Source: The Eton Choirbook.

## Salve Regina

Note values halved, transposed down a fourth.
Original clefs: G1, C1, C3, C4, C4. Further notes at the end.













B2











Source: Eton Choirbook, to be found online at https://www.diamm.ac.uk/sources/202/\#/images , starting at 30V.
Also available at IMSLP: https://imslp.org/wiki/Eton_Choirbook_(Various) Horwoord's Salve is in part 2, starting at page 27-28.

Horwood was one of the older composers in the Eton Choirbook, having died in 1484. Peculiar to this Salve Regina, compared to other 5-part pieces spanning 21 notes (one note short of three octaves), is that it has two equal bottom parts, which frequently cross. In the transcription these parts are bass parts.

Text underlay is much clearer in this manuscript than in continental ones, although still choices have to be made on the precise underlay of syllables. Sometimes this is clarified by a stroke, as in these examples:


But these are exceptions.
There is no text repetition; a melisma on one syllable may be interrupted by rests.
Another peculiarity which struck me was a preference the scribe and/or composers seemed to have for placing the next syllable below short notes, instead of a longer note following it:


Text in red (italics in the transcription) means solo or at lest reduced vocal forces; text in black (upright in the transcription) means full choir.

Flats and sharps are also much more clearly indicated than in continental manuscripts, but sometimes conflicts do arise between different parts. In 'O clemens' the medius ( C 1 clef) has an explicit \# on the b-line, while the bass has a flat there:


I decided to ignore the flats: maintaining both didn't sound sensible.
At 'clamatium' something similar happens between tenor and bass (bass 1 and 2): bass 1 has explicit b-flats, whereas bass 2 has no flats, suggesting naturals. I decided to flatten bass 2.

However meticulous the choirbook seems to have been made, sometimes you see a lapse of attention on the part of the scribe. At 'Benedictum fructum ventris tui...' in the tenor part (bass 1) he forgot he had to change to red ink for the text, only correcting it on the next line. It would have been far too laborious and damaging to cross out the black text and replace it by red text. At 'virgo clemens' he made the same mistake in the same part, this time noticing it after these two words.

In the transcription ligatures are indicated by brackets above the notes.
Bert Schreuder

