

SIGHT PASSAGE IV

IN NOCTE NATALIS DOMINI
(SANCTI AMBROSII
EPISCOPI MEDIOLANENSIS)

Veni, redemptor¹ gentium,
ostende² partum³ virginis⁴;
miretur⁵ omne saeculum⁶:
talis⁷ decet⁸ partus Deum.

Non ex virili⁹ semine¹⁰,
sed mystico¹¹ spiramine¹²
verbum Dei factum est caro¹³
fructusque¹⁴ ventris¹⁵ floruit¹⁶.

Alvus¹⁷ tumescit¹⁸ virginis,
claustrum¹⁹ pudoris²⁰ permanet²¹,
vexilla²² virtutum²³ micant²⁴
versatur²⁵ in templo Deus.

RUDOLPHUS RUBRINASUS
(trans. HARRY C. MAYNARD,
with generous emendation)

Rudolphus reno²⁶ naso²⁷
rubrinusus²⁸ nitido²⁹,
quem si umquam³⁰ videas,
nasum nitere³¹ dicas.

Omnes autem renones
deridebant³² ridentes³³;
numquam sinebant³⁴ illum
secum ludere³⁵ ludum³⁶.

Nocte natalis³⁷ nub'la³⁸
dixit sic Santa:
'Rudolphe tam nitide,
traham³⁹ meam duc nocte.'

Illum nunc omnes amant,
hilareque⁴⁰ exclamant:
'Rudolphe, rubri nasi,
scriberis in annali⁴¹!'

ADESTE FIDELES
(JOHN FRANCIS WADE?)

Adeste⁴² fideles⁴³, laeti triumphant⁴⁴;
Venite, venite in Bethlehem
Natum videte regem angelorum:
Venite adoremus⁴⁵
Venite adoremus
Venite adoremus, Dominum!

Deum de Deo, lumen de lumine,
Parturit⁴⁶ virgo mater,
Deum verum, genitum⁴⁷, non factum.

¹ **redemptor, redemptoris**: redeemer ² **ostendo, ostendere, ostendi, ostentus**: to show ³ **partus, -us, M**: birth, offspring ⁴ **virgo, virginis, F**: virgin, maiden ⁵ **miror, mirari, miratus** (deponent): to wonder, marvel, be amazed; here, *jussive subjunctive*, 'Let . . . be amazed' ⁶ **saeculum, -i, N**: age, time, race ⁷ **talis, tale** (adj.): such ⁸ **decet**: befits, becomes ⁹ **virilis, virile**, (adj.): manly, virile ¹⁰ **semen, seminis, N**: seed ¹¹ **mysticus, -a, um**: mysterious ¹² **spiramen, spiraminis, N**: breath, wind, spirit ¹³ **caro, carnis, F**: flesh ¹⁴ **fructus, -us, M**: fruit ¹⁵ **venter, ventris**: womb, belly ¹⁶ **floreo, florere, florui**: to flourish, blossom ¹⁷ **alvus, -i**: belly, womb ¹⁸ **tumescere, tumesci**: to (begin to) swell ¹⁹ **claustrum, -i, N**: bolt, barrier ²⁰ **pudor, pudoris, M**: modesty, decency, shame ²¹ **permaneo, permanere, permansi, permansus**: to remain ²² **vexillum, -i, N**: banner ²³ **virtus, virtutis, F**: virtue ²⁴ **mico** (1): to shine ²⁵ **versor** (1): (here) to dwell (deponent) ²⁶ **reno, renonis, M**: reindeer (pelt) ²⁷ **nasus, -i**: nose ²⁸ **rubrinusus—ruber, -ra, -rum**: red, ruddy ²⁹ **nitidus, -a, -um**: shining, bright ³⁰ **umquam** (adv.): ever ³¹ **niteo, nitere, nitui**: to shine, glow ³² **dirideo, diridere derisi, derisus**: to mock, deride ³³ **rideo, ridere, risi, risus**: to laugh, ridicule, laugh at ³⁴ **sino, sinere, sivi, situs**: to allow, permit (an 'accusative' to 'infinitive') ³⁵ **ludo, ludere, lusi, lusus**: to play ³⁶ **ludus, -i**: game, sport ³⁷ **natal, natalis, M**: birthday ³⁸ **nubilus, -a, um**: cloudy ³⁹ **traha, -ae**: a vehicle without wheels, sled ⁴⁰ **hilare** (adv.): happily, cheerfully ⁴¹ **annalis, -is**: chronicle, history ⁴² **adsum** (ad + sum): to be present, to be near ⁴³ **fidelis, -e** (adj.): faithful ⁴⁴ **triumpho** (1): to triumph ⁴⁵ **adoro** (1): to adore (here, *jussive subjunctive*, 'let us . . .') ⁴⁶ **parturio, -ire, parturivi**: to bring forth, to give birth ⁴⁷ **gigno, gignere, genui, genitus**: to bear, beget