

## Monteverdi Gloria for 8 voices M 21

### Identify chords in the Gloria

Have your score of the Gloria to refer to. It would be nice to play the chords on your keyboard

Answers to the questions in Activity 20

What shall we do with the Drunken Sailor needs a D minor chord - F natural not F#

4i. F major 4ii. G minor 4iii. A minor 4iv. D major

1. To identify the chords, you need to be able to name each of the notes making them up. That means knowing the names of the notes in the treble and bass clefs. In case you aren't too sure about this, here they are:

The treble clef is a fancy letter G which starts by wrapping itself round the G line



The bass clef is a fancy letter F which starts by wrapping itself round the F line



Some people start to learn them by memorising the names of the lines or the spaces in each clef. That's what gives you the Every Good Boy Deserves Favour mnemonic for the lines of the treble clef. And FACE for the also in the treble clef.

"Middle C" familiar to all who have learned the piano has been coloured red. For bass singers it's near the top of their range, for sopranos, near the bottom. "Middle C" is in the middle of a piano and in the middle of the vocal range. The short line going through its centre is called a leger line - an extension to the 5 lines of the stave.

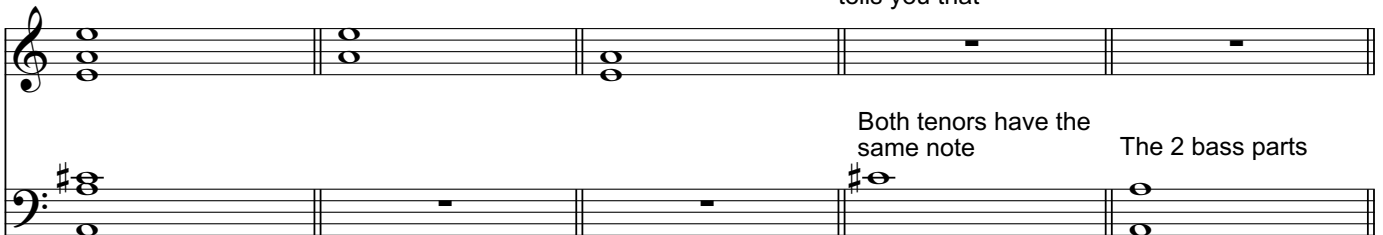
2. The most obvious chords in the Gloria are the ones where all the voices hold onto long notes. They tend to be at the ends of sections - we're used in all types of music to long, held chords to finish things. The first of these in the Gloria comes in bar 15. All 8 parts have a semibreve. In the score, each part has a separate staff. Here, the notes are written on a "short score". All 8 parts are fitted onto two staves.

Here's the whole chord

The 2 soprano parts

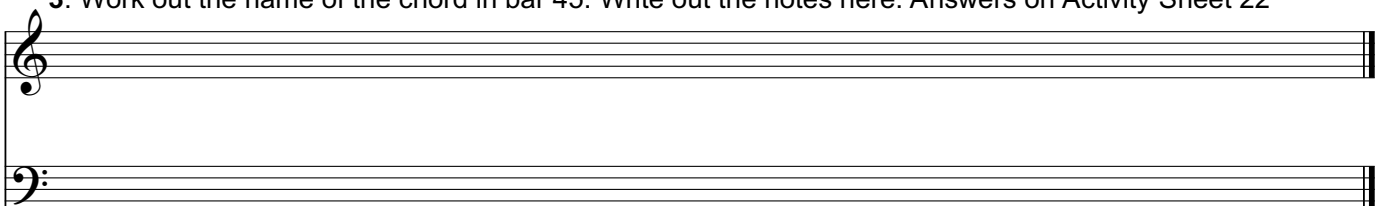
The 2 alto parts

Remember that the tenor part is conventionally written in the treble clef to sound an octave lower - find the little 8 hanging onto the clef which tells you that



The bottom note is A. There are 2 other As, a C# and an E. Its an A major chord. If you can't understand why, look again at Activities 19 and 20.

3. Work out the name of the chord in bar 45. Write out the notes here. Answers on Activity Sheet 22



4. Look at the chords in bars 50, 118, 151, 231 and 248. What do you notice about them?