



**MAGNIFICAT &
NUNC DIMITTIS**

FROM

The Short Service

BY

WILLIAM BYRD

c.1540–1623

Publication Notes

This edition has been created in order to aid the Vicars Choral of the National Cathedral and Collegiate Church of Saint Patrick in Dublin in their singing of these canticles. It is – I hope – an improvement upon the older copies, which required creative solutions to the various splitting of voice parts.

The source of this material is the edition found in the older copies, from *Tudor Church Music*, Vol. 2 (OUP 1922). This performance edition has retained all of the vocal parts from the OUP edition, though not necessarily sung by the same voice throughout. In order to maximise the antiphonal effect, some voices share a line when others do not and vice versa, though both altos are often required to sing throughout due to the range of the parts. The voice parts have been arranged as per the vocal distribution amongst the Vicars Choral in April 2024.

Typeset by Mr Clark Brydon (Vicar of the Prebendary of Monmohenock at Saint Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin and Assistant Keeper of the Library of the same). Adobe Caslon Pro is the typeface throughout this edition.

Magnificat

from The Short Service

William Byrd (c.1539–1623)

Alto
 Tenor 1
 Tenor 2
 Bass

My soul doth mag - ni - fy the Lord, and my sp'rit re - joic - eth in
 My soul doth mag - ni - fy the Lord, and my sp'rit re - joic - eth in
 My soul doth mag - ni - fy the Lord, and my sp'rit re - joic - eth in
 My soul doth mag - ni - fy the Lord, and my sp'rit re - joic - eth

Alto
 Tenor
 Bass 1
 Bass 2

My soul doth mag - ni - fy the Lord, and my sp'rit re - joic - eth in
 My soul doth mag - ni - fy the Lord, and my sp'rit re - joic - eth in
 My soul doth mag - ni - fy the Lord, and my sp'rit re - joic - eth
 My soul doth mag - ni - fy the Lord, and my sp'rit re - joic - eth

5
 A
 T1
 T2
 B

God my Sa - vi - our.
 God my Sa - vi - our.
 God my Sa - vi - our.
 in God my Sa - vi - our.

A
 T
 B1
 B2

God my Sa - vi - our. For He hath re - gard - ed the
 God my Sa - vi - our. For He hath re - gard - ed the
 in God my Sa - vi - our. For He hath re - gard - ed the
 in God my Sa - vi - our. For He hath re - gard - ed the

8

A For be-hold, from hence - forth all ge - ner -

T1 For be-hold, from hence - forth all ge - ner -

T2 For be-hold, from hence - forth all

B For be-hold, from hence - forth all ge - ner -

A low - li-ness of his hand - maid-en: For be-hold, from hence - forth all ge - ner -

T low - li-ness of his hand - maid-en:

B1 low - li-ness of his hand - maid-en:

B2 low - li-ness of his hand - maid-en:

11

A - a - ti-ons shall call me bless-ed.

T1 - a - ti - ons shall call me bless - ed.

T2 ge-ner - a - ti-ons shall call me bless-ed.

B - a - ti - ons shall call me bless-ed.

A - a - ti-ons shall call me bless - ed. For he that is migh - ty hath mag - ni - fied me; and

T For he that is migh - ty hath mag - ni - fied me; and

B1 For he that is migh - ty hath mag - ni - fied me; and

B2 For he that is migh - ty hath mag - ni - fied me; and

15

A And his mer - cy is on them that fear him through-out all gen - er -

T1 And his mer - cy is on them that fear him through-out all gen - er -

T2 And his mer - cy is on them that fear him through-out all gen - er -

B And his mer - cy is on them that fear him through-out all gen - er -

A ho - ly is his Name. And his mer - cy is on them that fear him through-out all gen - er - a -

T ho - ly is his Name.

B1 ho - ly is his Name.

B2 ho - ly is his Name.



19

A - a - ti - ons.

T1 - a - ti - ons.

T2 - a - ti - ons.

B - a - ti - ons.

A - ti - ons. He hath shew-ed strength with his arm; he hath scat - ter-ed the proud in the im -

T He hath shew-ed strength with his arm; he hath scat - ter-ed the proud in the im -

B1 He hath shew-ed strength with his arm; he hath scat - ter-ed the proud in the im -

B2 He hath shew-ed strength with his arm; he hath scat - ter-ed the proud in the im -

A He hath put down the migh-ty from their seat, and hath ex -

T1 He hath put down the migh - ty from their seat,

T2 He hath put down the migh-ty from their seat,

B He hath put down the migh-ty from their seat,

A -ag - in - a - ti - on of their hearts. and hath ex -

T -ag - in - a - ti - on of their hearts. and hath ex -

B1 -ag - in - a - ti - on of their hearts. and hath ex -

B2 -ag - in - a - ti - on of their hearts. and hath ex -

A -al - ted the hum - ble and meek. He hath fill - ed the hun - gry with good things, and the

T1 He hath fill - ed the hun - gry with good things, and the

T2 He hath fill - ed the hun - gry with good things, and the

B He hath fill - ed the hun - gry with good things, and the

A -al - ted the hum-ble and meek. He hath fill - ed the hun - gry with good things, and the

T -al - ted the hum-ble and meek.

B1 -al - ted the hum-ble and meek.

B2 -al - ted the hum - ble and meek.

31

A rich he hath sent emp - ty a - way.

T1 rich he hath sent emp - ty a - way.

T2 rich he hath sent emp - ty a - way.

B rich he hath sent emp - ty a - way.

A rich he hath sent emp - ty a - way. He re - mem - b'ring his mer - cy hath

T He re - mem - b'ring his mer - cy hath

B1 He re - mem - b'ring his mer - cy hath

B2 He re - mem - b'ring his mer - cy hath

34

A as he prom - is - ed to our fa - ther

T1 as he prom - is - ed to our fa - ther

T2 as he prom - is - ed to our fa - ther

B as he prom - is - ed to our fa - ther

A holp - en his ser - vant Is - ra - el,

T holp - en his ser - vant Is - ra - el,

B1 holp - en his ser - vant Is - ra - el,

B2 holp - en his ser - vant Is - ra - el,

37

A A - bra-ham Glo - ry be to the

T1 A - bra-ham Glo - ry be to the

T2 A - bra-ham Glo - ry be to the

B A - bra-ham Glo - ry be to the

A and to his seed, for - ev - er. Glo - ry be to the

T and to his seed, for - ev - er.

B1 and to his seed, for - ev - er.

B2 and to his seed, for - ev - er.

40

A Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was

T1 Fa - ther, and to the Son, as it was

T2 Fa - ther, and to the Son, as it was

B Fa - ther, and to the Son, as it was

A Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was

T and to the Ho - ly Ghost;

B1 and to the Ho - ly Ghost;

B2 and to the Ho - ly Ghost;

44

A in the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be world with - out__

T1 in the be - gin - ning, is now,

T2 in the be - gin - ning, is now,

B in the be - gin - ning, is now,

A in the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be world with - out__

T and ev - er shall be world with - out

B1 and ev - er shall be world with - out__

B2 and ev - er shall be world with - out



47

A end, world with - out end. A - - - - men.

T1 world with - out end. A - - - - men.

T2 world with - out end. A - - - - men.

B world with - out end. A - - - - men.

A end, world with - out end. A - - - - men.

T end, world with - out end. A - - - - men.

B1 end, world with - out end. A - - - - men.

B2 end, world with - out end. A - - - - men.

Nunc Dimittis

from The Short Service

William Byrd (c.1539–1623)

Alto
 Lord now let - test thou thy ser - vant de - part in peace, ac - cord - ing to thy

Tenor 1
 Lord now let - test thou thy ser - vant de - part in peace, ac - cord - ing to thy

Tenor 2
 Lord now let - test thou thy ser - vant de - part in peace, ac - cord - ing to thy

Bass
 Lord now let - test thou thy ser - vant de - part in peace, ac - cord - ing to thy

Alto
 Lord now let - test thou thy ser - vant de - part in peace, ac - cord - ing to thy

Tenor
 Lord now let - test thou thy ser - vant de - part in peace, ac - cord - ing to thy

Bass 1
 Lord now let - test thou thy ser - vant de - part in peace, ac - cord - ing to thy

Bass 2
 Lord now let - test thou thy ser - vant de - part in peace, ac - cord - ing to thy

4

A
 word. For mine eyes have seen thy sal - va - ti - on, which thou hast pre - par - ed

T1
 word. For mine eyes have seen which thou hast pre -

T2
 word. For mine eyes have seen which thou hast pre -

B
 word. For mine eyes have seen which thou hast pre -

A
 word. For mine eyes have seen thy sal - va - ti - on,

T
 word. thy sal - va - ti - on,

B1
 word. thy sal - va - ti - on,

B2
 word. thy sal - va - ti - on,

7

A be-fore the face of all peo - ple; to be a light to light-en the Gen - tiles,

T1 -par-ed to be a light

T2 -par-ed to be a light

B -par-ed to be a light to light-en the Gen -

A be-fore the face of all peo - ple; to be a light to light-en the Gen -

T be-fore the face of all peo - ple; to light-en the Gen -

B1 be-fore the face of all peo - ple; to light-en the Gen -

B2 be-fore the face of all peo - ple; to light-en the Gen -

11

A and to be the glo-ry of thy peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther, and to the

T1 and to be the glo-ry of thy peo-ple Is - ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Fa - ther, and to the

T2 and to be the glo-ry of the peo - ple Is-ra - el. Glo-ry be to the Fa - ther, and to the

B -tiles, and to be the glo-ry of thy peo-ple Is - ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther, and to the

A -tiles, and to be the glo - ry of the peo-ple Is - ra - el. Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther, and to the

T -tiles, Glo-ry be to the Fa - ther, and to the

B1 -tiles, Glo-ry be to the Fa - ther, and to the

B2 -tiles, Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther, and to the

16

A Son, and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the be-gin-ning, and is_ now, and ev - er shall be

T1 Son, and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the be-gin-ning, and is_ now, and ev - er shall be_

T2 Son, and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the be-gin-ning, and is now, and ev - er shall be

B Son, and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the be-gin-ning, and is_ now, and ev - er shall be

A Son, and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the be-gin-ning, and is_ now, and ev - er shall be

T Son, and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the be-gin-ning, and is_ now, and ev - er shall be_

B1 Son, and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the be-gin-ning, and is now, and ev - er shall be

B2 Son, and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the be-gin-ning, and is_ now, and ev - er shall be

20

A world with-out end. A - men. And ev - er shall be world with - out end. A - men.

T1 _world with-out end. A - men. And ev - er shall be world with-out end. A - men.

T2 world with-out end. A - men. And ev - er shall be world with - out end. A - men.

B world with-out end. A - men. And ev - er shall be world with - out end. A - men.

A world with-out end. A - men. And ev - er shall be world with - out end. A - men.

T _world with-out end. A - men. And ev - er shall be world with-out end. A - men.

B1 world with-out end. A - men. And ev - er shall be world with - out end. A - men.

B2 world with-out end. A - men. And ev - er shall be world with - out end. A - men.