

Scene 13*The Music Room**Mary Martin-of-Tours is at the piano. The other Nuns are slowly filing into the room.***MARY LAZARUS**

Come on, Sisters, come on. We let you sleep in till 4:15. This isn't Club Med. Let's roll up our sleeves and praise the Lord with Choir practice!

*(Deloris enters)***DELORIS***(Expecting the best)*

Is this the rehearsal?

MARY PATRICK

It sure is. Come on in. Sing a spell.

MARY LAZARUS

Soprano or alto?

DELORIS

Whatever you need!

MARY LAZARUS

Go sit in front of Sister Mary Stephen.

*(Mary Lazarus hands Deloris a hymnal)***NUNS**

Hello sister, etc.

MARY LAZARUS

Quiet.

NUNS*(They all sing horribly)***SANCTUS, SANCTUS—****MARY LAZARUS**

Mary Clarence...

(Deloris is speechless)

Mary Clarence, are you with us?

MARY PATRICK*(Leaning in to Deloris)*

Pretty good huh?

DELORIS

There are no words.

MARY LAZARUS

Alright—let's take it from "Benedicta" in G. Mary Martin-of-Tours! Woohoo! G!

MARY MARTIN-OF-TOURS

No! Not him! Give us Barabbas!

MARY LAZARUS

Okay. Forget G. Go sit over there. Why doesn't everyone just choose the key they like the best.

NUNS

BENEDICTA TU—

(Deloris goes off on a little riff. The nuns are stunned)

MARY LAZARUS

What was that?

MARY PATRICK

That was soul music! Do it again!

NUNS

(ad libbed)

Yes, do it again! Do it again, please! *Etc.*

MARY LAZARUS

I see what's going on here. Mother Superior sent in a ringer. She's been trying to get back at me ever since that folk mass fiasco back in '67. So now she's got Diahann Carroll coming in here wailing away and then takin' over.

MARY PATRICK

Mary Lazarus, you're terrific but we could really use some help.

NUNS

(Ad libbed)

We really do. Yes, please let her help. It's true. *Etc.*

DELORIS

(To Mary Lazarus)

Look I don't want to take your job, but you know I could help you out. You're not afraid of hard work, are you?

MARY LAZARUS

I'm a nun. My life's been like the Stations of the Cross. But without the laughs.