

Benedic, Domine
Bless, O Lord

TABLE BLESSING

Benedic, benedic, Domine,
nōs et haec tua dōna
quae dē tuā largitāte sumus sūmptūrī,
per Chrīstum nostrum Dominum.

Bless us, O Lord, and these your gifts
You in your bounty freely bring,
Which we will soon receive from you,
Through Jesus Christ our Lord and King.

Latin text adapted from Highlands Latin School Charleston; emendations by AFM: macrons added, *benedic* repeated, *nostrum* moved before *Dominum*. It can be more literally translated, “Bless us, O Lord, and these Thy gifts which we are about to receive from Thy bounty, through Christ, Our Lord” (HLS Charleston).

An earlier form of the prayer which does not include *nōs et haec* (“us and these”) goes back at least as far as the ninth century. (H. A. Wilson, *The Gregorian Sacramentary under Charles the Great; edited from three MSS. of the 9th century*, page 222.)

English verse translation by Adam F McCune.

Both the Latin and the English can be sung to the hymn tune *Duke Street* (by John Warrington Hatton, c. 1710–1793) commonly used for hymns such as “Jesus Shall Reign.”