem coe - li et ter - - - rae
fac - to - rem coe - - - li et ter - rae vi - si - bi -

This section of the musical score continues the three-part setting of the Latin mass text 'Pater noster qui es in celis sancte fac nos ducere in quietem'. The vocal parts (Soprano, Alto, Bass) continue their respective parts from the previous section. The Keyboard part provides harmonic support, particularly in the bass register. The vocal parts sing the concluding portion of the text, 'coeli et terae visibilia factorem coeli et terae visibilia'.

9

S li - um om - ni - um et in - vi - si - bi - li - um et in

A et in - vi - si - bi - li - um et in

B li - um om - ni - um et in

Kb *p* *mf*

13

S u - num Dom - in - um Je - sum Christ - um Fi - li - um

A u - num Dom - in - um Je - sum Christ - um Fi - li - um De -

B u - num Dom - in - um Je - sum Christ - um Fi - li - um De -

Kb *f*

17

S De - i un - i - gen - i - tum et ex Pa -

A i un - i - gen - i - tum et ex Pa -

B i un - i - gen - i - tum

Kb *p*

25

S De - o lu - men de lu - mi - ne De - um ve -

A De - um de De - o lu - men de lu - mi - ne

B De - um de De - o lu - men de lu - mi - ne

Kb *f*

29

S

A

B

Kb

rum de De-o ve - ro. ve -

De - um ve - - rum de De-o ve -

De - um ve - - rum de De-o ve -

29

33

S A B Kb

ro. Ge - ni - tum non fac - - - tum con -

ro. Ge - ni - tum non fac - - -

ro. Ge - ni - tum non fac - - - tum

sub-stan - ti - a - - - lem Pa - - - - tri:

tum con - - - sub-stan - ti - a - lem Pa - - - tri:

con - sub-stan - ti - a - lem Pa - - - tri: per

per quem om - ni - a fa - cta sunt. per quem om - ni - a fa - cta

per quem om - ni - a fa - cta

quem om - ni - a fa - cta sunt. per quem om - ni - a fa - cta

43

Sunt. Qui propter nos homines,
 sunt. Qui propter nos homines, et propter
 sunt. Qui propter nos homines,
 Kb { p

47

et propter nostram salutem de -
 nost - ram sa - lut - em de - scen - dit
 mi-nes, et propter nost - ram sa - lut - em
 Kb {

51

scen - dit de coe -
 de - scen - dit de coe -
 de - scen - dit de coe -
 Kb {

55

S lis Et in car - na - - - - tus est de Spi - ri -

A lis Et in car - na - - - - tus est de Spi -

B lis Et in car - na - - - - tus est de

Kb { pp Soli

63

S ne et Ho - mo fac - - - - - tus est

A gi - ne et Ho - mo fac - - - - - tus est Cruc -

B et Ho - - mo fac - - - - - tus est Cruc - ci - fix -

Kb

79

S it ter - ti - a di - - - e se -

A ti - a di - - - e se - cun - dum Scrip - tu -

B ter - ti - a di - - - e se - cun - dum Scrip -

Kb

82

S cun - dum Scrip - tu - ras se - cun - dum Scrip - tu -

A ras se - cun - dum Scrip - tu - ras Scrip - tu -

B tu - - - ras se - cun - dum Scrip - tu -

Kb

85

S ras Et asc-end - it in coe - - - lum: se - det ad

A ras Et asc-end - it in coe - - - lum:

B ras Et asc-end - it in coe - - - lum:

Kb

89

S dex - ter-am Pat - - - ris, se - det ad dex - ter-am Pat - - -

A se - det ad dex - ter-am Pat - - - ris, Pat - - -

B se - det ad dex - ter-am Pat - - -

Kb {

Kb }

93

S ris, et i - ter-um ven - tur - us est

A ris, et i - ter-um ven - tur - us est

B ris, et i - ter-um ven - tur - us est

Kb {

Kb }

97

S cum glo - ri - a ju - di - ca - re vi - vus et mor -

A cum glo - ri - a ju - di - ca - re vi - vus et

B cum glo - ri - a ju - di - ca - - - re vi - vus et mor -

Kb {

Kb }

126

S or - at - ur et con - glo - ri - fi - ca - tur

A at - ur et con - glo - ri - fi - ca - tur con - glo - ri - fi -

B si - mul ad - or - at - ur et con - glo - ri - fi - ca -

Kb

130

S qui lo - cu - tus est per pro - phe - - -

A ca - tur qui lo - cu - tus est per pro -

B tur qui lo - cu - tus est per pro - phe - tas.

Kb

134

S tas. Et un - um Sanc -

A phe - - - - tas. Et un - um Sanc -

B per pro - phe - tas. Et un - um Sanc -

Kb

Soprano (S) vocal line:

138: tam cath - ol - i - cam et a - post -

142: ol - i - cam Ec - cle - si - am. et a - post - ol - i -

145: cam Ec - cle - si - am. Con - fi - te - or un -

Alto (A) vocal line:

138: tam cath - ol - i - cam cath - ol - i - cam et a - post -

142: ol - i - cam Ec - cle - si - am. et a - post -

145: ol - i - cam Ec - cle - si - am. Con - fi - te - or un -

Bass (B) vocal line:

138: tam cath - ol - i - cam cath - ol - i - cam

142: et a - post - ol - i - cam Ec - cle - si -

145: am. Ec - cle - si - am. Con - fi - te - or un -

Kb (Kontrebassoon) bass line:

138: (piano part)

142: (piano part)

145: (piano part)

149

S um bap - tis - - ma in rem - is - si - o - nem pec -

A bap - tis - - - - ma in rem - is - si -

B um bap - tis - - - - ma in rem - is - si -

Kb {

149

S ca - to - - - - rum et ex - pec - to re -

A o - nem pec - ca - to - - - rum et ex - pec - to

B o - nem pec - - ca - to - - rum et ex - pec -

Kb {

153

S sur - rec - ti - on - em mor - tu - o - - - -

A re - sur - rec - ti - on - em mor - tu - o - rum mor - tu - o - rum

B to re - sur - rec - ti - on - em mor - tu - o -

Kb {

157

Mass in Three Voices - Sanctus/Benedictus

William Byrd

Musical score for the first system of the Mass in Three Voices. The score consists of four staves: Soprano, Alto, Bass, and Keyboard. The Soprano, Alto, and Bass staves are in treble clef, while the Keyboard staff is in bass clef. The key signature is C minor (two flats). The vocal parts sing "Sanc - tus" in a three-part setting. The Keyboard part provides harmonic support, with a dynamic marking of *p* (piano) in the first measure.

Musical score for the second system of the Mass in Three Voices. The score consists of four staves: Soprano (labeled 'S'), Alto (labeled 'A'), Bass (labeled 'B'), and Keyboard (labeled 'Kb'). The vocal parts sing "Sanc - tus" in a three-part setting. The Keyboard part provides harmonic support, with a dynamic marking of *mf* (mezzo-forte) in the final measure.

9

Sanc - - - - - tus

A

B

Sanc - - - - - tus

Kb

13

Do - mi - nus De - us Sa - ba - oth Do - - mi - nus De -

A

Do - mi - nus De - us Sa - ba - oth Do - - mi - nus De -

B

Do - mi - nus De - us Sa - ba - oth

Kb

13

Do - mi - nus De - us Sa - ba - oth

Solo

S

us Sa - ba - oth Ple - - ni sunt cae - li et ter -

A

us Sa - ba - oth Ple - ni sunt cae - li et ter - ra

B

De - us Sa - ba - oth Ple - - ni sunt cae -

Kb

17

p

22

S ra Ple - ni sunt cae - li et ter - - - - - ra glo - ri - a

A Ple - ni sunt cae - - li et ter - - - - - ra glo - ri - a tu - a

B li et ter - - - - - ra glo - - - - - ri - a tu - a

Kb { *mf* p

Tutti

26

S tu - a glo - ri - a tu - - - - - a Ho - san -

A glo - ri - a tu - a glo - - - - - a

B glo - ri - a tu - a glo - - - - - a Ho -

Kb { *f*

30

S na in ex - cel - - - - - sis

A Ho - san - na in ex - cel - - - - -

B san - na in ex - cel - - - sis Ho - san - na in ex -

Kb {

Solo

40

Soprano (S): Be - - - ne - dic - - - tus qui ve - - - nit in -

Alto (A): Be - - - ne - dic - - - tus qui ve - - - nit in -

Bass (B): Be - - - ne - - - dic - - - tus qui ve - - -

Klarinetten Bass (Kb): (Harmonic support)

44

S
A
B
Kb

nit in - no - mi-ne Do - mi-ni Do -
no - mi-ne Do - mi - ni Do - mi -

Tutti

48

S
A
B
Kb

mi - ni Ho - san - na in ex - cel - sis Ho - san - na
ni Ho - san - na in ex - cel - sis Ho - san - na Ho -
Do - mi - ni Ho - san - na in ex - cel - sis Ho - san - na

52

S
A
B
Kb

in ex - cel - sis in ex - cel - sis
san - na in ex - cel - sis in ex - cel - sis
Ho - san - na in ex - cel - sis in ex - cel - sis

Mass in Three Voices - Agnus Dei

William Byrd

Soprano
Alto
Bass
Keyboard {

Ag - nus De - - - i Qui
Ag - nus De - - - i Qui tol - lis pec - ca - ta mun -
Ag - - - nus De - - - i Qui tol - lis pec -
p

The musical score consists of four staves. The Soprano, Alto, and Bass staves are in treble clef, while the Keyboard staff is in bass clef. The key signature is C minor (one flat). The vocal parts sing the Agnus Dei in three voices, with the Keyboard part providing harmonic support. The vocal entries are staggered, creating a polyphonic texture.

S 6
tol - lis pec - ca - ta mun - - di Mi - se - re - re no -
A di Mi - se - re - re no - - - - bis Mi - se - re - re no -
B ca - ta mun - - di Mi - se - re - re no - - bis
Kb

The musical score continues with the three voices singing the Miserere section. The Keyboard part provides harmonic support, particularly with sustained notes and chords. The vocal entries are staggered, creating a polyphonic texture.

Solo

Soprano (S) Alto (A) Bass (B) Double Bass (Kb)

11

bis Mi - se - re - re no - - - bis Ag - nus De -

bis Mi - se - re - re no - - - bis

Mi - se - re - re no - - - bis Ag - nus

16

i Qui tol - lis pec - ca - ta mun - - - di

- - - i Qui tol - lis pec - ca - - - ta mun -

21

Mi - se - re - re no - - - bis Mi - se - re - re no - - -

- - - di Mi - se - re - re no - - - bis Mi - se - re - re no -

mf f

26

Soprano (S): bis Ag - nus

Alto (A): Ag - nus De - i Ag -

Bass (B): bis Ag - nus De - i

Klarinette (Kb): (harmonizes with B part)

31

S De - - - - - i Qui tol - lis pec - ca -

A nus De - - - - i De - - - i Qui

B Ag - nus De - i Qui tol - lis pec - ca - ta

Kb

Tutti

Soprano (S): ta mun - - - - di - Do - na - no~ bis pa -

Alto (A): tol - lis pec - ca - ta mun - di Do - na no - bis pa - cem pa -

Bass (B): mun - - - - di Qui tol - lis pec - ca - ta mun - di

Kornoelje Bassoon (Kb): (provides harmonic support with sustained notes and rhythmic patterns)

41

S cem Do - na no - bis

A cem pa - cem Do - na no - - - bis pa -

B Do - na no - bis pa - cem pa - - - cem pa - cem

Kb { mp

46

S pa - - - - cem Do -

A cem Do - na no - bis pa - - -

B Do - na no - bis pa - - - cem pa -

Kb { p

50

S na no - bis pa - - - - cem

A cem Do - na no - bis pa - - - cem

B cem Do - - - na no - bis pa - - - cem

Kb { 8