

Canto Beneventano per la Messa di Natale
(Trascrizione di Matthew Peattie per la *Schola Cantorum OrbiSophia*)

Benevento, Biblioteca Capitolare, MS 35. f. 202v

Offert.

o- di- e X pis- tus na- tus est;

o- di- e S al- va- tor ap- pa- ru- it;

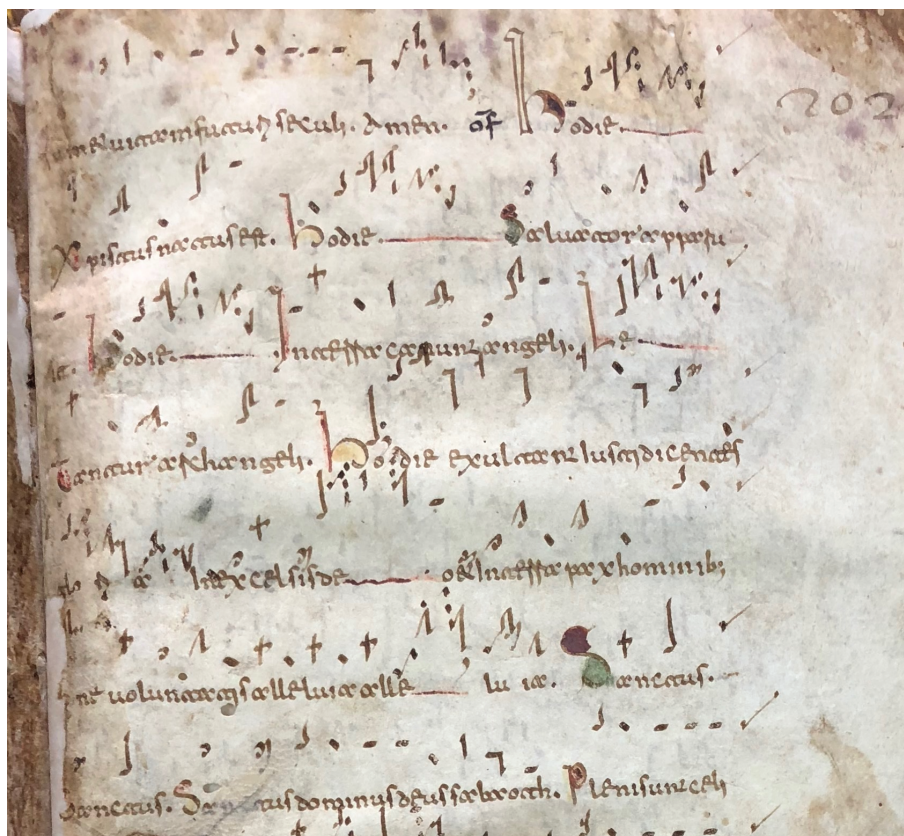
o- di- e n ter- ra ca- nunt an- ge- li,

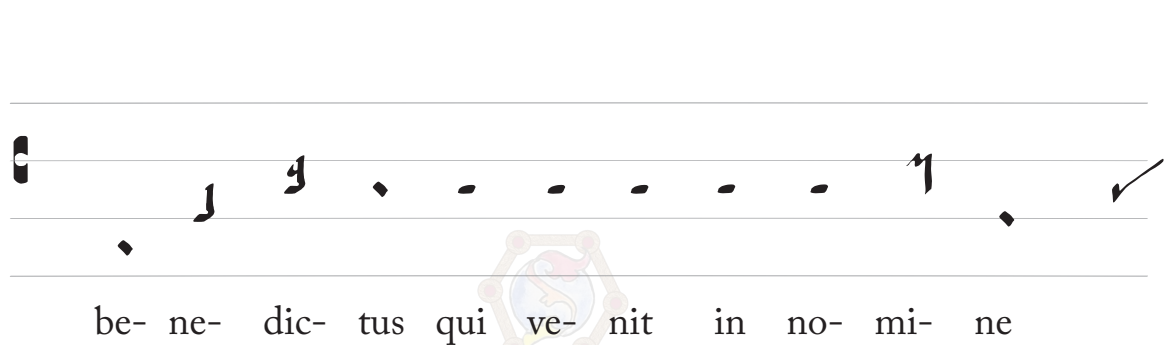
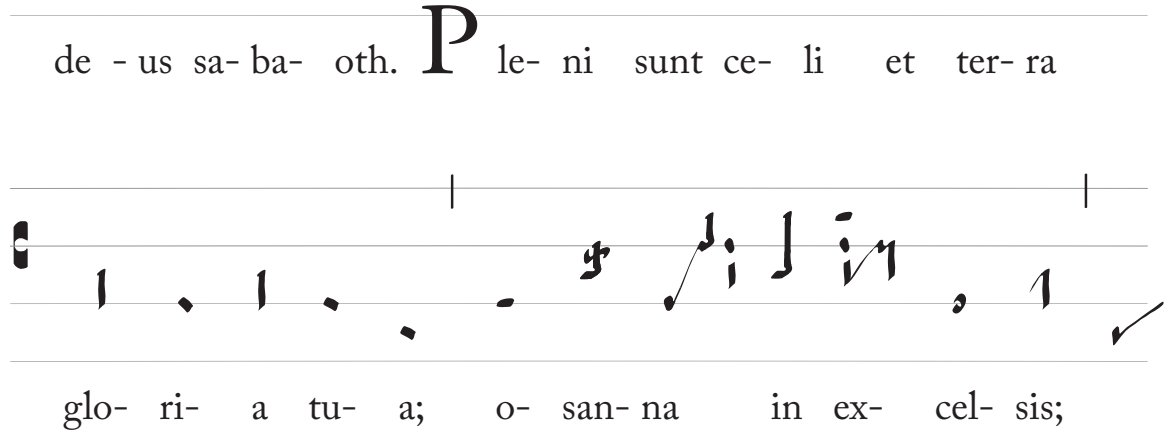
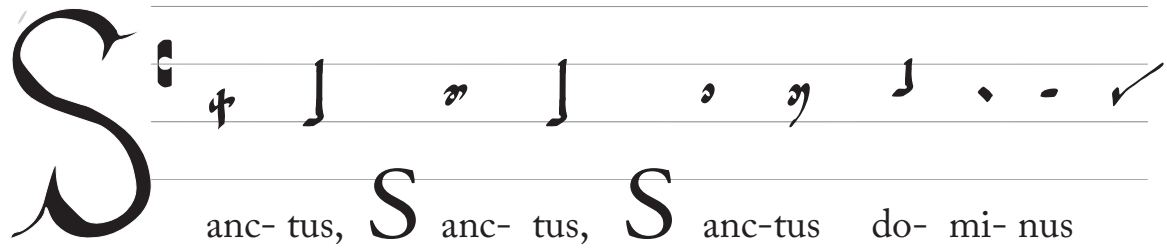
e- tan- tur arch- an- ge- li; o- di-

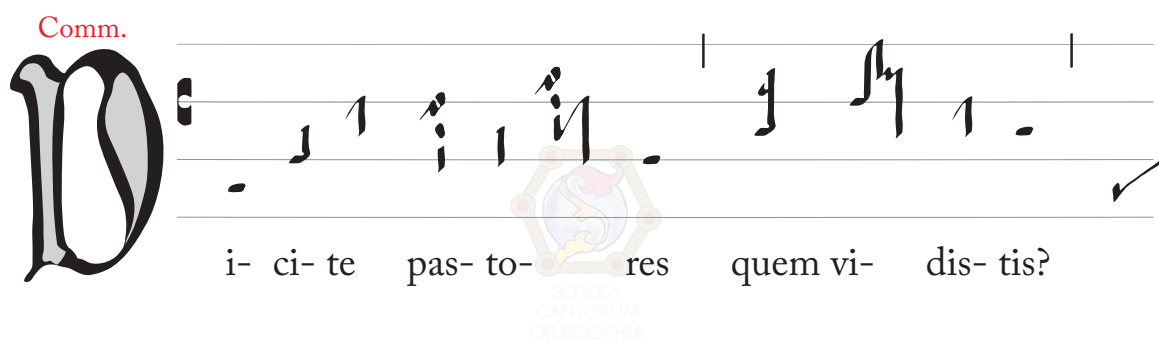
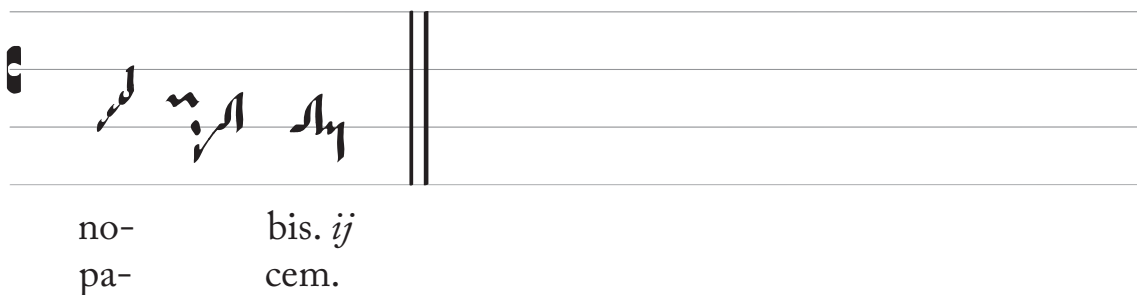
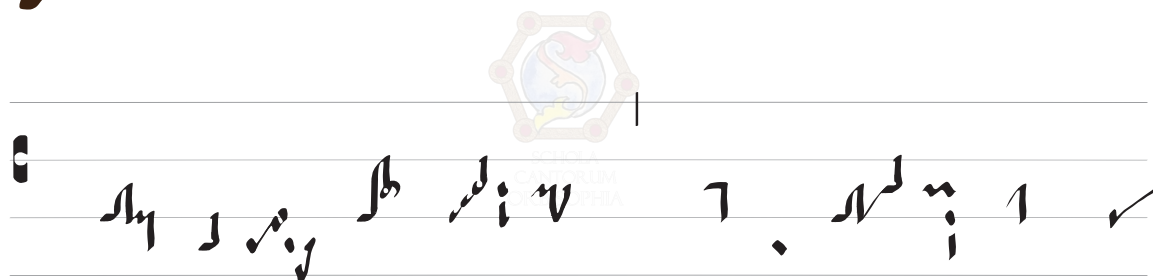
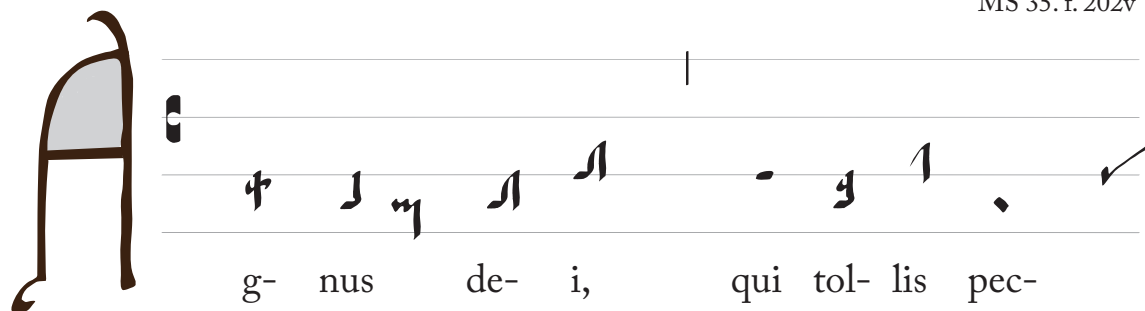
e ex- ul- tant ius- ti di- cen- tes: Glo- ri-

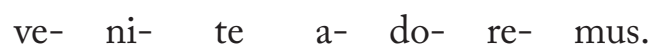
a in ex-cel-sis de- o et in
 ter-ra pax ho-mi-ni-bus bo-ne vo-lun-ta-tis,
 al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

Offertory: *Hodie Christus natus est*

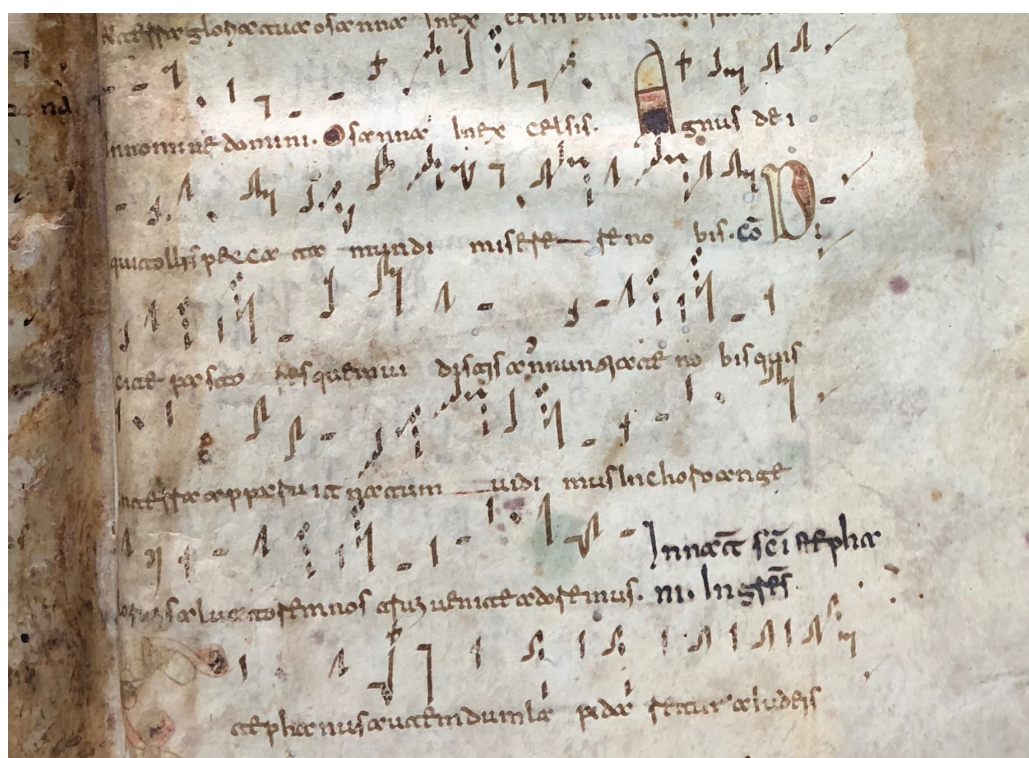








Agnus dei and Communion: Dicite pastores



Beneventan music for Christmas survives on a single folio of music appended to Benevento, Biblioteca capitolare MS 35. The folio, in well-heightened eleventh-century neumes, appears to be from a Gradual that records both proper and ordinary items of the mass. Folio 202v transmits the end of the Credo, an offertory (*Hodie Christus natus est*), a Sanctus, an Agnus Dei and a Communion (*Dicite pastores*). At the bottom of the page is the opening of an Ingressa for St. Stephen. (A partial Mass proper for St. Stephen continues on f. 202r.). This folio is of great value not only because it is the only surviving evidence of Beneventan music from the first part of the liturgical year, but because it is one of the few extant documents that contains only Beneventan chant (i.e. not mixed with Gregorian melodies). And the melodies are exceptionally beautiful.

Hodie Christus natus est

Today Christ is born; today the savior has appeared; today the angels sing on the earth, and the arch-angels rejoice; today the righteous rejoice, saying: "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men of good will." Alleluia, alleluia!

Sanctus

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts; heaven and earth are full of your Glory; Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest.

Dicite pastores

Say shepherds, tell us who you have seen? Tell us who appeared on earth? We saw our savior born in a choir of angels; come let us adore him.

Agnus Dei

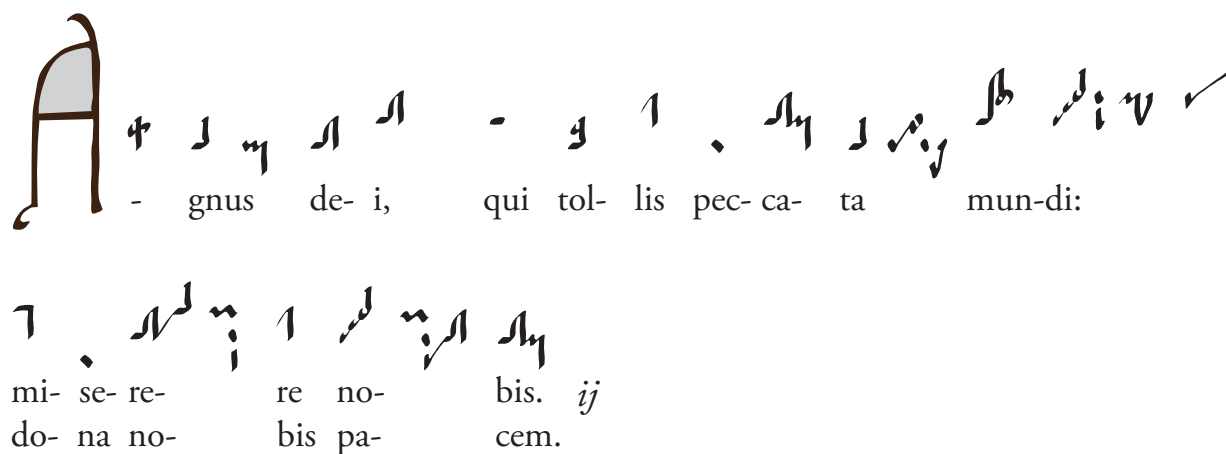
Lamb of God, who take away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

Lamb of God, who take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

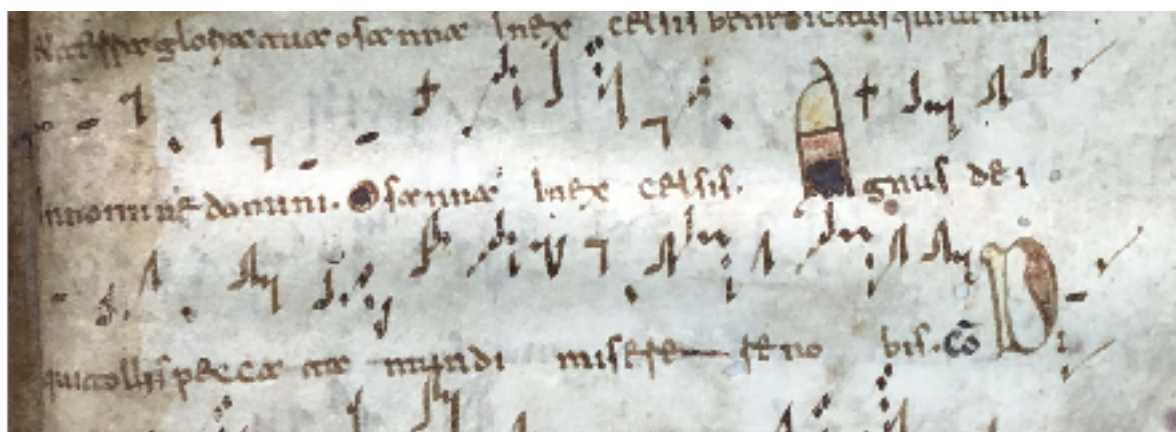


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Agnus dei in 'recall notation' (Per i cantanti che conoscono già la melodia)



Benevento 35. f. 202v



Agnus Dei in nota quadrata (trascrizione di Michael Hunt per Associazione OrbiSophia)

