

The Annunciation

"This is the day that the Lord has made. Today the Lord had regard for His people's affliction, and sent them Redemption. On this day the death inflicted by a woman, a woman put to flight. Today the God made man remained what He was and assumed that which He was not. Let us therefore recall with devotion the beginning of our Redemption, and let us rejoice exceedingly saying: Glory be to Thee O Lord." (Magnif. Ant. for Second Vespers of the feast of the Annunciation in the Dominican Breviary.)

Gabriel:

O full of grace the Lord abides in thee.
By the bright o'ershadowing of thy Guest divine,
Thou holy habitat of the Blessed Three,
Within thy womb the saving Son will shine.

Mary:

Behold the Father's dove about to sound
The noble strain of my Beloved's song sublime,
That every man may hear and so abound
With joy because it is the fullness of time.

Jesus:

Behold I come to do Thy will O Lord,
To dwell among men giving them my grace.
The priestly heart within me seeks reward
In leading men to see Thee face to face.

Mankind:

Rejoice, announcing the good tidings now begun,
That we are being saved by God's own Son.

MICHAEL JELLY, O.P.