

Diffusa est gratia - Propter veritatem - Vultum tuum

William Byrd (c.1540-1623)

Superius [Soprano] Dif - fu - sa est gra - ti - a in la - bi - is tu -

Medius [Alto] Dif - fu - sa

Contratenor [Tenor 1] Dif - fu - sa est gra - ti - a

Tenor [Tenor 2] Dif - fu - sa est gra - ti - a

Bassus [Bass] Dif - fu - sa

The first system of the musical score features five vocal parts: Soprano, Alto, Tenor 1, Tenor 2, and Bass. The Soprano part begins with the lyrics 'Dif - fu - sa est gra - ti - a in la - bi - is tu -'. The Alto part has 'Dif - fu - sa'. Tenor 1 and Tenor 2 both have 'Dif - fu - sa est gra - ti - a'. The Bass part has 'Dif - fu - sa'. The music is in a 4/2 time signature with a key signature of one flat (B-flat).

- is, in la - bi - is tu - - - is,

est gra - ti - a, gra - ti - a in la - bi -

in la - bi - is tu - - - is, in la - bi - is tu -

in la - bi - is tu - - - is, in la - bi - is,

est gra - ti - a in la - bi - is tu - - -

The second system continues the vocal lines. The Soprano part has '- is, in la - bi - is tu - - - is,'. The Alto part has 'est gra - ti - a, gra - ti - a in la - bi -'. Tenor 1 has 'in la - bi - is tu - - - is, in la - bi - is tu -'. Tenor 2 has 'in la - bi - is tu - - - is, in la - bi - is,'. The Bass part has 'est gra - ti - a in la - bi - is tu - - -'.

10 dif - fu - sa est gra - ti - a in la - bi -

- is tu - - - is, in la - bi - is tu -

- - - is, in la -

in la - bi - is, in la - bi - is tu - - -

- - is, in la - bi - is tu -

The third system begins with a measure rest marked '10'. The Soprano part has 'dif - fu - sa est gra - ti - a in la - bi -'. The Alto part has '- is tu - - - is, in la - bi - is tu -'. Tenor 1 has '- - - is, in la -'. Tenor 2 has 'in la - bi - is, in la - bi - is tu - - -'. The Bass part has '- - is, in la - bi - is tu -'.

-is tu - - - is: prop - te - re - a be - ne -

- - - - is: prop - te - re - a be - ne - di - xit

- bi - is tu - is: prop - te - re - a be - ne - di -

- - - - is: prop - te - re - a be - ne - di -

- - - - is: prop - te - re - a be - ne - di - xit,

20

-di - xit, be - ne - di - xit te De - - - us in æ - ter - num,

te De - - - us, te De - - - us in æ - ter -

-xit te De - us, te De - us in æ - ter - -

-xit, be - ne - di - xit te De - - - us in æ - ter -

be - ne - di - xit te De - - - us in æ -

in æ - ter - num, in æ - ter - num, in æ - ter - num.

- - - num, in æ - ter - - - num.

- num, in æ - ter - - - num, in æ - ter - - - num.

- - - num, in æ - ter - - - num.

- ter - - - num, in æ - ter - - - num.

Grace is poured abroad in thy lips: therefore hath God blessed thee for ever.
Because of truth, and mildness, and justice: and thy right hand shall conduct thee marvellously.
Hear, daughter, and see, and incline thine ear, for the king hath coveted thy beauty.
All the rich of the people shall beseech thy countenance, the daughters of kings in thine honour.
Virgins shall be brought to the king after her: her neighbours shall be brought to thee.
They shall be brought in joy and exultation: they shall be brought into the temple of the king.

Source: William Byrd: *Gradualia, ac cantiones sacræ... Liber primus* (2nd edition, 1610), vol.1 no.22, parts 1, 2, 4, 5, 6.
Text: Psalm 44: 3, 5, 10-16

Liturgical function:

The Purification (February 2nd), Mass:

Introit: Suscepimus Deus - Magnus Dominus
Gradual: Suscepimus Deus - Sicut audivimus
Alleluia: Alleluia - Senex puerum (before Septuagesima)
or Tract: Nunc dimittis (after Septuagesima)
Offertory: **Diffusa est gratia** (to bar 27 of this edition)
Communion: Responsum accepit Simeon

The Annunciation (March 25th), Mass:

Introit: Vultum tuum - Alleluia (Paschal Time) - Eructavit
Gradual: Diffusa est gratia - Propter veritatem
Tract: Audi filia - Vultum tuum - Adducentur Regi - Adducentur in lætitia
or Alleluia: Alleluia. Ave Maria - Virga Jesse (Paschal Time)
Offertory: Ave Maria gratia plena - Alleluia (Paschal Time)
Communion: Ecce Virgo concipiet - Alleluia (Paschal Time)

III.22-26: *eternum*

I.25.1: d"

III.46-7: *dex* ∩. *te* ♪♪♪ *ra* ♪♪ *tu* ♪♪

III.56.1: æ

III.80.4: semibreve

II, III.87-8: *plæbis*

All voices, 130: *ts* ⊕
3 2

All voices, 145: *ts* C

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