

*Missa Brevis in C*  
*(Dedication, Explanation & Performance Notes)*

*This Mass is influenced by and dedicated to:  
my family, Sister Margaret Pellerite  
and Father Donald E. Berdis.  
Together they have been the strongest influences  
in the reaffirmation of my Catholic faith.*

*The explanation/reasons for this mass are too  
numerous and varied to go into explicit detail.  
However, without baring my soul, let me say  
my own private Epiphany occurred in the  
summer of 1998. Since that occurrence I have  
been searching for ways to express my feelings  
of faith. My family, led by a strong father and  
mother, laid the foundation of Roman Catholicism.  
Working with Sister Margaret and working for Father Berdis,  
as well as getting to know both of them, strengthened this foundation.  
My parents, Sister Margaret and Father Berdis are what  
some people would describe as "Traditional" Catholic ... which  
turned out to be exactly what I needed.*

*Performance notes for this Mass are relatively simple. I wrote  
the melody and harmony so it can be sung and played by virtually  
any level of musical ability. The melody line purposely does not go  
beyond an octave; so as to encourage singing  
from those who are not comfortable singing in public. The chords are  
basically triadic harmony. However, if someone feels the need,  
the chords could be enhanced by alteration and/or substitution.  
The piano and guitar chords are written as simplistically as possible.  
The piano and guitar players are encouraged to use whatever  
voicings they deem appropriate.*

*The Nicene Creed was purposely written last because, in my  
experience, it is normally not part of a musical Mass. I can, however,  
envision it being presented in a "recitative/chant" form. If someone  
wishes to do so they can use my interpretation of the Nicene Creed.*

*"He who sings, prays twice" / St. Augustine  
"Give praise with tambourines and dance,  
praise him with flutes and strings." / Psalm 150:4*

# Missa Brevis in C (Simple Gifts)

Nicholas James Connelly  
**poco rit..**

**Kyrie**

$\text{♩} = 100$

Flute / Vocal

Lord have mer cy — Christ have mer cy — Lord have mer cy

Piano

Guitar

$\text{♩} = 100$  **poco rit..**

Bass

$\text{♩} = 100$  pizz. **poco rit..**

♩ = 100  
**Gloria**

7

Glo ry to God in the high est. And on earth peace to men of good will. We

♩ = 100

♩ = 100

11

praise You. We bless You. We a dore You. We glo ri fy You. We

4  
15

give You thanks for Your great glo— ry. O Lord God, hea ven ly King,

20

God the Fa ther Al migh ty. O Lord Je sus Christ, the On ly be gotten Son. O

24

Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Fa ther; You who take a way the

This system contains measures 24 through 28. It features a vocal line in a single treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a common time signature. The lyrics are: "Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Fa ther; You who take a way the". Below the vocal line is a grand staff for piano accompaniment, consisting of a treble and a bass clef. The piano part includes chords and a steady bass line.

This system shows the piano accompaniment for measures 24 through 28, consisting of a treble and a bass clef. The right hand plays chords, and the left hand plays a steady bass line.

29

sins of the world, have\_ mer cy on us. You who take a way the

This system contains measures 29 through 33. The vocal line continues with the lyrics: "sins of the world, have\_ mer cy on us. You who take a way the". The piano accompaniment continues with chords and a bass line.

This system shows the piano accompaniment for measures 29 through 33, consisting of a treble and a bass clef. The right hand plays chords, and the left hand plays a steady bass line.

sins of the world, re— ceive— our prayer. You who sit at the right

This system contains measures 33 through 36. It features a vocal line in the upper staff and a piano accompaniment in the lower two staves. The lyrics are: "sins of the world, re— ceive— our prayer. You who sit at the right". The piano accompaniment consists of chords in the right hand and a simple bass line in the left hand.

hand of the Fa ther, have\_ mer cy on us. You a lone are ho ly.

This system contains measures 37 through 40. It features a vocal line in the upper staff and a piano accompaniment in the lower two staves. The lyrics are: "hand of the Fa ther, have\_ mer cy on us. You a lone are ho ly.". The piano accompaniment continues with chords in the right hand and a simple bass line in the left hand.

42

42

You a lone are the Lord. You a lone, O Je sus Christ, are

This system contains measures 42 through 46. It features a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The piano part consists of a treble and bass staff with chords and a simple bass line. The vocal line is on a single staff with lyrics: "You a lone are the Lord. You a lone, O Je sus Christ, are".

47

47

most high. To ge ther with the Holy Spirit in the glo ry of God the Fa ther

This system contains measures 47 through 51. It features a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The piano part consists of a treble and bass staff with chords and a simple bass line. The vocal line is on a single staff with lyrics: "most high. To ge ther with the Holy Spirit in the glo ry of God the Fa ther".

8  
52

*poco rit.*

$\text{♩} = 100$

# Sanctus

A men. Ho ly. Ho ly, Ho ly God of pow er and might

*poco rit.*

$\text{♩} = 100$

58

Hea ven and earth are full of your glo ry Ho san a ho san a ho san a in



poco rit. ♩ = 100

63

# Angus Dei

the high est Lamb of God you take a way the sins of the world have mer cy on us\_

This system contains the first vocal line and the first two staves of the piano accompaniment. The vocal line begins with a half note G4, followed by a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, and a quarter note C5. The piano accompaniment features a treble staff with chords and a bass staff with a simple bass line.

poco rit. ♩ = 100

This block contains the piano accompaniment for the first system, consisting of two staves. The treble staff has a steady accompaniment of chords, while the bass staff provides a simple harmonic foundation.

poco rit. ♩ = 100

This block contains the piano accompaniment for the second system, consisting of two staves. The treble staff has a steady accompaniment of chords, while the bass staff provides a simple harmonic foundation.

68

Lamb of God you take a way the sins of the world have mer cy on us\_

This system contains the second vocal line and the second two staves of the piano accompaniment. The vocal line begins with a half note G4, followed by a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, and a quarter note C5. The piano accompaniment continues with chords in the treble and a bass line in the bass.

This block contains the piano accompaniment for the second system, consisting of two staves. The treble staff has a steady accompaniment of chords, while the bass staff provides a simple harmonic foundation.

10  
73

— Lamb of God you take away the sins of the

This system contains three staves. The top staff is a vocal line in treble clef with lyrics. The middle and bottom staves are piano accompaniment in treble and bass clefs, respectively. The music is in a common time signature.

This system shows the piano accompaniment for measures 73-75, consisting of two staves: treble and bass clef. The accompaniment features block chords and simple bass lines.

76 *poco rit.* . .

world grant us peace

This system contains three staves. The top staff is a vocal line in treble clef with lyrics. The middle and bottom staves are piano accompaniment in treble and bass clefs, respectively. The music is in a common time signature and includes a fermata over the final note of the vocal line.

*poco rit.* . .

*poco rit.* . .

This system shows the piano accompaniment for measures 76-78, consisting of two staves: treble and bass clef. The accompaniment features block chords and simple bass lines, ending with a fermata.