III Offertorium

TREBLE CHOIR

Domine Jesu Christe,
Rex gloriae,
libera animas omnium fidelium
defunctorum de poenis inferni,
et de profondo lacu:
libera eas de ore leonis,
ne absorbeat eas tartarus
ne cadant in obscurum.

Lord Jesus Christ,
King of glory,
free the souls of all the faithful
dead from the tortures of hell,
and from the bottomless pit:
free them from the mouth of the lion,
that hell may not swallow them up,
nor may they fall into darkness.

CHORUS

Sed signifier sanctus Michael repraesentet eas in lucem sanctam: quam olim Abrahae promisisti, et semini ejus.

But the holy standard-bearer Michael shall bring them back into the holy light: as Thou once didst promise to Abraham, and his offspring.

BARITONE AND TENOR SOLOS

So Abram rose, and clave the wood, and went, And took the fire with him, and a knife. And as they sojourned both of them together, Issac the first-born spake and said, My Father, Behold the preparations, fire and iron, But where the lamb for this burnt-offering? Then Abram bound the youth with belts and straps, And builded parapets and trenches there, And stretchèd forth the knife to slay his son. When lo! an angel called him out of heaven, Saying, Lay not thy hand upon the lad, Neither do anything to him. Behold, A ram, caught in a thicket by its horns; Offer the Ram of Pride instead of him. But the old man would not so, but slew his son, – And half the seed of Europe, one by one. ['The Parable of the Old Man and the Young']

TREBLE CHOIR

Hostias et preces tibi Domine laudis offerimus: tu suscipe pro animabus illis, quarum hodie memoriam facimus: fac eas, Domine, de morte transire ad vitam. Sacrifices and prayers we offer to Thee, Lord, with praise: receive them for the souls of those whose memory we recall today: make them, Lord, to pass from death to life.