

From a Missal (s.XI)

Gradual *Diffusa est gratia* with verse
Adducentur, Offertory *Offeretur* and
Communion *Simile est* from a Mass for the
Blessed Virgin Mary or some other Virgin
inc. (main text, larger script) *Simile est*
regnum celorum
expl. *accepta tibi reddatur oblatio per.* (lines
2 and 4–7)

inc. (interlinear text, the verse, smaller text
with notation) *Diffusa est* (lines 1, 3 and 8)
expl. *octabus sancte agnetis*

The interlinear text includes references to
Sts Prisca, Agatha and Agnes

Parchment, 67 x 138 mm (120 x 145
mm), eight lines altogether; ruling with a
hard point, 8 mm apart

Script The main text is written in a rather
crude caroline minuscule, with forked
ascenders and the beginning of a slight
tendency to angularity in the curves, though
the script is spacious and square. *Ct*, *st* and
or ligatures, long *s* shaft comes below the
line (no *f* with which to compare it), straight
d, single-bowled *g*, feet on minims and
slight serifs. The subsidiary text,
contemporary with that of the main text, is a
more compressed caroline minuscule, but
probably by the same scribe.

Abbreviations Standard nomina sacra. The
abbreviation sign is a slightly oblique wavy
line with a small flourish at either end.

Punctuation A punctus elevatus (tick and
point) marks the main pause.

Decoration A 4-line plain green initial *P*,
with its shaft stretching down the left margin

Musical notation Diastematic 'ancient' or northern French neums. The lack of spacing for most of the subsidiary text suggests that it was apparently not spaced for the music. The neums therefore were possibly added later.

Provenance Unknown; written in France but neums could have been added in England.