

Music and Society 1

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Medieval Instrumental Music

was associated with

- * Church processions
- * the courts
- * social events
weddings, banquets, ceremonies,
tournaments, performances
- * singing and dancing
- * warfare, punishment

Church music was the only music written down

Secular music was transmitted orally and written down later



Papal processions

Entering Town

...vult autem et dicitur quod dominus benedixit obediam et omnia sua propter arcam que
...mensibus apud eum manserat ea urbe in civitatem suam transferebat magno
...gaudio psallens ante eam et plaudens cum omni populo. ita ut per singulos sex
...his bouem et arietem immolarent. Cumque populo tubantibus buccinis sonantibus
...saltarent. Michol uxor regis per fenestram prospiciens ostendit eam in corte sua.



روز بروز از افروز می شد
در خانه طمان برد و
در راه از صدوق در خانه طمان برد و

Coronations





Medieval feasts



Minstrels performing at a medieval guild feast

Adoration





Weddings

Dance. The aristocracy dances....





Dancing

..... and the peasants dance (having much more fun)







Dance music was improvised and generally not written down

The Carole, popular dance from 700 – 1400

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NiPD-q0KQ>



Instruments: Shawm, bagpipe, drums

Instruments accompanied



tournaments



warfare

hanging



La Saltarella, Italian dance from *saltare* – to jump

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sLVDzm4kuTU>



14th Century:

- * The Catholic church is loosing its grip on music
- * Music is used as the glorification and entertainment of the ruling classes, the aristocracy and new wealthy middle class families (bourgeoisie) hiring the best composers and musicians on the continent inventing more pleasing musical sounds that become the trade mark of their courts and cities
- * The Dutch develops an intricate musical language which was designed for the sophisticated few – the musical insiders
- * Music composition is seen as an art, not a craft
- * Musical instruments and street songs enter the Church

Composers' names appear more and more:

Guillaume de Machaut (c. 1300 - 1377)

French composer, musician,
politician, priest, and the greatest
poet in France (poet-composer)

Employed by Kings and the Church

Wrote music in every genre, e. g. :

**Ma fin est mon commencement (rondeau)*
(esoteric music written for the few)

This is a crab canon = palindrome = music
can be played forwards and backwards, see
the next three slides



Form: Rondeau A B a A a b A B

- | | |
|---|----------------------------------|
| A. Ma fin est mon commencement | My end is my beginning |
| B. Et mon commencement ma fin. | And my beginning my end. |
| a. Et ceneure vraiment | And this holds truly |
| A. Ma fin est mon commencement | My end is my beginning |
| a. Mes tiers chans trois fois seulement | My third melody three times only |
| b. Se retrograde et einse fin. | Reverses itself and thus ends. |
| A. Ma fin est mon commencement | My end is my beginning |
| B. Et mon commencement ma fin. | And my beginning my end. |

A: Same melody, same text; a: same melody, different text

B: Same melody, same text; b: same melody, different text

Ma fin est mon commencement

Ver. 0.0.3

My end is my beginning

Guillaume de Machaut

Transcribed by n. nakamura, 2004

Triplum

Cantus

Tenor

The musical score is presented in three systems, each with three staves (Triplum, Cantus, Tenor) and four colored arrows (red, green, blue) indicating phrasing. The lyrics are written below the Cantus staff.

System 1: The first system shows the beginning of the piece. The lyrics are: "1.4.7.Ma", "3.Et", "5.Mes", "fin", "te", "tiers".

System 2: The second system starts at measure 6. The lyrics are: "est", "mon", "ne", "u", "chans", "trois".

System 3: The third system starts at measure 11. The lyrics are: "com", "men", "re", "vrai", "lois", "seu".

System 4: The fourth system starts at measure 16. The lyrics are: "ce-ment", "e-ment", "le-ment".

Ma fin est mon commencement

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dcfPr4IN2MM>

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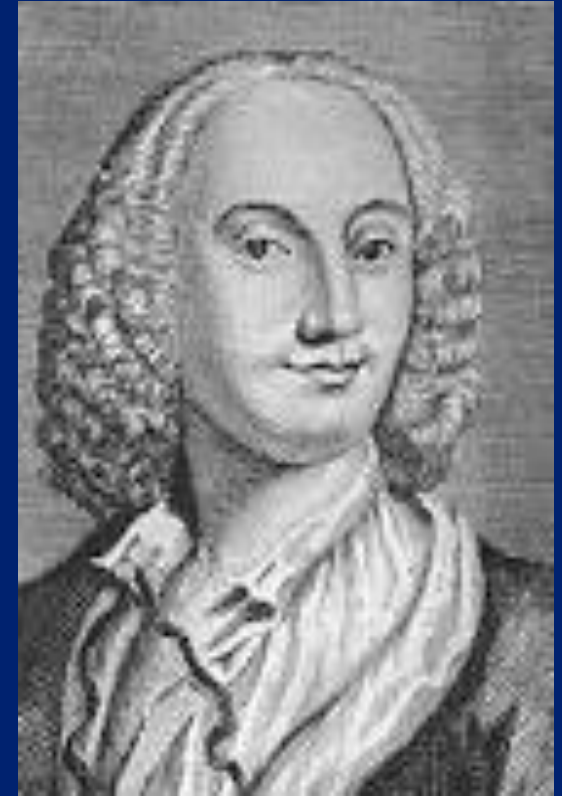
Guillaume de Machaut (c. 1300 - 1377)

French composer, musician, politician, priest, and considered the greatest poet in France (poet-composer)

Employed by Kings and the Church

Wrote music in every genre: songs, motets, ballades, masses

Ma fin est mon commencement (rondeau)
(esoteric song written for the few)



One the first to write a polyphonic settings of the Mass Ordinary: *Kyrie, Gloria, Credo, Sanctus*, and *Agnus Dei* written as one work. Four voices, some unifying short themes, and same rhythms.

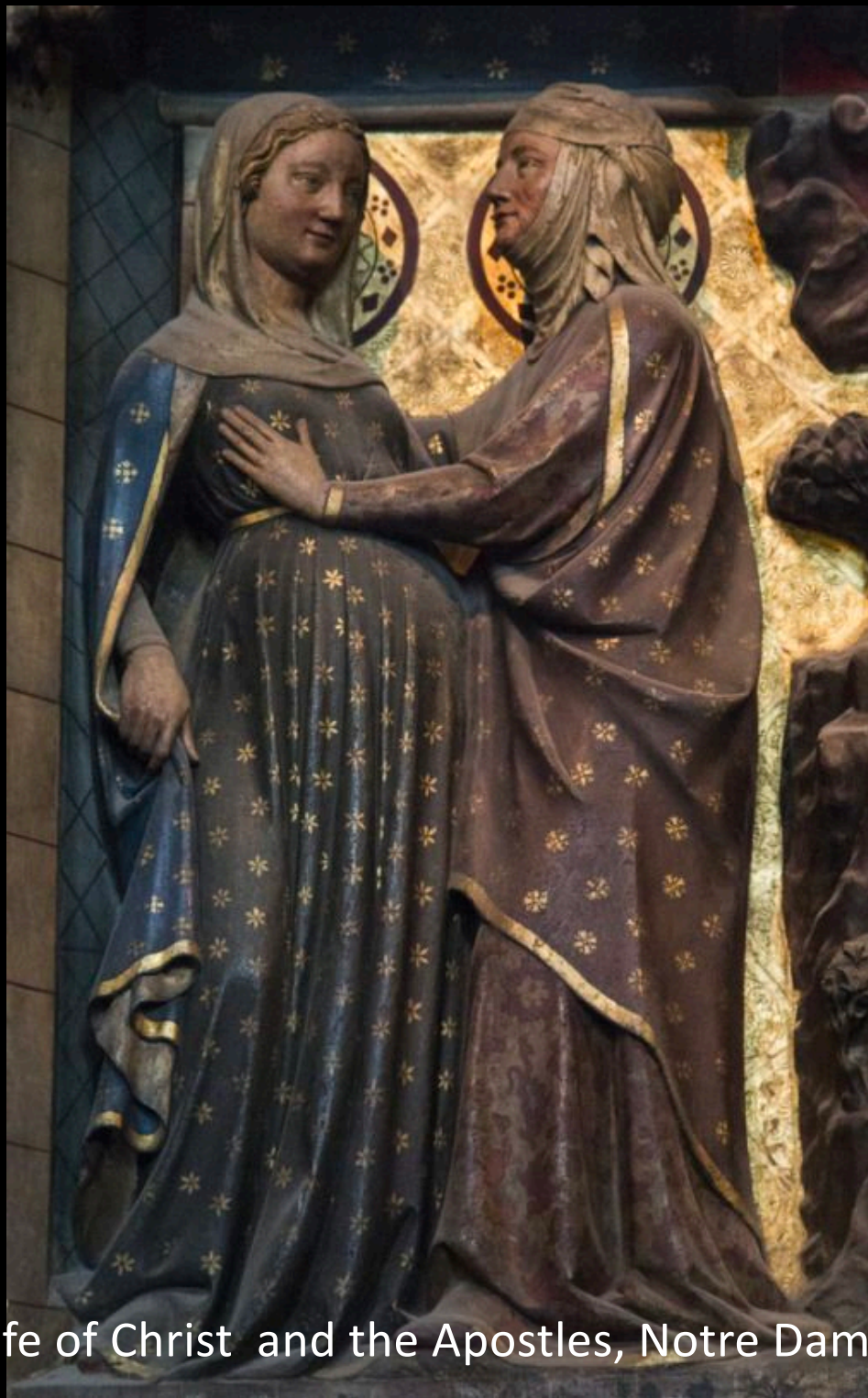
Agnus Dei from *Messe de Notre Dame*, composed ca. 1350

Notre Dame Cathedral, finished 1350

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y47JdUI_PhE



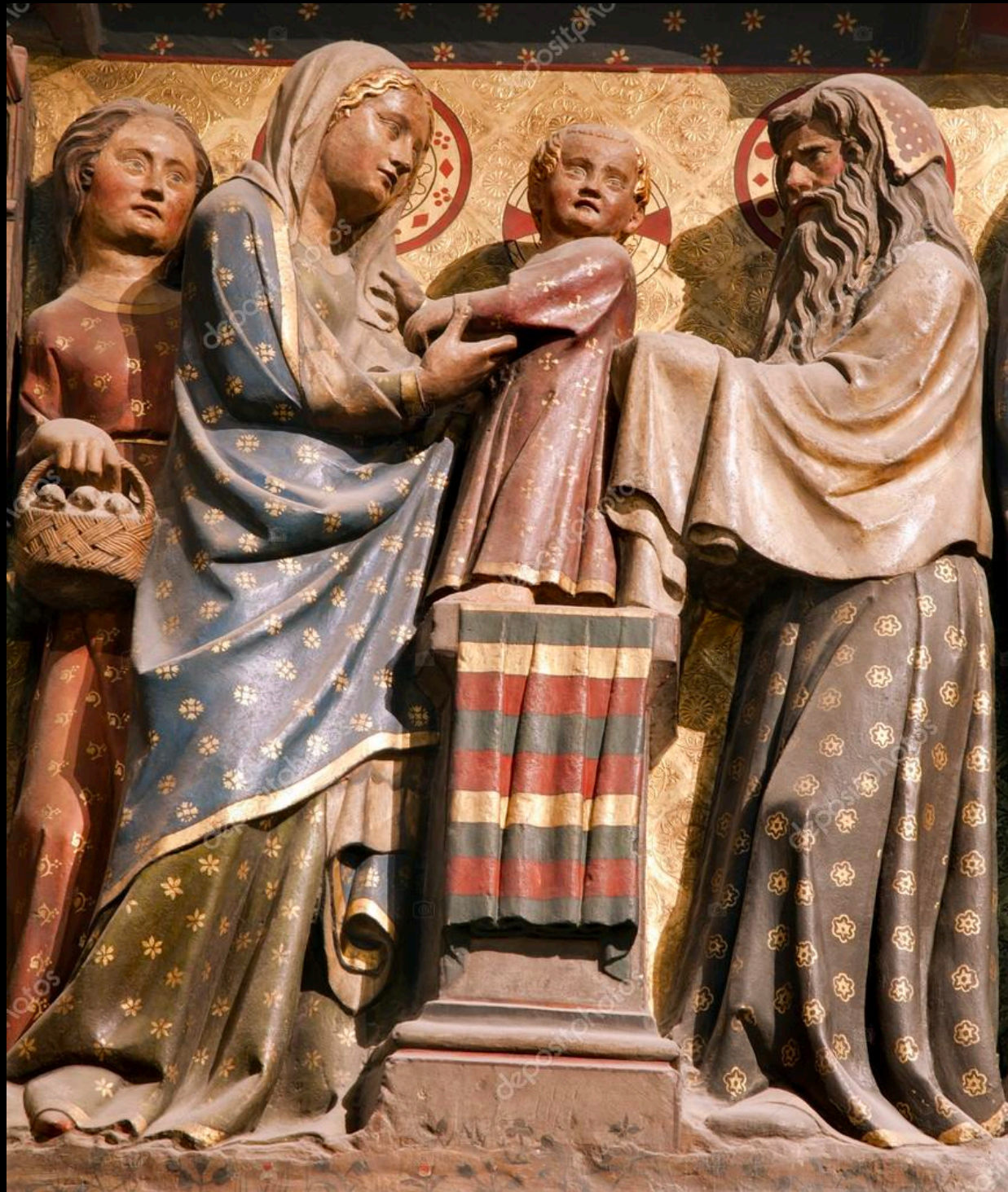
Kyrie from Messe de Notre Dame, composed ca. 1350
The music was intended to accompany the next 14 slides



Scenes from the life of Christ and the Apostles, Notre Dame, carved 1300-1350



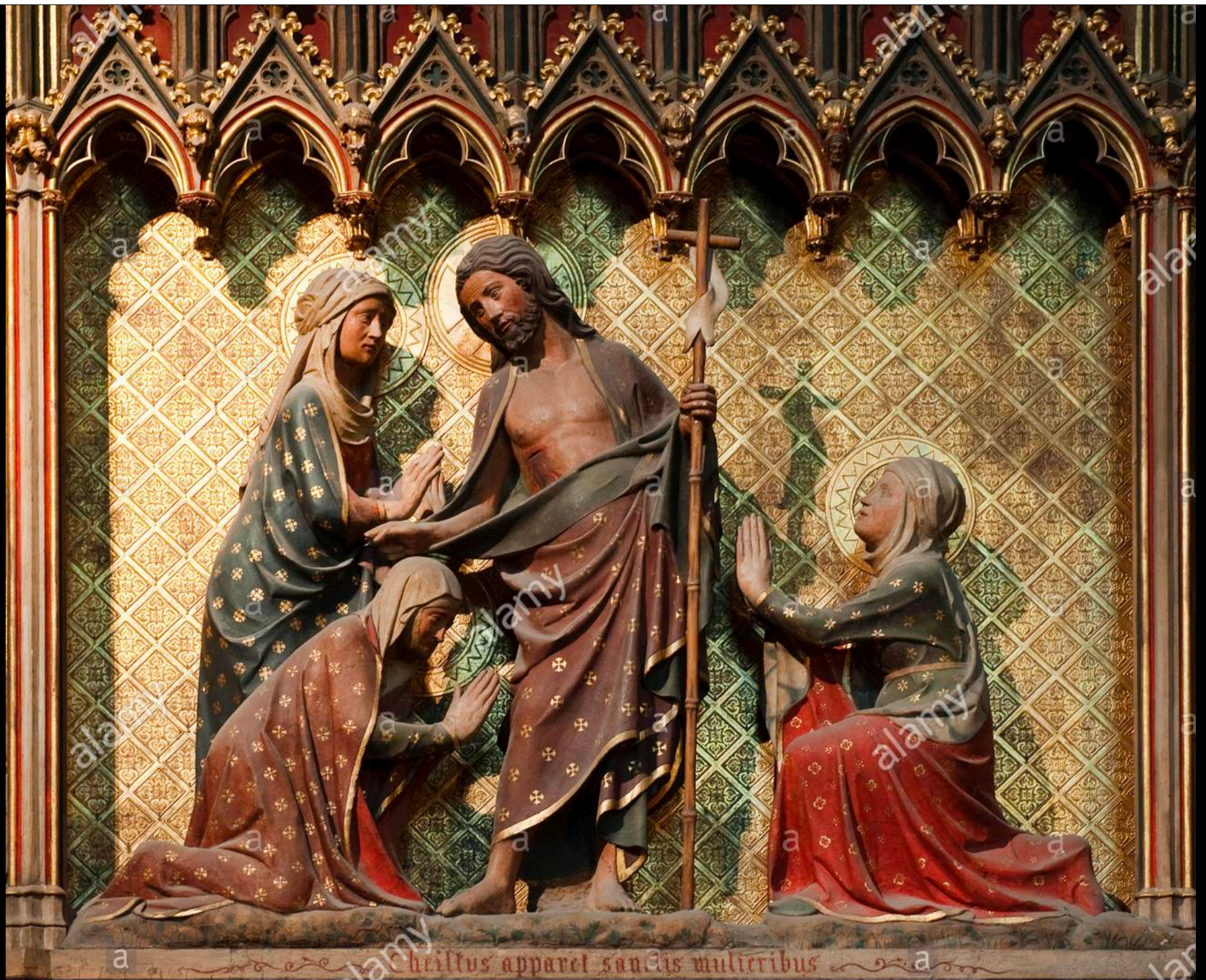








Christus apparet et apostolis juxta mare Tiberiadis



heillus apparet sanctis mulieribus





Christus apparet sanctis mulieribus



Christus apparet Simoni Petro



Christus apparet apostolis et discipulis in Galilea







Christus annaret r anactolis et 7 home

The End`