

Interlude: For All Saints' Day. Claudio Abbado Conducts the Berlioz 'Te Deum' in St Albans in England.

And in light of events in New York City just now, let us remember that this magnificent and ancient Christian hymn – composed three centuries before ever Islam the Arab cult of blood and war was cooked up out of whole cloth by some depraved mastermind/s – concludes with the following invocation (I use the text from the translation provided in the 1662 Book of Common Prayer): “O Lord, save thy people and bless thine heritage: Govern them and lift them up for ever... O Lord, have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us, O Lord let thy mercy lighten upon us, as our trust is in Thee. O Lord, in Thee have I trusted: let me never be confounded.”

In fact, let's have the full text of the hymn, in that beautiful 1662 version.

‘We praise thee, O God: we acknowledge thee to be the Lord.

‘All the earth doth worship thee, the Father everlasting.

‘To thee all angels cry aloud, the heavens and all the powers therein.

‘To thee cherubin and seraphin continually do cry

‘Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sabaoth:

‘Heaven and earth are full of the majesty of thy glory.

'The glorious company of the apostles praise thee.

'The goodly fellowship of the prophets praise thee.

'The noble army of martyrs praise thee.

'The holy Church throughout all the world doth acknowledge thee:

the Father of an infinite majesty;

thine honourable, true and only Son;

also the Holy Ghost, the Comforter.

'Thou art the King of glory, O Christ.

'Thou art the everlasting Son of the Father.

'When thou tookest upon thee to deliver man,

thou didst not abhor the Virgin's womb.

'When thou hadst overcome the sharpness of death,

thou didst open the kingdom of heaven to all believers.

'Thou sittest at the right hand of God, in the glory of the Father.

'We believe that thou shalt come to be our Judge.

'We therefore pray thee, help thy servants,

whom thou hast redeemed with thy precious blood,

make them to be numbered with thy saints in glory everlasting.

O Lord, save thy people and bless thine heritage.

'Govern them and lift them up for ever.

'Day by day we magnify thee

and we worship thy name, ever world without end.

'Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this day without sin.

'O Lord, have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us.

'O Lord, let thy mercy lighten upon us, as our trust is in thee.

'O Lord, in Thee have I trusted; let me never be confounded".