

QUIZ ANSWERS

1. c. In England. Up until the late 19th century the singing of Christmas carols was normally performed by singers visiting people's houses., and the carols, generally considered to be secular, were excluded from Christian worship. In the Victorian era, as hymns became more and more popular, church musicians were encouraged to introduce carols into worship. Influential to this movement was an 1875 book of Carols, *Carols for Use in Church During Christmas and Epiphany* by Richard Chope and Sabine Baring-Gould. During Christmas 1878 the composer and organist John Stainer introduced carols into the service of Choral Evensong at St Paul's Cathedral, London.
2. b. Truro Cathedral in Cornwall. The tradition of the Nine Lessons and Carols is popularly associated with King's College, Cambridge as that service has been broadcast into our homes on television. In 1878 it was recorded in the *Royal Cornwall Gazette* that the choir of Truro Cathedral would sing a service of carols at 10 p.m. on Christmas Eve:

The Choir of the Cathedral will sing a number of carols in the Cathedral on Christmas Eve, the service commencing at 10pm. We understand that this is at the wish of many of the leading parishioners and others. A like service has been instituted in other cathedral and large towns and has been much appreciated. It is the intention of the choir to no longer continue the custom of singing carols at the residences of members of the congregation.

3. c. *Of the Father's love begotten*. The author of the hymn Aurelius Clemens Prudentius (348-413 AD) was a prolific author of sacred Latin poetry in its earliest days. He was at first a lawyer who, in his later years, retired to a monastery, where he dedicated his poetical gifts to the Church. This beautiful verse is obviously a hymn, but it served another purpose as well: it served as a call to rally Christians to orthodoxy against the threat of the Arian heresy about the divinity of Christ.
4. a.b. and c. Christina Rossetti all of the hymns listed except for d. *Angels from the realms of glory*. She was a gifted poet and prose writer and a very devout Christian. *In the bleak midwinter* is a vivid and sensitive rendering of the Incarnation. Written about 1870, it was first used as a hymn in 1906 set to the tune *Cranham* which Gustav Holst (1874-1934) composed for it.

5. d. *Away in a manger*. Everyone loves this children's carol. No one knows who wrote it. The earliest date to which it can be traced is 1885, when it was included in the American Lutheran's *Little Children's Book*.