

**Henry Formby**

*Catholic Hymns*

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# **Catholic Hymns**



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ARRANGED IN ORDER FOR THE  
PRINCIPAL FESTIVALS, FEASTS OF SAINTS,  
AND OTHER OCCASIONS OF DEVOTION  
THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.

## **With Woodcuts.**

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N. CARDINALIS WISEMAN.  
*May 3d, 1853.*

## **Advertisement.**

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THE hymns and other poems contained in this collection are, with but few exceptions, the production of living Catholic authors, and a large proportion of them has never before been published. The remaining poems have been selected from

different Catholic Hymn-books in use in the dioceses of the United States of America. All of these have been carefully revised, and in some instances cast into an almost entirely new form. One or two well-known hymns of Father Faber have, with the author's permission, been varied slightly, for the sake of the tune, from the original text. The hymns for "The Assumption," "May Jesus Christ be praised!" "Divine Grace," "The Last Farewell," come from the pen of the Rev. Father Caswall, and have never before been printed. They are taken from a manuscript volume of similar poems, and may justly become an occasion, of expressing the hope that their respected author will not long withhold it from the public. The editors also feel a pleasure in being allowed to add, that the poems and this and the succeeding collection (No. II.) signed "Sister M. J." in the table of contents, are due to the talent and piety of a member of the Convent of Sisters of Mercy in Charlesville.

The directions with reference to singing are given in the preface to the volume of Music, in which each piece will be found, adapted to an easy and appropriate melody; and in the conclusion of their work, the Editors beg to return their thanks to many other contributors, to whose kind co-operation in different ways they have been indebted for its completion.

H. F.

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*The Music of the Hymns in a quarto volume, price 2s. 6d.*

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Behold the lilies, &c. . . . .	
Bethlehem, of noblest cities . . . . .	
By the word to Mary giv'n . . . . .	
By the name which thou didst take . . . . .	
By the blood which flow'd from thee . . . . .	

By the first bright Easter-day . . . . .

Christ the Lord is ris'n to-day . . . . .

Come, my soul, and let us dwell . . . . .

Creator of the starry frame . . . . .

Dear saint, who on thy natal day . . . . .

Faith of our fathers, living still . . . . .

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Hail, holy Joseph, hail! . . . . .

Hail, Mary, only sinless child . . . . .

Hail, thou star of ocean . . . . .

Holy queen, we bend before thee . . . . .

Holy Spirit, Lord of light . . . . .

If e'er my heart in riper years . . . . .

Jesu, Creator of the world . . . . .

Jesu, the very thought of thee . . . . .

Kind angel guardian, thanks to thee . . . . .

Lovely flowers of martyrs, hail . . . . .

Loving shepherd of thy sheep . . . . .

Maiden mother, meek and mild . . . . .

Mother of mercy, day by day . . . . .

Now doth the sun ascend the sky . . . . .

O'erwhelm'd in depths of woe . . . . .

O Jesu, it were surely sweet . . . . .

O Jesu, my beloved king . . . . .

O Lord of perfect purity . . . . .

O thou eternal king most high . . . . .

See amid the winter's snow . . . . .

See to God's high temple above . . . . .

Sing my tongue the Saviour's glory (Christmas) . . . . .

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Star of Jacob, ever beaming . . . . .

Sweet saint, in thy young childhood's day . . . . .

What happiness can equal mine . . . . .

What mortal tongue can sing thy praise . . . . .

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*N.B. All the poems of this collection, without exception, are copyright in the form in which they now appear.*





# A child's hymn to the Blessed Virgin

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### 25. A Child's Hymn to the Blessed Virgin.

MAIDEN Mother, meek and mild,  
Take, oh, take me for thy child.  
All my life, oh, let it be  
My best joy to think of thee.

When my eyes are clos'd in sleep  
Through the night my slumbers keep,  
Make my latest thought to be,  
How to love thy Son and thee.

Teach me when the sunbeam bright  
Calls me with its golden light,  
How my waking thoughts may be  
Turn'd to Jesus and to thee.

And, oh, teach me through the day  
Oft to raise my heart and say,  
"Maiden Mother, meek and mild,  
Guard, oh, guard thy little child!"

Thus, sweet Mother, day and night  
Thou shalt guide my steps aright;  
And my dying words shall be,  
"Virgin Mother, pray for me!"

---

# Advent hymn

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*For other versions of this work, see Creator of the starry frame.*

### 3. Advent Hymn.

CREATOR of the starry frame,  
Eternal light of all who live;  
Jesu, Redeemer of mankind,  
An ear to thy poor suppliants give.

When man, o'erwhelm'd in sin and death,  
Was wholly lost in Satan's snare,  
Love brought thee down to cure our ills,  
By taking of those ills a share.

Thy love for guilty men it was  
That caus'd thy sacred blood to flow;  
When issuing from thy virgin shrine,  
Thou didst to death a victim go.

Great Judge of all, in that last day  
When friends shall fail and foes combine,  
Look down in pity then, we pray,  
And guard us with thine arm divine.

To God the Father and the Son  
All praise and power and glory be,  
With thee, O sacred Paraclete,  
Both now and through eternity.

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# An evening hymn to the Blessed Virgin

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*For other versions of this work, see [As the dewy shades of even](#).*

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Gather o'er the balmy air,  
Listen, gentle Queen of Heav'n,  
Listen to my vesper prayer  
Holy Mother, near me hover,  
Free my thoughts from ought defil'd;

With thy wings of mercy cover,  
Safe from harm, thy helpless child.

Thine own sinless heart was broken,  
Sorrow's sword had pierc'd it through;  
Give, oh, give me some sweet token  
Of thy tender love so true.

Queen of sorrows, guard and guide me,  
Let me to thine arms repair;  
In thy tender bosom hide me,  
Mary, take me to thy care.