

Tyndale Choral Society

Latin Requiem Pronunciation Guide for Choral Singers

For the convenience of those who flunked (or swerved) Latin

Read and speak exactly what you see
(reed / and / speek / eggs-act-lee / hoo-ott / yoo / see)

Warning:

in musical tradition, there are various ways of pronouncing Latin (German Latin, French Latin, Italian Latin, and as many English Latins as English conductors! I exaggerate, of course.); the following is offered in all humility, not claiming to be any kind of definitive scholarly version, and with absolutely no intention to offend, but rather to help the choral singer with his/her first requiem mass..

Choral directors can override any of the suggested pronunciation at will and must be obeyed fully.

'Reh' pronounced short as in '(ship)wre(ck)'

'ay' pronounced long as in 'pay'

'us' and 'um' pronounced short and round, as in 'book' (purse the lips)

'rrr' means roll your 'R's.

Generally, think of clear round vowels – 'the rain in Spain' and so on. Leave your regional accents to one side – they won't help you.

You'll soon get the knack.

Enjoy!

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Secretary, Tyndale Choral Society*

Requiem æternam dona eis, Domine,
Rrray-kwee-em / ay-tairrr-nahm / doh-nah / ay-eece / Dom-in-ay

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,

Et lux perpetua luceat eis
Et / looks / pairrr-pay-too-ah / loo-chay-aht / ay-eece.

and let perpetual light shine upon them.

Te decet hymnus Deus, in Sion,
Tay / day-chet / im-nuss / Day-us, / in Zee-on

A hymn becomes you, O God, in Zion,

Et tibi reddetur votum in Ierusalem.
Et / tibby / red-ay-tour / vote-um / in / Yeh-roo-sah-lem

and a vow shall be paid to you in Jerusalem.

Exaudi orationem meam;
Ex-owdee / oar-rah-tsee-oh-nemm / may-ahm

Hear my prayer;

ad te omnis caro veniet.
Add / tay / omm-neece / car-oh / vay-nee-et

All flesh shall come before you.

Requiem æternam dona eis, Domine,
Rrray-kwee-em / ay-tairrr-nahm / doh-nah / ay-eece / Dom-in-ay

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,

Et lux perpetua luceat eis.
Et / looks / pairrr-pay-oo-ah / loo-chay-aht / ay-eece

and let perpetual light shine upon them.

Kyrie eleison;
Kirrr-ee-ay / ell-ay-ee-sonn

Lord have mercy;

Christe eleison;
Creased-ay / ell-ay-ee-sonn

Christ have mercy;

Kyrie eleison
Kirrr-ee-ay / ell-ay-ee-sonn

Lord have mercy.

Gradual

Requiem æternam dona eis, Domine :
Rrray-kwee-em / ay-tairrr-nahm / doh-nah / ay-eece / Dom-in-ay

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord :

et lux perpetua luceat eis.
Et / looks / pairrr-pay-oo-ah / loo-chay-aht / ay-eece

and let perpetual light shine upon them.

In memoria æterna erit justus,
In / mem-or-ee-ah / ay-tairrr-nah / ay-rit / yus-tus

He shall be justified in everlasting memory,

ab auditione mala non timebit.
Ab / ow-dits-ee-oh-nay / mah-lah / known / tim-ay-bit

and shall not fear evil reports.

Tract

Absolve, Domine
Ab-zol-vay, / Dom-in-ay

Forgive, O Lord,

Animas omnium fidelium defunctorum
Ah-nee-mahse / om-nee-um / fid-ay-lee-um / day-functorum

the souls of all the faithful departed

Ab omni vinculo delictorum
Ab / om-nee / vin-cue-loh / day-lictorum

Et gratia tua illis
Eht / grah-tsia / too-ah / ill-eece

Succurente mereantur
Suc-ur-en-tay / mare-ay-an-tour

evadere iudicium ultionis,
Ay-vah-deh-reh / you-dicum / ul-tsee-oh-neece

Et lucis æterne beatitudine perfri.
Eht / loo-chis / ay-tair-nay / bay-ati-too-din-ay / pair-froo-ee

from all the chains of their sins

and by your fostering grace,

may they deserve

to avoid the judgment of revenge

and enjoy the everlasting blessedness
of light.

Dies Irae

Dies iræ, dies illa
Dee-ays / ear-ay, / dee-ays / ill-aah

Solvet sæclum in favilla
Sol-vet / say-clum / in / favillaah

teste David cum Sibylla...
Test-ay / Dah-veed / cum / Sibillaah

Day of wrath! Day of mourning!,

a day that will dissolve the world in
ashes,

as foretold by David and the Sibyl

Tuba Mirum

Tuba mirum spargens sonum
Too-bah / meer-um / sparg-ens / soh-num

Per sepultra regionum,
Pair / say-pull-crah / ray-gee-oh-num

Coget omnes ante thronum.
Co-jet / omm-nays / an-tay / troh-num

Mors stupebit et natura,
Moors / stoo-pay-bit / et / nah-tour-ah

Cum resurget creatura,
Cum / ray-soor-jet / cray-ah-tour-ah

Judicanti responsura
You-dic-an-tay / ray-spon-soo-rah

The trumpet, scattering its awful
sound

Across the graves of all lands

Summons all before the throne.

Death and nature shall be stunned

When mankind arises

To render account before the judge.

Liber Scriptus

Liber scriptus proferetur,
Lee-bair / scrip-tus / pro-fair-ay-tour

In quo totum continetur,
In / kwoh / toh-tum / con-tin-ay-tour

The written book shall be brought

In which all is contained

<i>Unde mundus judicetur.</i> Un-day / mun-duss / you-dic-ay-tour	Whereby the world shall be judged
<i>Judex ergo cum sedebit,</i> You-decks / air-go / cum / say-day-bit	When the judge takes his seat
<i>Quidquid latet apparebit.</i> Kwid-kwid / lah-tet / app-ar-ay-bit	all that is hidden shall appear
<i>Nil inultum remanebit.</i> Nil / inultum / ray-man-ay-bit	Nothing will remain unavenged

Quid sum miser

<i>Quid sum miser tunc dicturus?</i> Kwid / sum / mee-sair / tunk / dic-tour-us?	What shall I, a wretch, say then?
<i>Quem patronum rogaturus,</i> Kwem / pah-troh-num / roh-gah-tour-us	To which protector shall I appeal
<i>Cum vix justus sit securus?</i> Cum / vicks / yustus / sit / say-cour-us?	When even the just man is barely safe?

Rex tremendae

<i>Rex tremendae majestatus</i> Rrrecks / tray-men-day / mah-yest-ah-tus	King of awful majesty
<i>qui salvandos salvas gratis</i> Kwee / sal-van-dos / sal-vas / grah-teece	You freely save those worthy of salvation
<i>salva me, fons pietatis</i> sal-va / may, / fonze / pee-ay-tah-teece	Save me, found of pity.

Recordare

<i>Recordare, Jesu pie,</i> Ray-cor-dah-ray / Yay-zoo pee-ay	Remember, gentle Jesus
<i>Quod sum causa tuae viae:</i> Kwod / sum / cow-sah / too-ay / vee-ay	that I am the reason for your time on earth,
<i>Ne me perdas illa die.</i> Nay / may / pair-dass / ill-ah / dee-ay	do not cast me out on that day
<i>Quaerens me, sedisti, lassus;</i> Kwair-ens / may / say-diss-tee / lass-us	Seeking me, you sank down wearily,
<i>Redemisti crucem passus;</i> Ray-day-mist-ee / croo-chem / pah-sus	you saved me by enduring the cross,
<i>Tantus labor non sit cassus.</i> Tahn-tus / lah-bore / known / sit/ cah-sus	such travail must not be in vain.

Juste Judex ultionis
Yuss-tay / Yoo-decks / uhl-tsee-oh-neece

Righteous judge of vengeance,

'Donum fac remissionis
Doh-num / fack / ray-miss-ee-oh-neece

award the gift of forgiveness

Ante diem rationis.
An-tay / dee-em / rah-tsee-oh-neece

before the day of reckoning

Ingemisco

Ingemisco tanquam reus
In-jem-iss-coh / tahn-kwahm / ray-us

I groan as one guilty,

Culpa rubet vultus meus;
Cul-pah / roo-bet / vul-tus / may-us

my face blushes with guilt;

Supplicanti parce, Deus
Supp-lick-an-tee / pahr-chay / Day-us

spare the suppliant, O God.

Qui Mariam absolvisti,
Kwee / Mahrrr-ee-ahm / ab-zol-vis-tee

Thou who didsnt absolve Mary [Magdalen]

Et latronem exaudisti,
Et / lah-troh-nem / ecks-ow-diss-tee

and hear the prayer of the thied

Mihi quoque spem dedisti.
Mee-hee / kwoh-kway / spem / day-diss-tee

hast given me hope, too.

Preces meae non sunt dignae
Pray-chays / mee-ay / known / sunt / deen-yay

My prayers are not worthy,

Sed tu, bonus, fac benigne,
Said / too / boh-nus / fack / bay-neen-yay

but Thou, O good one, show mercy,

Ne perenni cremer igne.
Nay / pay-rennie / cray-mare / een-yay

lest I burn in everlasting fire,

Inter oves locum praesta,
In-tair / oh-vays / loh-cum / pray-stah

Give me a place among the sheep,

Et ab hoedis me sequestra
Et / ab / hoh-deece / may / say-kwest-rah

and separate me from the goats,

Statuens in parte dextra.
Stah-too-ens / in / par-tay / decks-trah

placing me on Thy right hand.

Confutatis

Confutatis maledictis
Con-foo-tah-teece / mah-lay-dic-teece

When the damned are confounded

Flammis acribus addictis,

and consigned to keen flames,

Flah-meece / ah-crib-us / add-ick-teece

Voca me cum benedictus. Voh-cah / may / cum / bay-nay-dic-tus	call me with the blessed.
Oro supplex et acclinis, Or-oh / soo-plecks / et / ack-lee-neece	pray, suppliant and kneeling,
Cor contritum quasi cinis, Corrr / con-tree-tum / kwah-zee / chee-neece	a heart as contrite as ashes;
Gere curam mei finis Jay-ray / coo-ram / may-ee / fee-neece	take Thou my ending into Thy care

Lacrimosa

Lacrimosa dies illa, Lah-cree-moh-sah / dee-ays / ill-aah	King of awful majesty
Qua resurget ex favilla Kwah / ray-surrr-jet / ecks / fa-vill-ahah	You freely save those
Judicandus homo reus. You-dic-an-dus / omm-oh / ray-us	worthy of salvation
Huic ergo parce, Deus: Hoo-ic / air-goh / pahr-chay / Day-us	Therefore spare this one, Lord
Pie Jesu Domine: Pee-ay / Yay-zoo / Dom-in-ay	O sweet Lord Jesus,
Dona eis requiem. Amen. Doh-nah / ay-eece / rrray-kwee-em / Ah-men	grant them rest;

Offertory

Domine, Jesu Christe, Rex gloriæ, Dom-in-ay / Yay-zu / Creased-ay / Rex / gloree-ay	Lord Jesus Christ, King of glory,
Libera animas omnium Lee-bair-ah / ah-nee-mahse / om-nee-um	free the souls of all the
fidelium defunctorum fid-ay-lee-um / day-functorum	faithful departed
de poenis inferni Day / pay-neece / infairrr-nee	from infernal punishment
et de profundo lacu. et / day / pro-fun-doh / lah-coo	and the deep pit.
Libera eas de ore leonis, Lee-bairr-ah / ay-ahse / day / or-ay / lay-oh-neece	Free them from the mouth of the lion;
Ne absorbeat eas tartarus	do not let Tartarus swallow them,

Nay / ab-sor-bay-aht / ay-ahse / tar-tar-us,

ne cadant in obscurum;
Nay / cah-dant / in / obscurum

sed signifer sanctus Michæl
Said / sin-yi-fair / sahnctus / Mee-high-ell

repræsentet eas in lucem sanctam,
Ray-pray-zen-tet /ay-ahse / in / loo-chem / sahnc-tahm

Quam olim Abrahæ promisisti
Kwam / oh-lim / Ah-bra-ay / pro-mee-cease-tee /

et semini ejus
et / semin-ee / ay-us

Hostias et preces tibi, Domine
Ost-ee-ahse / et / pray-chays / tibby / Domin-ay,

laudis offerimus
Loud-eece / off-air-ee-mus

tu suscipe pro animabus illis,
Too / soo-ship-ay / pro / ah-neem-ah-bus / ill-eece

quarum hodie memoriam facimus
Kwar-um / odd-ee-ay / may-more-ee-ahm / fa-chim-us

.
Fac eas Domine de morte
Fack / ay-ass / Domin-ay / day / mor-tay

transire ad vitam.
trans-ear-ay / ad / vee-tam

Quam olim Abrahæ promisisti
Kwam / oh-lim / Ah-bra-ay / pro-mee-cease-tee

et semini ejus.
et / semin-ee / ay-us

Sanctus

Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus,
Sahhnk-tus,...

Dominus Deus Sabaoth;
Dominus / Day-us Sah-bah-oat

Pleni sunt coeli et terra gloria tua.
Play-nee / sunt / chay-lee/ et / tair-ah / glor-ee-ah / too-ah

Hosanna in excelsis.
O-sannah in ex-chell-seece
(conductor might ask for ex-shell-seece)

nor let them fall into darkness;

but may the sign-bearer St Michael

lead them into the holy light

which you promised to Abraham

and his seed.

O Lord, we offer you
sacrifices and prayers in praise;

accept them on behalf of the souls

whom we remember today.

Let them, O Lord, pass over from
death

to life,

as you promised to Abraham

and his seed.

Holy, Holy, Holy,

Lord God of Hosts;

Heaven and earth are full of your
glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Benedictus

Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini.
Bay-naydic-tus / kwee / vay-neet / in / nomin-ay / Dominee

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in excelsis. (reprise)
O-sannah / in / ex-chell-seece

Agnus Dei

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,
Ahn-yus / Day-ee / kwee / toll-eece / peck-ah-tah / mun-dee

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,

dona eis requiem,
doh-nah / ay-eece / Rrray-kwee-em

grant them rest,

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,
(Repeat)

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,
grant them rest,

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,
(Repeat)
dona eis requiem sempiternam.
sem-pee-tairr-nahm

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,
grant them eternal rest.

Communion/Lux aeternum

Lux æterna luceat eis, Domine,
Looks / ay-tairr-nah / loo-chay-aht / ay-eece, / Dom-in-ay

May everlasting light shine upon them, O Lord,

cum sanctis tuis in æternum,
Cum / sahnc-teece / too-eece / in / ay-tair-num

with your saints forever,

Quia pius es.
Kwee-ah / pee-us / ess

for you are merciful.

Requiem æternam dona eis, Domine;
Rrray-kwee-em / ay-tairr-nahm / doh-nah / ay-eece / Dom-in-ay

Grant them eternal rest, O Lord,

et lux perpetua luceat eis ;
Et / looks / pairr-pay-oo-ah / loo-chay-aht / ay-eece

and may everlasting light shine upon them.

cum Sanctis tuis in aeternum,
cum / Sahnc-teece / too-eece / in / ay-tairr-num

with your saints forever,

quia pius es.
Kwee-ah / pee-us / ess

for you are merciful.

Libera Me

Libera me, Domine, de morte aeterna,
Lee-bair-ah / may / Domin-ay, / day / morrr-tay / ay-tairr-nah,

Deliver me, O Lord, from death eternal

<i>In die illa tremenda:</i> in / dee-ay / ill-ah / tray-mend-ah,	on that fearful day,
<i>Quando caeli movendi sunt et terra.</i> Kwan-doh / chay-lee / moh-ven-dee / sunt / et / tair-ah	when the heavens and the earth shall be moved,
<i>Dum veneris judicare saeculum per ignem.</i> when thou shalt come to judge the Dum / vay-nair-eece / you-dic-ar-ay / seck-oo-lum / pairrr / een-yem. world by fire.	
<i>Tremens factus sum ego, et timeo,</i> Tray-mens / fahctus / sum / ay-go, / et / tim-ay-oh,	I am made to tremble, and I fear,
<i>Dum discussio venerit, atque ventura ira.</i> dum / dis-cus-ee-oh / vay-nair-it, / at-kway / ven-tour-ah / ear-ah.	till the judgment be upon us, and the coming wrath,
<i>Quando caeli movendi sunt et terra.</i> Kwando / chay-lee / movendee / sunt / et / tairrr-ah	when the heavens and the earth shall be moved.
<i>Dies illa, dies irae,</i> Dee-ays / ill-ah, / dee-ays / ear-ay, /	That day, day of wrath,
<i>calamitatis et miseriae.</i> cal-ah-mee-tah-teece/ et / miz-air-ee-ay,	calamity, and misery,
<i>dies magna et amara valde</i> dee-ays / mahn-yah / et / amah-rah / val-day	day of great and exceeding bitterness,
<i>Dum veneris judicare saeculum per ignem.</i> when thou shalt come to judge the Dum / ven-air-eece / you-dic-ar-ay / seck-oo-lum / pairrr / een-yem	world by fire.
<i>Requiem aeternam dona eis, Domine:</i> Rrray-kwee-em / ay-tairrr-nahm / doh-nah / ay-eece / Dom-in-ay:	Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord:
<i>Et lux perpetua luceat eis.</i> eht / looks / pairrr-pay-too-ah / loo-chay-aht / ay-eece.	and let light perpetual shine upon them.

In paradisum

<i>In paradisum deducant te Angeli:</i> In / para-dee-sum / day-doo-cant / tay / An-jell-ee	May angels lead you into paradise;
<i>in tuo adventu suscipiant te Martyres,</i> In / too-oh / adventoo / soo-ship-ee-ant / tay / Mar-teer-ays	may the martyrs receive you at your coming
<i>et perducant te in civitatem sanctam .</i> Et / pair-doo-cant / tay / in / chivvy-tah-tem / sahnc-tahm /	and lead you to the holy city of Jerusalem.
<i>Jerusalem</i> Yeh-roo-sah-lem	
<i>Chorus Angelorum te suscipiat,</i> Chorus / ann-jell-orum / tay / soo-ship-ee-aht	May a choir of angels receive you,
<i>Et cum Lazaro quondam paupere</i> Et / cum / lah-tsar-oh / kwon-dahm / pow-pairrr-ay	and with Lazarus, who once was poor,

aeternam habeas requiem.
ay-tairrr-nahm / ab-ay-ahse / rrray-kwee-em.

may you have eternal rest.

Pie Jesu

Pie Jesu Domine, dona eis requiem.
Pee-ay /Yay-zoo / Dom-in-ay / doh-nah / ay-eece / rrray-kwee-em

O sweet Lord Jesus, grant them
rest;

Dona eis requiem sempiternam.
Doh-nah / ay-eece / rrray-kwee-em / sem-pee-tairrr-nahm.

grant them everlasting rest.