

Dona Nobis Pacem

06/06/2013

Music: Anon¹

Lyrics: Traditional from latin Mass

Do - na no - bis pa - - cem pa - cem Do - - na no - - bis pa - - - cem

Do - - na no - - bis pa - cem Do - na no - bis pa - - - cem

Do - - na no - - bis pa - cem Do - na no - bis pa - - - cem

Tenors
Do - na no - bis pa - cem pa - cem do - na no - bis pa - - - cem

Basses
Do - - na no - bis do - na no - bis pa - cem do - na no - bis no - bis pa - - - cem

"*Dona nobis pacem*" ("grant us peace") are the last three words of the *Agnus Dei*, an invocation recited or sung in the latin Mass. The musical settings used for the *Dona nobis* part have typically allowed it to stand by itself as a complete song.

This version is typically sung as a canon. When the first voice starts the second line the second voice enters at the start of the first line. When the second voice starts the second line---and the first voice simultaneously starts the third line---the third voice enters at the start of the first line. When the first and second voices reach the end of the third line they start again from the start of the first and continue singing until the third voice reaches the end of the third. The first voice should then be at the end of the second line and the second voice at the end of the first line.

The optional tenor and bass parts typically enter after the first voice has finished the third line and repeat the same line until the end of the piece.

¹ Frequently attributed to Mozart---or sometimes to Palestrina---, but although Mozart did set the *Dona nobis pacem* to music many times, this version does not appear to be traceable to any of his works.