

# Ave Verum Corpus

SATB a cappella

Pope Innocent III or IV

William Byrd (1543-1623)

ed. Drew Collins

$\text{♩} = 30-44$

2 3 4 5 6

Soprano (SUPERIUS)  
Alto (MEDIUS)  
Tenor (TENOR)  
Bass (BASSUS)

A - ve ve - rum cor - pus, na - tum de Ma - ri -

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7 8 9 10 11 12

a Vir - gi ne, Ve - re pas - sum, im - mo - la - tum in

a Vir - gi ne, Ve - re pas - sum, im - mo - la - tum

a Vir - gi ne, Ve - re pas - sum, im - mo - la - tum in cru -

Vir - gi - ne, Ve - re pas - sum, im - mo - la - tum in

13 14 15 16 17 18

cru - ce pro ho - mi - ne: Cu - jus la - tus per - fo - ra - tum,

in cru - ce pro ho - mi - ne: Cu - jus la - tus per - fo - ra - tum, un -

ce pro ho - mi - ne: Cu - jus la - tus per - fo - ra - tum,

cru - ce pro ho - mi - ne: Cu - jus la - tus per - fo - ra - tum,

19 20 21 22 23 24

un - de flu - xit san - gui - ne, san - gui - ne. Es - to no - bis prae - gu -  
 de flu - xit san - gui - ne, san - gui - ne. Es - to no - bis prae - gu -  
 un - de flu - xit san - gui - ne. Es - to no - bis prae - gu -  
 un - de flu - xit san - gui - ne. Es - to no - bis prae - gu -

25 26 27 28 29 30

sta - tum in mor - tis ex - a - mi - ne. O dul - cis, O pi -  
 sta - tum in mor - tis, in mor - tis ex - a - mi - ne. O dul - cis, O  
 sta - tum in mor - tis ex - a - mi - ne. O dul - cis, O  
 sta - tum in mor - tis ex - a - mi - ne. O dul - cis, O

31 32 33 34 35

e, O Je - su Fi - li Ma - ri - ae;  
 pi - e, O Je - su Fi - li Ma - ri - ae;  
 pi - e, O Je - su Fi - li Ma - ri - ae;  
 pi - e, O Je - su Fi - li Ma - ri - ae;

36 37 38 39 40

mi - se - re - re me - i, mi - se - re - re

mi - se - re - re me - i, mi - se - re - re mi - se - re - re me - i, mi - se -

mi - se - re - re me - i, mi - se - re - re me - i, me -

mi - se - re - re me - i, mi - se - re - re me - i, mi -

41 42 43 44 45 46

me - i, me - i, O i, A - men.

re - re me - i, i, A - men.

i, mi - se - re - re me - i, i, A - men.

se - re - re me - i, i, A - men.

SOURCE: Gradualia, revised edition, 1610 (originally pub. 1605)

CRITICAL NOTES: Note values halved, bar lines added (mensurstriche), slurs added. Tenor (m.39), Alto (m.40-41): text underlay uncertain. Bass (m.37): Rhythm of beats 3 & 4 altered. Final bar omitted (previous pitches were tied over).

TEXT and TRANSLATION:

*Ave verum corpus, natum de Maria Virgine,  
vere passum, immolatum in cruce pro homine:  
Cujus latus perforatum, Unde fluxit sanguine.  
Esto nobis praegustatum in mortis examine:  
O Dulcis, O pie, O Jesu fili Mariae,  
miserere mei. Amen.*

-Pope Innocent III or IV  
(Sequence Hymn for the Feast of Corpus Christi)

Hail true body, born of the Virgin Mary.  
Truly suffering, was sacrificed on the cross for all,  
From whose pierced side flowed blood,  
Be for us a foretaste in the final judgment.  
O sweet, O merciful, O Jesus, Son of Mary,  
Have mercy on me. Amen.