Advent Preface

Vere dignum et justum est, aequum et salutare, nos tibi semper et ubique gratias agere: Domine sancte, Pater omnipotens, aeterne Deus: per Christum Dominum nostrum. Quem perdito hominum generi Salvatorem misericors et fidelis promisisti: cujus veritas instrueret inscios, sanctitas justificaret impios, virtus adjuvaret infirmos. Dum ergo prope est ut veniat quem missurus es, et dies affulget liberationis nostrae, in hac promissionum tuarum fide, piis gaudiis exsultamus. Et ideo cum Angelis et Archangelis, cum Thronis et Dominationibus, cumque omni militia caelestis exercitus, hymnum gloriae tuae canimus, sine fine dicentes:

It is truly meet and just, right and for our salvation, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to Thee, holy Lord, Father almighty, eternal God, through Christ our Lord. Whom Thou, clement and faithful, promised as a Savior to the lost race of men; Whose truth instructed the ignorant, Whose sanctity justified the impious, Whose virtue strengthened the weak. Therefore while the advent approaches of Him Whom Thou shalt send, and the day of our deliverance shines forth, we exult in pious joys in this confidence of Thy promises. And therefore with Angels and Archangels, with Thrones and Dominations, and with all the hosts of the heavenly army we sing a hymn to Thy glory, evermore saying:

Advent-Christmas Marian Antiphon:

Alma Redemptoris Mater,
quae pervia caeli porta manes et stella maris,
succurre cadenti, surgere qui curat, populo:
tu quae genuisti, natura mirante, tuum sanctum genitorem,
Virgo prius, ac posterius, Gabrielis ab ore sumens illud ave, peccatorum miserere.

Holy mother of our Redeemer,
thou gate leading to heaven and star of the sea;
help the falling people who seek to rise,
thou who, all nature wondering, didst give birth to thy holy Creator.
Virgin always, hearing the greeting from Gabriel’s lips, take pity on sinners.