

## Liturgical chant for St Colmcille in Irish and Scottish Sources

### Processional Antiphon

O Columba cultor ecclesie  
virgo doctor per donum gracie  
iam securus in statu patrie  
salva tue gaudentes glorie.

O Columba, cultivator of the Church,  
virgin, teacher through the gift of grace,  
now secure in status in the fatherland,  
save those rejoicing in your glory.

Processional from the Church of St John the Evangelist, Dublin

Marsh's Library Dublin, MS Z.4.2.20

### Vespers Responsory for the Octave of the Feast

O Columba                    insignis signifer  
mentes munda            ne fallens pestifer  
servis officiat            maris discrimine.  
\*Tuis ut placeat        circumdatis psallere.

O Columba, distinguished standard-bearer,  
cleanse minds lest the deceiving plague-bearer  
harm your servants, so that it may please those  
surrounded by danger of the sea to sing praise.

Tibi pre ceteris            condecet proxime  
voces leticie            huc aurem adhibe.

To you before others it is fitting that voices of joy  
be closest. Lend an ear here.

Inchcolm Antiphoner, Edinburgh University Library, MS 211/IV

### Lauds Hymn

1. Aurora rutilat            lucis prenuncia  
letos nos excitat        a sompnolencia  
volentes celebre        festum recolere  
                         Columbe venerabilis.

Dawn, harbinger of light, glows red  
it rouses us glad ones from sleep  
wishing to commemorate again  
the celebrated feast of venerable Columba

2. Qui fuit humilis        mitis affabilis  
vultu vir hilaris        vir venerabilis  
ortu vir nobilis        vir statu stabilis  
                         corpore castus et mente.

who was humble, gentle, approachable  
in appearance a cheerful man, a venerable man,  
a nobleman by birth, a man steadfast in attitude,  
chaste in body and mind.

3. Columbe merita        et signa singula  
facta prophetica        clara miracula  
vel dictis dicere        vel scriptis scribere  
                         nemo novit totaliter.

No one knows fully how to say in words,  
or write in script, the merits of Columba  
and his every sign, prophetic deeds,  
evident miracles.

4. Relinquens patriam caram Yberniam  
per Christi gratiam venit Britanniam  
per quem ydonea vite primordia  
rex gentis sumpsit Britannie.

Leaving Ireland, his dear fatherland,  
through the grace of Christ he came to Britain  
through whom the king of the people  
received admirable beginnings of life in Britain.

5. O pater patrie pastor egregie  
Columba tribue nobis spem venie  
et labe criminum nostrorum omnium  
nos munda sancte Columba.

O father of this land, outstanding pastor,  
Columba, grant us hope of forgiveness  
from the taint of all our crimes  
cleanse us, holy Columba,

6. Qui nobis tribuat peccati veniam  
reatum diluat et donet patriam  
nos tuos famulos omnes catholicos  
commenda regi glorie.

who may grant forgiveness of sins to us,  
absolve the guilty and vouchsafe this land  
commend us all, your catholic servants,  
to the King of Glory.

7. Sit laus perpetua sit semper gloria  
patri et filio sancto paraclito  
simplici Domino qui regit omnia  
per cuncta semper secula.

May perpetual praise and glory be  
to the Father, Son, and Holy Paraclete,  
one Lord who reigns over all  
through all ages always.

Amen.

Amen.

Inchcolm Antiphoner, Edinburgh University Library, MS 211/IV

© Ann Buckley 2020