

for Belfast Cathedral Choir, Christmas 2008

A Christmas Blessing

For SSA* and Piano (or Organ)

Duration: ca. 2:30

Words from the Church of Ireland
Book of Common Prayer
adapted by PHILIP W.J. STOPFORD

Music by
PHILIP W.J. STOPFORD

Smooth and flowing (♩ = 84)

Piano
(or Organ)

mp

Soprano I

mp 5

May the joy of the an - gels, the glad - ness of the

shep - herds, the wor - ship of the wise - men and the peace of the

* Available separately:
SATB, SSA



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Soprano I

Christ child be yours, be yours this Christ - mas.

Soprano II

Alto

12

mp 17

May the joy of the an - gels, the glad - ness of the

mp

May the joy of the an - gels, the glad - ness of the

mp

May the joy of the an - gels, the glad - ness of the

17

16

shep - herds, the wor - ship of the wise - men and the peace of the

shep - herds, the wor - ship of the wise - men and the peace of the

shep - herds, the wor - ship of the wise - men and the peace of the

20

Christ child be yours, be yours this Christ - mas.

Christ child be yours, be yours this Christ - mas.

Christ child be yours, be yours this Christ - mas.

24

mp 29

May - Christ, who by his in - car -

p

Oo

p

Oo

29

28

na - tion gath - ered in - to one all things earth - ly,

Oo

Oo

32

all things heav-en - ly, and fill you with joy, *f*

cresc. fill you with joy, *f*

mp all things heav-en - ly, and fill you with joy, *f*

36

dim. fill you with joy and peace.

dim. fill you with joy and peace.

dim. fill you with joy and peace.

dim.

40

mp 47

And the bless - ing of

mp

And the bless - ing of

mp

And the bless - ing of

44

p

mp

Detailed description: This block contains the musical notation for measures 44 through 47. It features three vocal staves (Soprano, Alto, and Tenor) and a piano accompaniment. The vocal parts enter in measure 47 with the lyrics 'And the bless - ing of'. The piano accompaniment begins in measure 44. Dynamics include *mp* (mezzo-piano) for the vocal entries and *p* (piano) for the piano accompaniment in measure 45. Measure numbers 44 and 47 are indicated in boxes.

cresc.

God — the Fa - ther and the Son and the Ho - ly

cresc.

God — the Fa - ther and the Son and the Ho - ly

cresc.

God the Fa - ther and the Son and the Ho - ly

48

cresc.

Detailed description: This block contains the musical notation for measures 48 through 51. It features three vocal staves and a piano accompaniment. The vocal parts continue with the lyrics 'God — the Fa - ther and the Son and the Ho - ly'. The piano accompaniment provides harmonic support. Dynamics include *cresc.* (crescendo) for both the vocal parts and the piano accompaniment across measures 48, 49, 50, and 51.

Spir - it be with you and re - main with you al - ways, -

Spir - it be with you and re - main with you al - ways, -

Spir - it be with you and re - main with you al - ways, -

52

— with you al - ways, — and re - main with

— with you al - ways, — and re - main with

— with you al - ways, — and re - main with

56

you al - ways. A -

you al - ways.

you al - ways.

Slower
mp

60

men, A - men.

A - men.

A - men.

men.

men.

men.

64

64