

# Most Ancient of All Mysteries

Frederick W. Faber / SAINT FLAVIAN

The image shows a piano accompaniment for the hymn 'Most Ancient of All Mysteries'. It consists of two systems of music, each with a treble and bass clef staff. The key signature is one flat (B-flat) and the time signature is 4/4. The first system has four measures, and the second system has four measures. The music is primarily chordal, with some melodic lines in the treble clef. There are fermatas over the final notes of the first and third measures in both systems. The piece concludes with a double bar line at the end of the second system.

1. Most ancient of all mysteries,  
before your throne we lie;  
have mercy now, most merciful,  
most holy Trinity.
2. When heav'n and earth were still unmade,  
when time was yet unknown,  
you, in your radiant majesty,  
did live and love alone.
3. You were not born; there was no source  
from which your being flowed;  
there is no end which you can reach:  
for you are simply God.
4. How wonderful creation is,  
the work which you did bless;  
what then must you be like, dear God,  
eternal loveliness!
5. Most ancient of all mysteries,  
before your throne we lie;  
have mercy now and evermore,  
most holy Trinity.

Lyrics: 86.86; Frederick William Faber, 1814-1863, revised by Geoffrey Laycock, 1927-1986, in the "New Catholic Hymnal", © 1971, Faber Music.  
Music: SAINT FLAVIAN; John Day's "The Whole Booke of Psalmes Collected into English Metre", 1562; arranged by Richard Redhead, 1820-1901, then "Hymns Ancient and Modern", 1861.