LATIN LYRIC
DICTION
WORKBOOK

A graded method of phonetic transcription that employs frequently occurring words from Latin choral texts

Cheri Montgomery

with Germanic Latin units by

Matthew Hoch, DMA

S.T.M. Publishers
Nashville, TN
PREFACE

The *Latin Lyric Diction Workbook* was created from the lyrics of sacred choral texts. Words were organized in order of frequency of occurrence. The most frequently occurring words are short in length and appear in the enunciation exercises. Other commonly occurring lyric words are introduced in graded order and categorized according to Latin speech sounds as defined by the International Phonetic Alphabet. A study of articulatory phonetics is provided. It includes consonant and vowel charts for student application and definition of terms.

Consecutive units highlight specified sets of symbols by providing transcribed choral texts, enunciation instructions, enunciation exercises, rules for transcription, group assignments, and individually assigned word lists. Units progress in cumulative order culminating with a comprehensive assignment that tests students’ reading and transcription skills.

A review of transcription rules, comprehensive assignment, and instructions for the sung application of transcribed texts are provided in the appendices.

Units 1 through 5 highlight Liturgical Latin pronunciation and transcription. I have asked Dr. Matthew Hoch, Associate Professor of Voice and Coordinator of the Voice Area at Auburn University, to contribute Units 6 and 7 to cover Germanic Latin pronunciation and transcription. He has also provided a discussion of the history and usage of Germanic Latin along with transcriptions of selected texts (see appendix).

Dr. Daniel Solomon, professor of Latin and Director of Undergraduate Studies in Classical Studies at Vanderbilt University, is the Latin text and translation editor. His willingness to share his expertise is much appreciated.

I am grateful for the opportunity to work with the many gifted singers in my diction classes and private studio at the Blair School of Music at Vanderbilt University.

The *Lyric Diction Workbook Series* was created to make the lyric languages accessible to singers. Familiarity is gained as numerous words are encountered. The series was designed to make grading easier for instructors. Accurate transcription and proficiency of memorized rules is assessed through in-class enunciation. The *Latin Lyric Diction Workbook* introduces singers to the language through transcription and enunciation of a rich lyric vocabulary. It functions consecutively within our series of workbooks created for diction courses.

Cheri Montgomery
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- Comprehensive Assignment  
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- Review of Transcription Rules  
  Page 106
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Who is God living with you and reigning in the unity of the Holy Ghost,
Qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitate Spiritus Sancti Deus,
[kwiˈtɛkumˈvivitɛtˈrɛɲatiniˈutaˈspiritusˈsaŋktiˈdeus]
Libera nos (referring to Christ)

UNIT 4:
Prepalatal Nasal [ɲ], Palatal Nasal [ŋ],
Vowels in Hiatus, and Diphthong [ɑu]

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Anima Christi, sanctifica me.

*Soul of Christ, sanctify me.*
Anima Christi, sanctifica me.
[ˈanimaˈkrəsti səŋˈfɪkə me]
*In the hour of my death, call me.*
In hora mortis meæ voca me.
[ɪnˈɔraˈmortis ˈmeəˈvɔka me]

*Body of Christ, save me.*
Corpus Christi, salve me.
[ˈkɔrpusˈkrəsti ˈsælvə me]
*And bid me come unto Thee,*
Et iube me venire ad te,
[ɛˈjube me ˈveˈnɪre ad te]

*Blood of Christ, inebriate me*
Sanguis Christi, inebria me.
[ˈsæŋɡwɪsˈkrəsti ɪnˈɛbria me]
*that with Thy Saints I may praise Thee*
Ut cum Sanctis tuis laudem te
[ʊt kəmˈsæŋktɪs ˈtjuɪs ˈlædɛm tɛ]

*Water from the side of Christ, wash me.*
Aqua lateris Christi, lava me.
[ˈɑkwəˈlɑtərɪsˈkrəsti ˈlævə me]
*Forever and ever. Amen.*
In sæcula sæculorum. Amen.
[ɪnˈsɛkula ˈsɛkʊlərmˈɛmən]

*Passion of Christ, strengthen me.*
Passio Christi, conforta me.
[ˈpɑsʃəʊˈkrəstiˈkɔnˈfɔrta me]

*O good Jesus, hear me.*
O bone Jesu, exaudi me.
[əˈbənəˈjezu ɪɡzˈɔudi me]

*Within thy wounds, hide me.*
Intra tua vulnera absconde me.
[ɪnˈtra tuəˈvʌlnəɾə əbˈskɔndə me]

*Permit me not to be separated from Thee.*
Ne permittas me separari a te.
[ne ˈpɜːmɪtəs me ˈseparəri ə tɛ]

*From the malicious enemy, defend me.*
Ab hoste maligno defende me.
[abˈɔstə ˈmeɪlɪŋo ˈdefendə me]
UNIT 4: Prepalatal [ɲ], palatal [ŋ], vowels in hiatus, diphthong [ɑu]

Voiced prepalatal nasal [ɲ]

**Articulation.** Raise the soft palate and release the jaw. Place the tongue tip against the lower row of teeth. The arch of the tongue contacts the area between the hard palate and alveolar ridge. The articulatory position is identical to the Latin [j] glide. Direct vocalized tone through the nasal cavities.

**Warning.** Do not articulate two sounds as in the word *onion* [ˈɔnjən]. Latin [ɲ] is one sound.

Voiced palatal nasal [ŋ]

**Articulation.** Release and lower the jaw. Place the tongue tip against the lower row of teeth. The back of the tongue is relaxed and raised to gently touch the lowered soft palate. Direct vocalized tone through the nasal cavities.

**Warning.** Do not press the articulators tightly together. Avoid a click of the tongue following [ŋ]. The soft palate should be separated from the tongue with a very gentle glide lead by vocalized tone. ¹

Diphthong [ɑu]

**Enunciation:** With tongue tip touching lower row of front teeth, relax and lower the jaw. Do not assume a lip shape or position. Simply drop the jaw and lift the soft palate. Direct vocalized tone toward the upper front teeth. Transition quickly to the second shorter vowel at the latest moment.

Enunciate the following frequently occurring lyric words that contain [ɲ], [ŋ], and [ɑu]

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<td>sanctus</td>
<td>exaudi</td>
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<td>[ˈɑɲus]</td>
<td>[ˈsɑŋktus]</td>
<td>[ɛgzˈaudi]</td>
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<td>2. regnas</td>
<td>cuncta</td>
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<td>[ˈrɛɲas]</td>
<td>[ˈkʊŋktə]</td>
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<td>3. magna</td>
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<td>laudate</td>
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<td>[ˈmɑɲa]</td>
<td>[ˈsɑŋgwɪs]</td>
<td>[lauˈdate]</td>
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<td>4. ignem</td>
<td>unctio</td>
<td>aufer</td>
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<tr>
<td>[ˈɪɲɛm]</td>
<td>[ˈɑŋktio]</td>
<td>[ˈaʊfɛr]</td>
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<td>5. digne</td>
<td>sanctis</td>
<td>gaude</td>
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<td>[ˈdɪɲe]</td>
<td>[ˈsɑŋktis]</td>
<td>[ˈɡaʊdɛ]</td>
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<td>6. benigne</td>
<td>cunctae</td>
<td>autem</td>
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<tr>
<td>[beˈɲiɲe]</td>
<td>[ˈkʊŋkte]</td>
<td>[ˈɑutɛm]</td>
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<td>7. igne</td>
<td>anguis</td>
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<td>[ˈiɲe]</td>
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<td>8. magnus</td>
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<td>[ˈmɑɲus]</td>
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<td>[ˈrɛɲi]</td>
<td>[ˈsɑŋkto]</td>
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<td>10. digneris</td>
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<td>[diɲeris]</td>
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<td>11. signo</td>
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<td>[ˈsɑŋgwɪnis]</td>
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RULES FOR TRANSCRIPTION

OPEN FRONT [ɛ]

in hiatus

e + vowel: leonis [lɛ-ˈɔ-nis]

OPEN BACK [ɔ]

in hiatus

o + vowel: introire [in-trɔ-ˈi-ɾɛ]

DIPHTHONG [au]

Spelling au: laudate [lauˈdɑtɛ]

(Spellings ay, ei, and eu are diphthongs in the words Raymundi, Hei, and euge)

PREPALATAL NASAL [ɲ]

Spelling gn: regnum ['rɛɲum]

PALATAL NASAL [ŋ]

Spelling ngu + vowel: distinguo [disˈtiŋgwɔ]

Spelling nct: punctum ['puŋktum]

Note: Spelling j [j] is included in the following worksheets as a review of the spelling. Prepalatal [ɲ] and the [j] glide share the same point of articulation
CLASSWORK #4: Prepalatal [ɲ], palatal [ŋ], vowels in hiatus, diphthong [au]

Provide IPA:

1. visibilium (visible) 10. eleision (mercy)
2. incarnatus (incarnate) 11. cantate (sing)
3. dignitatem (rank) 12. sancto (holy)
4. laudis (praise) 13. gloriam (glory)
5. sanguis (blood) 14. pertingo (I stretch out)
6. apparuit (he appeared) 15. mereamur (we merit)
7. Deo (God) 16. agnus (lamb)
8. relinquo (I leave) 17. tibique (and to you)
9. justus (just) 18. niveus (white)
WORKSHEET #4: Prepalatal [ɲ], palatal [ŋ], vowels in hiatus, diphthong [au]
Provide IPA:
#1
| aŭdiam      | (I will listen) |
| signo       | (signal)        |
| deǐnde      | (next)          |
| tanquam     | (as)            |
| medio       | (middle)        |
| lingua      | (language)      |
| dignus      | (worthy)        |
| jam         | (more)          |
| platea      | (street)        |
| congregate  | (I gather)      |
| quaerens    | (seeking)       |
| cunctae     | (all)           |
| gaude       | (rejoice)       |
| promereon   | (I merit)       |
| idoneus     | (proper)        |
| spiritui    | (spirit)        |
| factus      | (having become) |
| inclino     | (I bend)        |
#2
| ingratus    | (ungrateful)    |
| regni       | (kingdom)       |
| hæc         | (this)          |
| animalia    | (animals)       |
| iube        | (bid)           |
| liunteum    | (linen)         |
| sanguinibus | (bloodshed)     |
| fleo        | (I weep)        |
| propinquo   | (I approach)    |
| deleantur   | (wiped out)     |
| virgo       | (virgin)        |
| paulo       | (a little)      |
| sanctis     | (saints)        |
| puerum      | (child)         |
| nunc        | (now)           |
| iniquitates | (transgressions) |
| meis        | (my)            |
| digneris    | (you deign)     |
UNIT 6:

Germanic Latin Consonants
by Matthew Hoch, DMA

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Introduction

The use of Germanic Latin has its roots in both historical and modern eras. Since the rules of Church Latin were not officially codified until the early twentieth century, we can assume with some degree of certainty that Germanic Latin was widely practiced before this date by German and Austrian composers and performers. Even after Pope Pius X (1835–1914) established a unified method of pronouncing Liturgical Latin in 1903, the practice of using Church Latin exclusively seems to have been widely ignored in German-speaking countries. An examination of German, Austrian, Dutch, and Hungarian recordings from the early twentieth century reveals the consistent use of Germanic Latin by choirs and soloists, particularly when singing major works by German and Austrian composers, such as Bach, Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven, Schubert, and Bruckner.

The practice of singing in Germanic Latin, however, is also a more recent consideration. In the United States and England, the use of Germanic Latin that has grown in popularity since the advent of Historically Informed Performance (HIP) practice in the 1980s. This movement—also known as period performance or authentic performance—seeks to recreate how a work might have sounded during the era in which it was composed. HIP performance practice considers the size of the forces (often very small choirs, sometimes one on a part), period instruments, baroque tuning (such as A=415), performance space (small churches as opposed to large concert halls), and—germane to this publication—diction/pronunciation considerations.

While some conductors have preferred to keep things simple by employing Church Latin retroactively to all eras (Robert Shaw is a notable example), an ever-increasing number of modern conductors are applying Germanic Latin to relevant works of the baroque, classical, and romantic eras. These units are designed to serve as a guide for singers and conductors who wish to perform these works in Germanic Latin.

Germanic Latin Diction: Establishing a Systematic Pedagogy

Pronunciation guides for Church Latin are manifold. In addition to those established in the early twentieth century and reprinted in chant publications (such as the Liber Usualis), many diction textbooks have also addressed the topic of Liturgical Latin, including those by Hines (1975), Moriarty (1975), Grubb (1979), Jeffers (1988), and Wall/Caldwell (1990). Of these resources, only Jeffers engages in a discussion of Germanic Latin, and his introduction is a concise one; it does not utilize IPA or engage in the complexities of Germanic Latin vowels.

In spite of the lack of published resources, however, a consistent pedagogy for Germanic Latin has begun to emerge within the performance community. The rules in the following two chapters are thus based on common practice as opposed to specific published resources. Most of the information presented here has been learned by performing and coaching Germanic Latin through experiences with Helmuth Rilling, Peter Schreier, and Edward Bolkovac, to name three of the author’s most prominent influences. In addition, many hours were spent researching nuances of Germanic Latin by listening to professional recordings made by notable German conductors and performers, as well as prominent early music ensembles. When questions about the finer points of pronunciation would arise, as many recordings of the same text were consulted as possible. While occasional variations—usually with involving subtle nuances of vowel shadings—indeed occurred, the oral-tradition rules which have been become a part of modern performance culture seem to hold up with remarkable consistency.

This book seeks to present a systematic pedagogy for Germanic Latin, the first of its kind in published form. Newcomers to Germanic Latin may wish to solidify their understanding of German consonants before wading into the complexities of German vowels. The rules outlined on the following pages seek to provide a comprehensive framework for choral singers, soloists, and conductors wishing to integrate Germanic Latin into their performances.
RULES FOR TRANSCRIPTION

AFFRICATE [ks]
Spelling x: rex [rɛks] auxilium [aʊkˈsilɪəm]

AFFRICATE [ts]
Spelling c + front vowel: cedar ['tsɛdər] calicem ['kælɪtsəm] accepet [akˈtɛspɪt]  
Spelling z and ti + vowel: Lazaro ['latsəro] gratias ['ɡrætʃiəs]  
(except when ti + vowel is preceded by s: hostiam ['hɒstɪəm])

PALATIAL STOP [k]
 Initial ch + back vowel: chorus ['kɔrʊs]  
Final c, c + back vowel or consonant: sic [zɪk] cordis ['kɔrdɪs] crucem ['krutsəm]

FRICATIVE [ç] AND [χ]
 Front vowel or consonant + ch is [ç]: archangeli [aɾˈçaŋgeli]  
Initial ch + front vowel: cherubim ['cɛɾuˈbɪm]  
Back vowel + ch is [χ]: brachio ['bɾaχɪo]

PALATAL STOP [g]
All g and gn spellings: genitori [ɡeniˈtori] ignis ['ɪgnɪs]

PALATAL NASAL [ŋ]
Spelling n + g or [k]: angelus ['aŋɡelʊs] tunc [tʊŋk]

DENTAL FRICATIVE [z]
 Prevocalic s: solus ['zʊlʊs]  
(prevocalic ss is [ss]: dimissis [diˈmɪsɪs])

BILABIAL FRICATIVE [v]
Spelling qu and ngu: quasi ['kvəzi] sanguis ['zɑŋvɪs]  
(initial and intervocalic v is [v]: vivificantem [vɪvɪˈfɪkəntəm])

GLOTTAL FRICATIVE [h]
Initial h: hodie ['hɒdɪə]  
(ph is [f] and th is [t])

Note: Spellings b, d, and g are [p], [t], [k] when final or when followed by a consonant: obscurum [ɔpˈskuːrəm]  
(except for consonant blends with l, r, v, n). Final voiced consonant + s is [s]: potens ['pʌtəns]. Initial ps is [ps].
CLASSWORK #6: Germanic Latin consonants

Provide IPA:

1. cœlis (heaven) 9. virginis (virgin)
   [ˈœɪ] [ˈiɪ]

2. angeli (angels) 10. exaudi (listen)
   ['aɛi] [ɛˈau_i]

3. chordarum (strings) 11. sunt (are)
   [ɔˈaʊ] [ʊ]

4. hoc (this) 12. agnus (lamb)
   [ɔ] [ˈaʊ]

5. quæ (which) 13. sed (but)
   [e] [ˈɛ]

6. passus (suffered) 14. homo (man)
   [ˈaʊ] [ˈoʊ]

7. cum (when) 15. Michaelis (Michael)
   [ʊ] [ˈiˌaˈeɪ]

8. orationem (prayer) 16. pacem (peace)
   [oˌaˌiˈoʊ] [ˈaʊ]

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WORKSHEET #6: Germanic Latin consonants

Provide IPA:

#1

ignem (fire) Christum (Christ) promisisti (you promised) remissionem (forgiveness) sanctus (holy) dextera (right) gratia (grace) quidquid (whatever) hodie (today) archangeli (archangels) acceptabilemque (and acceptable) caritas (charity) sicut (as) excelsis (highest) qui (who)

#2

congregavit (he gathers) secundum (second) Melchisedech (Melchizedek) istud (this) civitas (city) luceat (it shines) magnam (large) etiam (yes) gentes (nations) beatissima (most blessed) Christians (Christians) Jesu (Jesus) quoniam (for) hosanna (hosanna) benedixit (he blessed) conspectu (sight)
GERMANIC LATIN
TRANSCRIPTIONS OF
SELECTED TEXTS

by Matthew Hoch, DMA
MAGNIFICAT

Magnificat anima mea Dominum,
[ mag' nifikat 'anima 'mea 'dominum ]

et exsultavit spiritus meus in Deo salvatore meo,
[ et 'eksol' tavit 'spiritos 'meos in 'deo zalva'tore 'meo ]

quia respexit humilitatem ancillæ suæ.
[ 'kvia rɛs' peksit humili' tatɒm an'sille 'zue ]

Ecce enim ex hoc beatam me dicent omnes generationes,
[ 'ektse 'enɪm eks hɔk be' atam me 'dɪtsɛnt 'ðəmnəs generætsi'onəs ]

quia fecit mihi magna,
[ 'kvia 'fetsit 'mihi 'magna ]

qui potens est,
[ kvi 'potens ɛst ]

et sanctum nomen ejus,
[ et 'zaŋktom 'nomən 'ejʊs ]

et misericordia ejus in progenies et progenies timentibus eum.
[ et 'mizɛri'kɔrdiə 'ejʊs ɪn pɾo'geniəs ɛt pɾo'geniəs ti'mentibʊs ˈeʊm ]

Fecit potentiam in brachio suo,
[ 'fetsɪt po'tentsiam ɪn 'bɾaχio 'zuo ]

dispersit superbos mente cordis sui;
[ dis'perzɪt zu'perbʊs 'mente 'kɔrdis 'zui ]

deposuit potentes de sede
[ dɛ'pozuɪt po'tɛntes de 'zede ]

et exaltavit humiles;
[ et 'eksal' tavit 'humiləs ]

esurientes implevit bonis
[ 'ezuri'ɛntəs im'plevɪt 'bonɪs ]

et divites dimisit inanes.
[ et 'dɪvɪtəs di'mizɪt i'nanəs ]

Suscepit Israel puerum suum,
[ zʊs'tsept 'ɪsɾəl 'puerom 'zuʊm ]
ANSWER KEY
Unit 4: Prepalatal [ɲ], palatal [ŋ], vowels in hiatus, diphthong [au]

1. visibilium [viˈziːˈbiljum] (visible)
2. incarnatus [inkərˈnatus] (incarnate)
3. dignitatem [diˈniːtətɛm] (rank)
4. laudis [ˈlaudis] (praise)
5. sanguis [ˈsaŋgwis] (blood)
6. apparuit [apˈparuɪt] (he appeared)
7. Deo [ˈdeɔ] (God)
8. relinquo [reˈlinkwɔ] (I leave)
9. justus [ˈjustus] (just)
10. eleison [eˈleizɔn] (mercy)
11. cantate [kanˈtate] (sing)
12. sancto [ˈsaŋktɔ] (holy)
13. gloriam [ˈɡloriəm] (glory)
14. pertingo [pəˈtɪŋɡɔ] (I stretch out)
15. mereamur [mɛˈɾeəmʊr] (we merit)
16. agnus [ˈapuːs] (lamb)
17. tibique [tiˈbikwe] (and to you)
18. niveus [ˈnɪvɛus] (white)

#1

audiam [ˈaudiam] (I will listen)
signo [ˈsɪŋɔ] (signal)
deinde [deˈinde] (next)
tanquam [ˈtankwam] (as)
medio [ˈmɛdjo] (middle)
lingua [ˈlɪŋgwa] (language)
dignus [ˈdɪɲus] (worthy)
jam [jam] (more)
platea [plaˈteə] (street)
congrego [kɔŋˈgreɡo] (I gather)
quarrens [ˈkwɛɾɛns] (seeking)
cunctae [kʊntˈkɛt] (all)
gaude [ɡaudɛ] (rejoice)
promergeo [prɔˈmɛɾɛɡɔ] (I merit)
idoneus [iˈdɔnɛus] (proper)
spiritui [ˈspɪˈritju] (spirit)
factus [ˈfaktus] (having become)
inclino [inˈklinɔ] (I bend)

#2

ingratatus [inˈɡratus] (ungrateful)
regni [ˈreni] (kingdom)
hæc [ɛk] (this)
animalia [ˈaniˈmaliə] (animals)
ibe [ˈjuːbə] (bid)
linteum [ˈlɪntɛum] (linen)
sanguinibus [ˈsæŋɡwiŋi⁠ˌbus] (bloodshed)
leo [ˈleo] (I weep)
propinquuo [prɔˈpinkwɔ] (I approach)
delegntur [deˈle⁠ˌntuɾ] (wiped out)
virgo [ˈvɪɾɡo] (virgin)
paulo [ˈpaʊlo] (a little)
sanctis [ˈsaŋktis] (saints)
puerum [ˈpʊərʊm] (child)
nunc [nʊŋk] (now)
iniquitatem [ɪnɪkwiˈtɛtəm] (transgressions)
meis [ˈmeis] (my)
digngris [dɪˈɲɛris] (you deign)

#3

meum [ˈmeum] (my)
precor [ˈprɛkɔr] (I pray)
justum [ˈjuʃtum] (right)
praesepio [prəˈze⁠ˌpiə] (stall)
maligno [maˈlɪŋɡo] (malignant)
aureus [ˈɔːrɛus] (golden)
inquam [iŋkwam] (I say)
foveat [fɔˈveat] (he fosters)
digesque [diˈɛskwe] (and days)
adstringo [ədˈstrɪŋɡo] (I tighten)
eodem [ɛˈdɛm] (same)
sanguineum [saŋˈɡwinjum] (bloody)
regnas [ˈreŋnas] (you reign)
deposuit [deˈpozuit] (he put down)
incredibilis [ɪnˈkrediˈbilis] (incredible)
rei [ˈreɪ] (thing)
sanctis [ˈsaŋktis] (saints)
gloriosae [ɡlɔˈriəzɛ] (glorious)

#4

postquam [ˈpoʃtkwam] (after)
mneo [ˈmnoe] (I warn)
sangvinium [saŋɡviˈni⁠ˌmʊn] (bloodshed)
corporis [ˈkɔrpris] (body)
eum [ˈeum] (him)
congruus [ˈkɔŋgruus] (agreeing)
tuo [ˈtuɔ] (your)
puguverunt [puŋˈveɾuŋt] (they fought)
fautor [ˈfaʊtɔr] (promoter)
sacrosanctum [saŋˈkoɾsaŋktum] (sacred)
vulgo [ˈvʊlɡo] (I publish)
memoria [ˈme⁠ˌmɔria] (memory)
ignem [ˈiŋ⁠ˌem] (fire)
deitas [ˈdɛitəs] (deity)
ejusdem [ɛˈjuːsdem] (of the same)
tunc [tʊŋk] (then)
valeam [ˈva⁠ˌleam] (I am well)
derelinquo [deˈre⁠ˌlinkwɔ] (I forsake)
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