

## PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

The best way to gain an accurate pronunciation of liturgical Latin is to imitate the spoken word. There are only a few differences between the way in which some letters are pronounced in Latin and English, and although this is not an exhaustive list, the main differences are summarised as follows:

**C** as K e.g. *corpus* (body)  
*calix* (chalice)  
*cum* (with)  
 but before E (AE) or I, as **CH**, e.g. *caecus* (blind) pronounced CHAY-CUS  
*cibus* (food) pronounced CHEE-BUS

NEVER as S.

**CH** as K e.g. *Chrustus* (Christ)  
*Michael Archuangelus* (Michael the Archangel)

**G** as G in 'gate' e.g.  
*rogamus* (we ask)  
 but before E or I, as J in 'joy' e.g. *Evangelium* (the Gospel)  
*igitur* (therefore)

**GN** as NI in 'onion' e.g. *Agnus Dei* (Lamb of God)  
*dignus* (worthy)

**J** as Y in 'yet' e.g. *Joannis* (John)  
*Judica me, Deus* (Judge me, O God)

**T** as in English but when followed by I the combination sounds like TSEE  
 e.g. *oratio* (prayer) pronounced ORAT-SEE-O  
*gratias* (thanks) pronounced GRAT-SEE-AS

**TH** as T in English e.g. *thronum* (throne)  
*cithara* (harp)

**Z** as DZ, e.g. *baptizare* (to baptise) pronounced BAP-TID-SARE  
 But as Z in English at the beginning of a word e.g. Zachariah

### N.B. Combination of certain vowels

**ii** - When the letter *i* is followed immediately by another *i* each must be pronounced separately  
 eg. *Filii* (of the Son) pronounced FEE-LEE-EE

**ae** – pronounced 'ay' as in 'today' e.g. *caelum* (heaven)

Also note :

*introibo* (I will go in) pronounced INTRO-EE-BO

## UNIT 1

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### IN ON THE ACTION- VERBS IN THE PRESENT TENSE

#### **1.1 What Verbs are and why they are important**

A Verb is a word which expresses the following :

- an *action*
- the *existence* of someone or something

Throughout this Course you will meet hundreds of Verbs in a large variety of contexts. This is not at all surprising since the Verb is an essential ingredient in any sentence. In other words you cannot have a sentence without at least one Verb in it. There are many kinds of sentences including long, complex ones containing several Verbs and short sentences consisting only of one word - the Verb. But there are none without a Verb. So Verbs are an unavoidable hazard to negotiate at all points.

#### **1.2 THE FOUR CONJUGATIONS**

Fortunately there exists a convenient system for classifying the countless Verbs in the Latin language. These are arranged into four groups called **Conjugations**. Each type of Conjugation can be regarded as a 'capsule' which contains all the information you need to

- find out who is doing what and when
- to recognise other Verbs of the same category when you come across them

Later on you will meet some Verbs that are irregular, that is they do not follow the usual pattern but diverge from it in some special or unexpected ways, but these, too, will slot into perspective if they are seen in the context of the standard paradigm for regular Verbs.

#### **1.3 The Concept of Tenses**

As Verbs are embedded in a context of time, the concept of **Tense** has to be taken into account in order to indicate whether the action takes place in the Past, Present or Future. In this Unit we will be dealing only with the **Present Tense**.

#### **1.4 Learning the Layout**

You must also become familiar with the invariable pattern in which every Verb which you will meet is set out. This is simply a convenient way of indicating different **Persons** who have to do with the Verb, and of distinguishing between **Singular** and **Plural** :

	SINGULAR	PLURAL
1st Person	I	we
2nd Person	thou/you	you
3rd Person	he/she/it	they

#### **1.5 THE PRESENT INDICATIVE ACTIVE TENSE**

- so called because it *indicates* the 'here and now', that is either

- an *action* that takes place at the *present* time or
- the *current state of affairs* as perceived by the speaker or writer.

All regular Latin verbs in the Present Indicative Active are set out thus :

### 1st Conjugation

<u>ORARE</u> - TO PRAY	
<u>Singular</u>	<u>Plural</u>
<i>oro</i> - I pray	<i>oramus</i> - we pray
<i>oras</i> - thou prayest	<i>oratis</i> - you pray
<i>orat</i> - he/she prays	<i>orant</i> - they pray

### 2nd Conjugation

<u>VIDERE</u> - TO SEE	
<u>Singular</u>	<u>Plural</u>
<i>video</i> - I see	<i>videmus</i> - we see
<i>vides</i> - thou seest	<i>videtis</i> - you see
<i>videt</i> - he/she sees	<i>vident</i> - they see

### 3rd Conjugation

<u>DICERE</u> - TO SAY	
<u>Singular</u>	<u>Plural</u>
<i>dico</i> - I say	<i>dicimus</i> - we say
<i>dicis</i> - thou sayest	<i>dicitis</i> - you say
<i>dicit</i> - he/she says	<i>dicunt</i> - they say

### 4th Conjugation

<u>VENIRE</u> - TO COME	
<u>Singular</u>	<u>Plural</u>
<i>venio</i> - I come	<i>venimus</i> - we come
<i>venis</i> - thou comest	<i>venitis</i> - you come
<i>venit</i> - he/she comes	<i>veniunt</i> - they come

## 1.6 The Whole Picture

When you first look at them, these boxes may seem to be filled with just a list of Verbs to learn. But they are much more than that. They are in fact the blueprint for the entire range of regular Verbs of this kind in the Present Tense and are well worth memorising, as all the regular Active Verbs in the Present Tense you are likely to encounter will find their exact counterpart in one of the four models above.

## 1.7 Understanding the Clues

All four Conjugations have identical endings (*-o, -s, -t, -mus, -tis, -nt*) each of which tells you who or what is carrying out the action.

### **Vocabulary**

*laudo, laudare* (1) - to praise  
*vivo, vivere* (3) - to live

*habeo, habere* (2) - to have  
*audio, audire* (4) - to hear

**Exercise 1** Take each of the following Verbs and match them with the models given in **1.5** :

*laudo* (1)*habeo* (2)*vivo* (3)*audio* (4)

Example : *laudo, laudas, laudat...* etc.  
*vivo, vivis, vivit...*etc.

The number in brackets indicates to which Conjugation each Verb belongs.

### 1.8 Translating into English

It is important to realise that although there is only *one* form of the Verb in Latin, there is a choice of translations into English depending on the context. Thus *venit* not only means 'comes' but also 'is coming' or 'does come', whichever translation fits the required context.

### 1.9 How it sounds - Pronunciation of 2nd and 3rd Conjugation Infinitives

These differ in pronunciation and emphasis in spite of the fact that they both end in *-ere*. In order to avoid confusion it is important to distinguish between the *long 'e'* of the 2nd Conjugation Infinitive (as in *videre*) and the *short 'e'* of the 3rd Conjugation (as in *dicere*). This means that you would pronounce the former as vid-EH-ray and the latter as DEE-che-ray, with the emphasis falling on the capitalised letters. This will help you to maintain the correct flow and rhythm of the Latin text. Here are some Latin phrases to practice using the correct rhythm :

*signum videre*

- 'to see a sign'. That is what the Scribes and Pharisees demanded of Jesus

*audemus dicere*

- 'we dare to say'. These words appear in the Mass just before the Our Father

### 1.10 The Negative Form

To express the Negative, simply place *non* in front of the Verb :  
 eg. *non vident* - they do not see.

#### Vocabulary

*expecto, expectare* (1) - to wait (for), look forward to  
*jubeo, jubere* (2) - to command  
*custodio, custodire* (4) - to protect, keep  
*rego, regere* (3) - to rule  
*amo, amare* (1) - to love

*dico, dicere* (3) - to say  
*sedeo, sedere* (2) - to sit  
*servio, servire* (4) - to serve  
*regno, regnare* (1) - to rule  
*diligo, diligere* (3) - to love

### Exercise 2 Translate the following:

*jubes, custodiunt, vivis et regnas, laudamus, laudant, benedicimus, habemus, auditis, diligo, expectant, dicit, amo, regunt.*

#### Vocabulary

*mihi* - for me  
*oculus* - eye  
*beatus* - blessed  
*Deus* - God  
*semper* - always  
*in coelis* - in Heaven  
*timeo, timere* (2) - to fear  
*adoro, adorare* (1) - to adore  
*laetifico, laetificare* (1) - to give joy to  
*luce* - at dawn

*mensam* - table  
*juventutem* - youth  
*vir* - man  
*unum* - one  
*paro, parare* (1) - to prepare, set out  
*glorifico, glorificare* (1) - to glorify  
*scandalizo, scandalizare* (1) - to scandalise  
*credo, -ere* (3) - to believe  
*vigilo, -are* (1) - to watch, be awake

**Reading Practice***Credo in unum Deum*I believe in one God*Paras mihi mensam*Thou preparest a table before me*Si oculus tuus scandalizat te*If thy eye scandaliseth thee*laudamus te, benedicimus te, adoramus te, glorificamus te*we praise Thee, we bless Thee, we adore Thee, we glorify Thee*Deus, Deus meus, ad te luce vigilo*O God, my God, to Thee I watch at break of day*ad Deum qui laetificat juventutem meam*to God Who giveth joy to my youth*Beatus vir qui timet Dominum*Blessed (is) the man who feareth the Lord**Vocabulary**

*magnifico, magnificare* (1) - to magnify  
*do, dare* (1) - to give  
*autem* - but  
*animam meam* - my soul  
*pacem* - peace  
*ad dexteram* - at the right hand

*tremo, tremere* (3) - to tremble, be in awe  
*Angeli* - angels  
*Dominationes* - dominations  
*Potestates* - powers  
*vobis* - to you  
*Patris* - of the Father

**Exercise 3** Fill in the blanks using one of the following Verbs :

<i>magnificat</i>	<i>audiunt</i>	<i>tremunt</i>	<i>laudant</i>	<i>dico</i>
<i>diligis</i>	<i>sedes</i>	<i>do</i>	<i>adorant</i>	<i>custodiunt</i>

1. *beati qui \_\_\_\_\_ verbum Dei, et \_\_\_\_\_ illud* blessed are they that hear the word of God, and keep it
2. \_\_\_\_\_ *autem vobis* But I say to you...
3. *majestatem tuam \_\_\_\_\_ Angeli...*  
       \_\_\_\_\_ *Dominationes...*  
       \_\_\_\_\_ *Potestates*  
       the Angels praise Thy majesty...  
       the Dominations worship it...  
       the Powers are in awe
4. \_\_\_\_\_ *anima mea Dominum* My soul magnifies the Lord

5. *Pacem meam \_\_\_\_\_ vobis* My peace I give to you
6. *Simon Joannis, \_\_\_\_\_ me?* Simon (son) of John, lovest thou me?
7. *qui \_\_\_\_\_ ad dexteram Patris* Who sittest at the right hand of the Father

### Vocabulary

<i>sustineo, -ere</i> (2) - to endure, maintain	<i>spero, -are</i> (1) - to hope
<i>dormio, -ire</i> (4) - to sleep	<i>procedo, procedere</i> - (3) - to proceed
<i>intro, -are</i> (1) - to enter	

### Exercise 4

1. What are the characteristics of *caritas* (love) according to St Paul?

*caritas...omnia* (all things) credit, *omnia sperat*, *omnia sustinet*

2. What does Jesus ask Peter?

*Simon, dormis?*

3. What is the action of the Holy Spirit in this phrase?

*Spiritus qui a Patre procedit*

4. How do we recognise the true shepherd (*pastor*)?

*qui autem intrat per ostium* (door), *pastor est*

5. What message did Jesus give the disciples in the Upper Room?

*et ego mitto vos* (you)

### Vocabulary

<i>neque</i> - neither	<i>horrea</i> - barns
<i>gentes</i> - Gentiles	<i>sculptilia</i> - graven things, idols
<i>haec omnia</i> - all these things	<i>sero, serere</i> (3) - to sow
<i>intelligo, -ere</i> (3) - to understand	<i>meto, metere</i> (3) - to reap
<i>egenum</i> - needy	<i>congrego, congregare</i> (1) - to gather
<i>pauperem</i> - poor	<i>dimitto, -ere</i> (3) - to dismiss
<i>lugeo, lugere</i> (2) - to mourn	<i>servus</i> - servant
<i>vero</i> - truly	<i>jam</i> - now, already
<i>Dominus</i> - the Lord	<i>inquiri, inquirere</i> (3) - to seek

### Reading Practice

<i>Beatus qui intelligit super egenum et pauperem</i>	Blessed is he who <u>understandeth</u> concerning the needy and the poor
<i>non serunt, neque metunt, neque congregant in horrea</i>	they neither <u>sow</u> nor <u>reap</u> nor <u>gather</u> into barns
<i>Haec enim omnia gentes inquirunt</i>	For all these things do the Gentiles <u>seek</u>
<i>omnes qui adorant sculptilia</i>	all (those) who <u>adore</u> graven things
<i>Beati qui lugent</i>	Blessed (are they) that <u>mourn</u>
<i>Nunc dimittis servum tuum, Domine</i>	Now <u>Thou dost dismiss</u> Thy servant, O Lord
<i>Vivo autem, jam non ego : vivit vero in me Christus</i>	but <u>I live</u> , now not I : but Christ <u>liveth</u> in me

### 1.11 PRESENT INDICATIVE OF THE VERB 'TO BE' (ESSE)

The verb 'to be' is in a category of its own and does not conform to any of the patterns for the four Conjugations previously mentioned. It is conjugated as follows:

<u>ESSE - TO BE</u>	
<u>Singular</u>	<u>Plural</u>
<i>sum</i> - I am	<i>sumus</i> - we are
<i>es</i> - thou art	<i>estis</i> - you are
<i>est</i> - he/she/it is	<i>sunt</i> - they are

### 1.12 Personal Pronouns

Quite often the Verb 'to be' in Latin is accompanied by one of these **Personal Pronouns** :

<i>ego</i> - I	<i>nos</i> - we
<i>tu</i> - thou	<i>vos</i> - you

### Vocabulary

<i>resurrectio</i> - resurrection	<i>vita</i> - life
<i>vitis</i> - vine	<i>palmes</i> (pl. <i>palmites</i> ) - young branch esp. of vine
<i>dignus</i> - worthy	<i>amicus</i> - friend
<i>sacerdos</i> - priest	<i>Judaeus</i> - a Jew
<i>Petrus</i> - Peter	<i>corpus</i> - body
<i>lux</i> - light	<i>mundus</i> - world
<i>multi</i> - many	<i>omnia</i> - everything
<i>Rex</i> - King	<i>multi</i> - many
<i>panis</i> - bread	<i>hi</i> - these, they
<i>unus, unum</i> - one	

### Reading Practice

*Ego sum resurrectio, et vita*

I am the Resurrection and the Life

*Ego sum Vitis, vos palmites*

I am the Vine, you (are) the branches

*Domine, non sum dignus*

Lord, I am not worthy

*Non es amicus Caesaris*

thou art not a friend of Caesar

*Tu es sacerdos in aeternum*

Thou art a priest forever

*Tu es Rex Judaeorum?*

Art Thou the King of the Jews?

*Tu es Petrus*

Thou art Peter

*Unus panis et unum corpus multi sumus*

We being many are one bread and one body

*Vos estis lux mundi*

You are the light of the world

*hi in mundo sunt*

They are in the world

### Vocabulary

*circumdo, circumdare (1) - to surround  
permaneo, -ere (2) - to remain  
in tenebris - in darkness  
umbra mortis - the shadow of death  
ecce - behold  
foris - outside  
sto, -stare (1) - to stand  
coinquino, coinquinare (1) - to defile  
os - mouth  
quod - that which*

*protego, -ere (3) - to protect  
in aeternum - for eternity  
virgo - a virgin  
maneo, -ere (2) - to remain, abide  
mater - mother  
fratres - brothers  
intro, intrare (1) - to enter  
hominem - a man  
ex ore - out of the mouth  
hoc - this thing*

### Reading Practice

*Deus, qui nos...circumdas et protegis*

O God, Who dost encompass and shield us

*in aeternum permanes Virgo*

a Virgin evermore thou dost remain

*qui in tenebris et umbra mortis sedent*

who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death

*qui non diligit, manet in morte*

He that loveth not, abideth in death

*Ecce mater tua, et fratres tui foris stant*

Behold, Thy mother and Thy brethren stand without

*Non quod intrat in os, coinquinat hominem : sed  
quod procedit ex ore, hoc coinquinat hominem*

Not that which goeth into the mouth defileth a man,  
but what cometh out of the mouth, this defileth a man

Now read through this whole passage of the Gospel (John x 11-16) of the Second Sunday after Easter. All the Verbs in the Present Tense are underlined. Some you have already met in this Unit. Others are new, but their endings conform to the patterns set out in 1.5. So although you may not have met them before, you will know precisely who is carrying out the action by recognising their endings.

*Sequentia Sancti Evangelii secundum Joannem.  
In illo tempore : Dixit Jesus pharisaeis : Ego sum  
pastor bonus. Bonus pastor animam suam dat pro  
ovibus suis. Mercenarius autem, et qui non est  
pastor, cujus non sunt oves propriae, videt lupum  
venientem, et dimittit oves, et fugit : et lupus rapit,  
et dispergit oves : mercenarius autem fugit, quia  
mercenarius est, et non pertinet ad eum de ovibus.  
Ego sum pastor bonus : et cognosco meas, et  
cognoscunt me meae. Sicut novit me Pater, et ego  
agnosco Patrem : et animam meam pono pro ovibus  
meis. Et alias oves habeo quae non sunt ex hoc  
ovili : et illas oportet me adducere, et vocem meam  
audient, et fiet unum ovile, et unus pastor.*

Continuation of the holy Gospel according to St. John. At that time Jesus said to the Pharisees : I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd giveth his life for his sheep. But the hireling, and he that is not the shepherd, whose own the sheep are not, seeth the wolf coming and leaveth the sheep and flieth : and the wolf catcheth and scattereth the sheep : and the hireling flieth, because he is a hireling, and he hath no care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd : and I know Mine, and Mine know Me, as the Father knoweth Me, and I know the Father : and I lay down My life for My sheep. And other sheep I have that are not of this fold : them also I must bring, and they shall hear My voice, and there shall be one fold and one shepherd.