Paul Inwood’s winning hymn setting selected for the Holy Year of Mercy

COLLEGEVILLE, MINNESOTA (August 2015)—Liturgical Press is pleased to share the announcement by The Pontifical Council for the Promotion of the New Evangelization that Paul Inwood is the composer of the winning entry selected in an international competition for a hymn setting for the Holy Year of Mercy.

Inwood, a well-known English Catholic liturgical composer, author, and former music editor at Liturgical Press, has lived and worked in the US and England and is one of the founding members of the Collegeville Composer’s Group, creators of the Psallite music program published by Liturgical Press. Celebrate, Remember/Celebrar, Recordar, a bilingual collection of music for weddings and funerals, is the newest release in the Psallite collection.

Paul Inwood said: “It is a great honor for me that my setting was selected for the Holy Year of Mercy. The text we were given has a Latin antiphon and Italian verses interspersed with refrains in Latin, like a kind of litany. My music is also a mixture, with elements in the style of a Taizé response and a Gelineau tone. The verses work in any language—I provided French and English translations—and I deliberately kept the music very simple so that even the smallest parishes can hopefully make use of it. There is also some more elaborate music: a brass prelude and interludes, and a choral coda which is included in the recording.”

A substantial number of composers from around the world were invited to submit settings of a text by Eugenio Costa, SJ. Monsignor Massimo Palombella, Director of the Sistine Chapel Choir, has recorded the new hymn with Vatican Radio. The hymn is currently available in Italian, English and French, and the author and composer have donated all rights in it to the Pontifical Council to aid its diffusion around the world.

Links to the score and audio recording are currently on the Pontifical Council’s Italian website at http://www.iubilaemmisericordiae.va/content/gdm/it/giubileo/inno.html. A YouTube video is available at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-N0Dto5s9fg&feature=youtu.be&a.