

- 2. De paréntis protoplásti
  Fraude Factor cóndolens,
  Quando pomi noxiális
  In necem morsu ruit:
  Ipse lignum tunc notávit,
  Damna ligni ut solveret. Dulce.
- 2. He, our Maker, deeply grieving That the first-made Adam fell, When he ate the fruit forbidden Whose reward was death and hell, Marked e'en then this Tree the ruin Of the first tree to dispel.

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- 3. Hoc opus nostræ salútis
  Ordo depopóscerat:
  Multifórmis proditóris
  Ars ut artem fálleret:
  Et medélam ferret inde,
  Hostis unde læserat. Crux.
- 4. Quando venit ergo sacri Plenitúdo témporis, Missus est ab arce Patris Natus, orbis Cónditor, Atque ventre virgináli Carne amíctus pródiit. Dulce.
- 5. Vagit infans inter arcta Cónditus præsépia: Membra pannis involúta Virgo Mater álligat: Et Dei manus pedésque Stricta cingit fáscia. Crux.
- 6. Lustra sex qui jam perégit, Tempus implens córporis, Sponte líbera Redémptor Passióni déditus, Agnus in Crucis levátur Immolándus stípite. Dulce.
- 7. Felle potus ecce languet: Spina, clavi, láncea, Mite corpus perforárunt, Unda manat et cruor: Terra, pontus, astra, mundus, Quo lavántur flúmine! Crux.
- 8. Flecte ramos, arbor alta, Tensa laxa víscera,
  Et rigor lentéscat ille,
  Quem dedit natívitas:
  Et supérni membra Regis
  Tende miti stípite. Dulce.

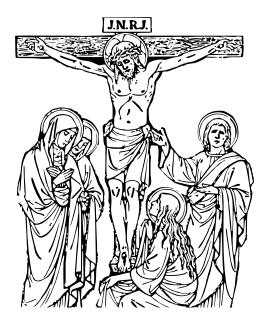
- 3. Thus the work for our salvation He ordainéd to be done; To the traitor's art opposing Art yet deeper than his own; Thence the remedy procuring Whence the fatal wound begun.
- 4. Therefore, when at a length the fulness
  Of the appointed time was come, He was sent, the world's Creator, From the Father's heavenly home, And was found in human fashion, Offspring of the Virgin's Womb,
- 5. Lo! He lies, an infant weeping, Where the narrow manger stands, While the Mother-Maid His members Wraps in mean and lowly bands, And the swaddling-clothes is winding Round His helpless feet and hands.
- 6. Thirty years among us dwelling His appointed time fulfilled, Born for this, He meets His Passion For that this He freely willed: On the Cross the Lamb is lifted, Where His life-blood shall be spilled.
- 7. He endured the nails, the spitting, Vinegar, and spear, and reed; From that holy Body broken Blood and water, forth proceed: Earth and stars and sky and ocean By that flood from stain are freed.
- 8. Bend thy boughs, O Tree of Glory! Thy too rigid sinews bend; And awhile the stubborn hardness, Which thy birth bestow'd, suspend; And King of heavenly beauty On thy bosom gently tend.

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## PASSIONTIDE

- 9. Sola digna tu fuísti
  Ferre mundi víctimam:
  Atque portum præparáre
  Arca mundo náufrago:
  Quam sacer cruor perúnxit,
  Fusus Agni córpore. Crux.
- 10. Sempitérna sit beátæ Trinitáti glória: Æqua Patri Filióque; Par decus Paráclito: Uníus Triníque nomen Laudet univérsitas. Amen. Dulce.
- 9. Thou alone wast counted worthy This world's ransom to uphold, For a shipwrecked race preparing Harbour, like the Ark of old; With the sacred Blood anointed From the smitten Lamb that rolled.
- 10. To the Trinity be glory Everlasting as is meet; Equal to the Father, equal To the Son and Paraclete; Trinal Unity, whose praises All created things repeat. Amen.

Venantius Fortunatus 530–609 Translation by J. M. Neale and others



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