

“O Mira Gratia”



This translation of the English song “Amazing Grace,” by John Newton (1779), was made by Nancy Llewellyn (2013). My ultra-literal re-translation is just an aid to understanding the Latin!

O Mira Gratia

O mira quanta gratia
Redemit reum me.
Erranti luxit placida
Blanda mirifice.

Quod magna tot pericula
Iam salvus passus sum
Id Gratiae retribuam
Quae ducet me domum.

Cum saecula viderimus
Ut sol splendentia
Nos modo peregerimus
Laudum initia.

O Amazing Grace

O amazing how much grace
Redeemed the debtor me.
On the wandering one it shone, gentle
Lovely, wonderful.

For so many great dangers
Already safe I have endured
I will render it to grace
Which will lead me home.

When we will have seen centuries
Like the sun shining
We will only have completed
The beginnings of praises.