

Ecclesiastical Latin Pronunciation

CanticaNOVA Publications
 PO Box 1388
 Charles Town, WV 25414-7388
 mail@canticanova.com

Vowels

*Vowels are constant in pronunciation; they are **always** pronounced as below, without exception!*

A	ah	as in father	example: Amen
E	eh	as in bet	example: ventris
I	ee	as in machine	example: sicut
O	oh	as in order [or as in flow without the final "w" sound]	example: non
U	oo	as in tulip	example: tua
Y	ee	pronounced exactly like Latin I sound	example: hymnus
Æ	eh	pronounced exactly like Latin E sound	example: æterna
Œ	eh	pronounced exactly like Latin E sound	example: cœli
AI AU EI EU	ah-ee ah-oo eh-ee eh-oo	pronounce both vowels, elongating the first	examples: ait laudamus Dei meus
UA UE UI UO	oo-ah oo-eh oo-ee oo-oh	after Q , pronounce QU like KW , then pronounce the 2nd vowel	examples: qua quem quid quoniam
AA EE II OO UU	ah-ah eh-eh ee-ee oh-oh oo-oo	Doubled vowels are each pronounced.	example: Filii [All three Is are pronounced.]

Consonants

B	b	as in bat	example: bonæ
C	k	as in cut before consonants; before A, O, U; or at the end of a word	examples: sacris cantate con sicut huic
	ch	as in child before E, I, Y, Æ, Ē	examples: parce dulcis cymbalum cælestis cœli
CC	tch	as in catch before E, I, Y, Æ, Ē	examples: ecce accipite
	k	as in cut before A, O, U	example: peccata
CH	k	as in cut	example: Christus
D	d	as in down	example: dona
F	f	as in feet	example: filio
G	g	as in gold before consonants (except N) or before A, O, U	examples: gratias gaude virgo singulis
	j	as in gem before E, I, Y, Æ, Ē	examples: genuit fregit
GN	ny	as in canyon	examples: magnam agnus
H	k	as in key	in mihi and nihil ; otherwise <i>SILENT!</i>
J	y	as in yet	examples: ejus Jesu <i>[now often written as I]</i>
K	k	as in key	example: kalendæ
L	l	as in light	example: liber

M	m	as in moon	example: meum
N	n	as in nice	example: donec
P	p	as in pan	example: Petrus
PH	f	as in phone	example: propheta
Q	k	as in key <i>[always followed by UA, UE, UI, or UA]</i>	examples: quando atque quid quoque
R	<i>rolled slightly</i>	as d in teddy; never as American R	examples: regina terra
S	s	as in sing; never Z as in rise	examples: semper miserere
SC	sk	as in scale before A, O, U	examples: requiescat cognosco obscura
	sh	as in shine before E, I, Y, Æ, Œ	examples: descendit suscitans
SCH	sk	as in school	examples: schola paschali
T	t	as in time before all letters except i + vowel; and at ends of words	examples: sanctum timeas erat
TH	t	as in thyme	example: catholicam
TI	tsee	as in tse-tse fly before a vowel and preceded by any letter except S, T, X	examples: gratia sitio
	tee	as in tea before a vowel and after S, T, X	example: modestia
V	v	as in vine	example: virgine
X	gs	as in exam after E, at the beginning of a word, followed by a vowel	example: exaudi

	ks	<i>as in tax followed by a consonant or at the end of a word</i>	examples: excelsis lux
Z	dz	<i>as in seeds</i>	example: Lazarus

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