

## Musical Notations on Stamps: Part 7

By J. Posell

The last installment of this series appeared in the Fine Arts Philatelist Journals of October and December 1978, vol. 24, nos. 4 & 5. This chapter brings musical notations up to date. Accolades to Ethel Bloesch again for invaluable help and research and to Chuichi Maeda of Tokyo for special help with the Japanese stamps. And to others more knowledgeable than I who have helped in certain areas, I also extend grateful appreciation. We note the following new stamps.

### BELGIUM

Scott 1042

Michel 2004

Emmanuel Durllet (1893-1977) was a pianist, pedagogue and composer. He was born in Antwerp Oct. 11, 1893. He studied at the Royal Flemish Conservatory in Antwerp and later in Vienna with Leopold Godowsky (1912-14). With the outbreak of the war he returned to Belgium and devoted himself to musical war relief work. In 1918 he embarked on a concert career and in 1920 he became professor of advanced piano study at the Royal Conservatory in Antwerp, a position he held for 39 years. His works include about 50 pieces for the piano, concertos for piano and orchestra, for violin and orchestra, chamber music and piano methods. Durllet died Feb. 7, 1977 in Wilrijk, near Antwerp. The music on the stamp is taken from a two piano arrangement of his piano concerto "Medieval Scènes" composed in 1960 for the 100th anniversary of the signing of the United Nations charter.



## BELGIUM

Scott 1041

Michel 2003

Francois Auguste Gevaert (1828-1908) was a composer and musicologist. Gevaert was born July 31, 1828, in Huysse and died Dec. 24, 1908, in Brussels. He trained at the Conservatory in Ghent (1841-47) taking the Grand Prix de Rome for composition. His musical career included positions as organist, chorus master at the Paris Opera, director of the Brussels Conservatory and conductor. In 1873 he was elected a member of the Academy and in 1907 he was created a baron. Gevaert composed 12 operas, cantatas, orchestra music, piano music, songs, etc., but his fame today rests chiefly on his scholarly books on instrumentation, theory, Gregorian chants, the history of music, Liturgical music in the Latin church, etc.

The notation on the stamp is the opening (piano accompaniment) of the cantata "Jacob van Artevelde" composed in 1864. Van Artevelde (1290-1345) came from a well-known merchant and industrial family and was known as "the wise man of Ghent". He tried to keep Flanders neutral during the Hundred Years War between France and England but economical pressures finally forced him to embrace the British cause. In 1345 the craft guilds of the woolen industry were indicted to insurrection and he was shouted down and killed. Jacob van Artevelde became associated in romantic literature with the long struggle for Belgian liberty (musical and historical research kindly supplied by Ethel Bloesch).



## CHINA

Scott 1471

Michel 1481

Issued in 1979 to commemorate the 90th anniversary of International Labor Day - May 1st. The music is the last four bars of "L'Internationale", revolutionary song composed by Pierre Degeyter in 1888.



# CHINA

Scott 1501

Michel 1511

Issued to commemorate the 30th anniversary of the national anthem of the People's Republic of China. It was first written in 1932 and was officially approved as the national anthem on Sept. 22, 1949. The composer is Nie Erh.

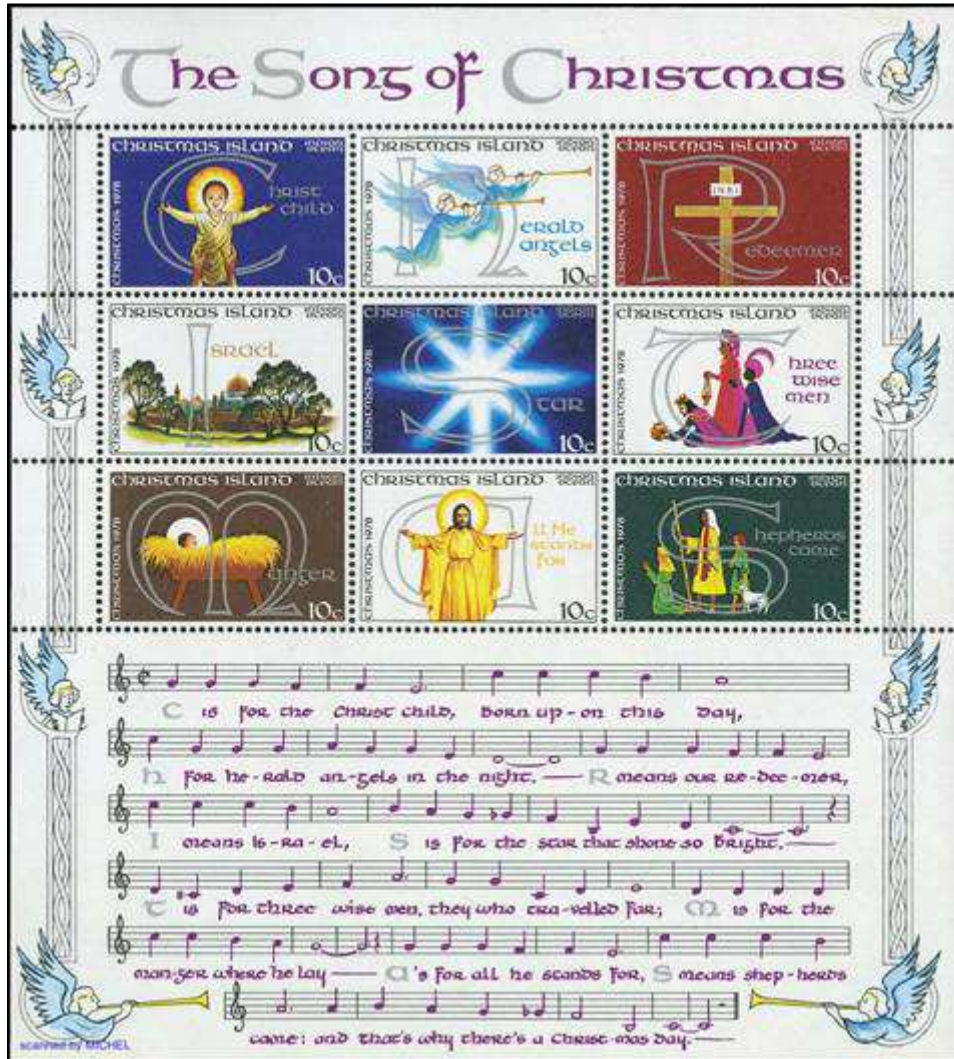


# CHRISTMAS ISLAND

Scott 88

Michel 101-109

This souvenir sheet was issued for Christmas 1978. It contains nine stamps related to the text of "The Song of Christmas" with words and music below. The words of this popular song are by Jennie Lou Carson and the music was composed by Eddy Arnold (generally attributed to Jim Reeves).



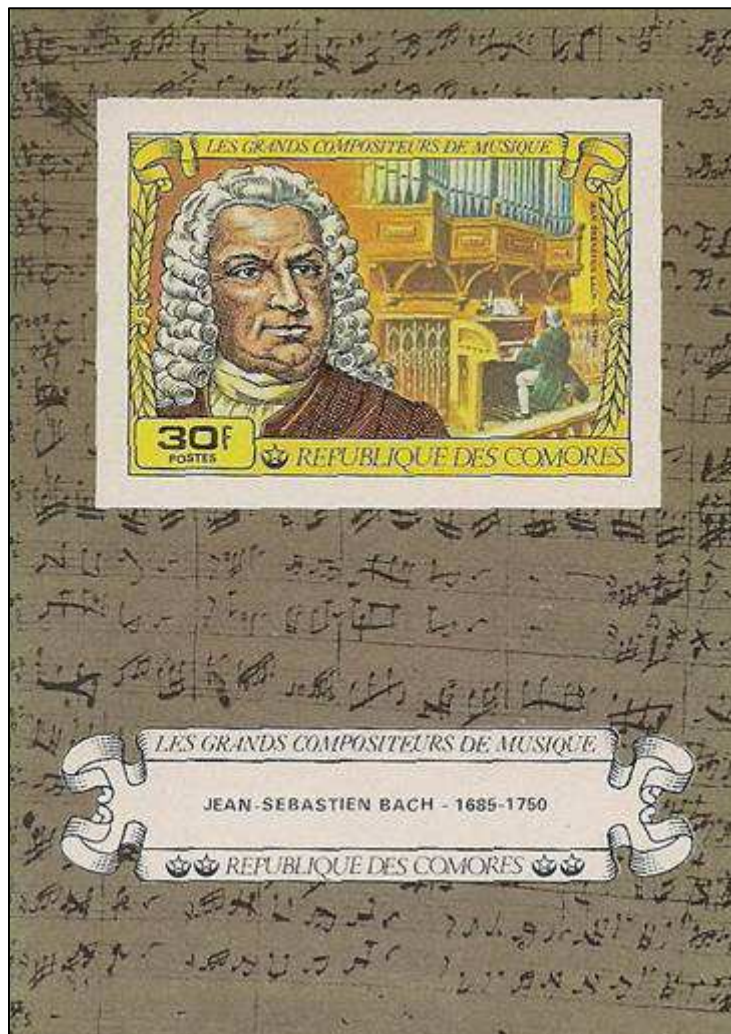
## COMORO ISLANDS

Scott ???

Michel 393 A

In April 1978 a set of six stamps was issued picturing famous composers. These were Bach, Berlioz, Gershwin, Mozart, Tchaikovsky and Verdi; plus a souvenir sheet picturing Beethoven with notation at bottom and sides. Later the set also appeared imperforate and with miniature sheets perforated and imperforate (at an outrageous price) picturing the stamps plus notation in the background. For some unexplained reason, all the notations on these sheets are actually by the composer pictured. The entire issue is speculative and is not recognized by Scott but is included here for the sake of completeness.

The BACH sheet is the opening score of the cantata "Du Friedefürst, Herr Jesu Christ" BWV #116 composed in Leipzig in 1745 for the 25th Sunday after Trinity.



## COMORO ISLANDS

Scott ???

Michel 395 A

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The music on the BERLIOZ sheet is from "Le Corsair Overture".



## COMORO ISLANDS

Scott ???

Michel 398 A

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The GERSHWIN'S sheet contains music from "Rhapsody in Blue".





## COMORO ISLANDS

Scott ???

Michel 394 A

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The MOZART sheet contains the "Sanctus" from Missa Solemnis K 337 composed in 1780.



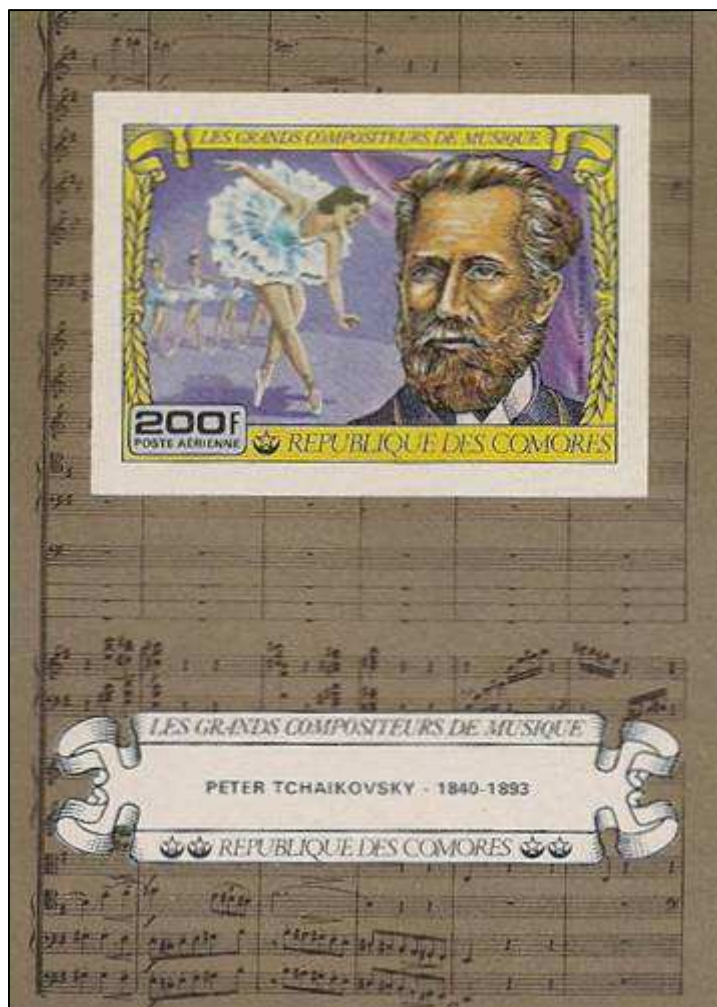
## COMORO ISLANDS

Scott ???

Michel 397 A

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The music on the TCHAIKOVSKY sheet is taken from the Overture to "The Storm", a play by Ostrovsky which was written as a student piece in 1864 but was not published until 1896, three years after Tchaikovsky's death as Op. 76 posth. (thanks to Ethel Bloesch).



## COMORO ISLANDS

Scott ???

Michel 396A

In April 1978 a set of six stamps was issued picturing famous composers. These were Bach, Berlioz, Gershwin, Mozart, Tchaikovsky and Verdi; plus a souvenir sheet picturing Beethoven with notation at bottom and sides. Later the set also appeared imperforate and with miniature sheets perforated and imperforate (at an outrageous price) picturing the stamps plus notation in the background. For some unexplained reason, all the notations on these sheets are actually by the composer pictured. The entire issue is speculative and is not recognized by Scott but is included here for the sake of completeness.

The music on the VERDI sheet is from the Overture to the opera "Nabucco".



## COMORO ISLANDS

Scott ???

Michel 399

In April 1978 a set of six stamps was issued picturing famous composers. These were Bach, Berlioz, Gershwin, Mozart, Tchaikovsky and Verdi; plus a souvenir sheet picturing Beethoven with notation at bottom and sides. Later the set also appeared imperforate and with miniature sheets perforated and imperforate (at an outrageous price) picturing the stamps plus notation in the background. The entire issue is speculative and is not recognized by Scott but is included here for the sake of completeness.

The notations on the sheets are actually by the composer pictured. Why only the music on the Beethoven sheet is not authentic Beethoven remains a mystery. This notation was submitted to a number of musical authorities who all maintain that it is nothing authentic of Beethoven but must be the designer's fantasy. This writer also spent hours searching through the collected works of Beethoven for the source of this quotation but to no avail. Letters to the postal authorities in Comoro Islands and referrals to the printers in Paris also proved fruitless. It just ain't Beethoven.



## DENMARK

Scott 660

Michel 695

The Danish composer Jacob Michel Gade (1879-1963) was born in Vejle Nov. 29, 1879. He was a violinist, migrated to America and became a member of the New York Symphony Orchestra from 1919-1921. He then returned to Copenhagen and was active there as a conductor. Among his light compositions his tango "Jalousie", composed in 1925, attained great popularity. He also composed several symphonic poems like "Den Sidste Viking", "Leda and the Swan", and other works. He died in Copenhagen Feb. 21, 1963. The 3 note fragment is the opening of "Jalousie".

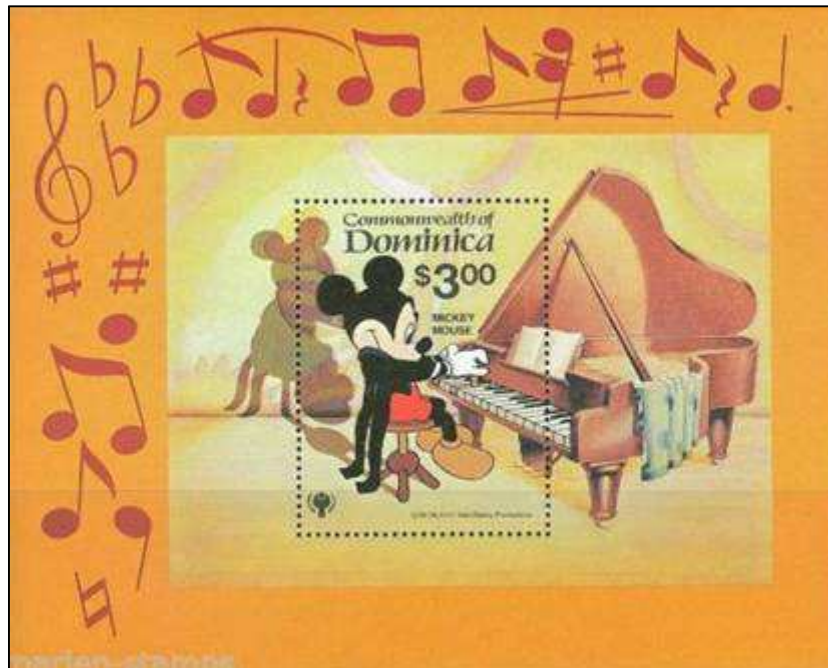


## DOMINICA

Scott 653

Michel 666

For the Year of the Child a set of nine stamps and a souvenir sheet were issued portraying Mickey Mouse characters playing on musical instruments. The souvenir sheet with Mickey Mouse at the piano, contains musical symbols on two borders. However, this can hardly be considered notation and is certainly not a melody of any kind.



## JAPAN

Scott 1375

Michel 1401

Mr. Chuichi Maeda kindly offered the following information regarding the stamps: Children's Song Series. These are songs which Japanese children must learn in their primary schools (grade schools in U.S.) and in the lower secondary schools (junior high schools in U.S.). There will probably be 18 stamps in the series (possibly more).

The first stamp is "The Moon Over the Castle Ruins" (Kojo No Tsuki). "The Moon Over the Castle Ruins" was composed by Renturo Taki. Taki was born in Tokyo in 1879 and was a graduate of the Tokyo School of Music. He traveled to Germany in 1901 to pursue his musical studies but returned to Japan and died in Oita Kyushu, a year later, when he was only 23. This song was written in March 1901.



## JAPAN

Scott 1376

Michel 1402

Mr. Chuichi Maeda kindly offered the following information regarding the stamps: Children's Song Series. These are songs which Japanese children must learn in their primary schools (grade schools in U.S.) and in the lower secondary schools (junior high schools in U.S.). There will probably be 18 stamps in the series (possibly more).

The second stamp is "The Evening Glow" (Yuyake Koyake). "Evening Glow" was composed by Shin Kusakawa in July 1923. Kusakawa was born in Nagano in 1893 and, after graduating from the Tokyo School of Music, composed many children's songs until his death in 1948.





## JAPAN

Scott 1377

Michel 1411

Mr. Chuichi Maeda kindly offered the following information regarding the stamps: Children's Song Series. These are songs which Japanese children must learn in their primary schools (grade schools in U.S.) and in the lower secondary schools (junior high schools in U.S.). There will probably be 18 stamps in the series (possibly more).

The first stamp of the second set, also issued in 1979, is "Maple Leaves" (Momiji). "Maple Leaves" was composed by Teiichi Okano in 1911 for the second grades in elementary school. Okano (1878-1941) was born in Tottori prefecture and held a professorship at the Tokyo School of Music. He was also a member of the editorial committee of the Ministry of Education responsible for the selection of songs for children.



## JAPAN

Scott 1378

Michel 1412

Mr. Chuichi Maeda kindly offered the following information regarding the stamps: Children's Song Series. These are songs which Japanese children must learn in their primary schools (grade schools in U.S.) and in the lower secondary schools (junior high schools in U.S.). There will probably be 18 stamps in the series (possibly more).

The second stamp of the second set, "Birthplace" was written in 1914 and was also composed by Teiichi Okano for the sixth grade elementary school children. The notation on this stamp is taken from the last four bars of the song which accounts for the missing time signature.



## JAPAN

Scott 1379

Michel 1414

Mr. Chuichi Maeda kindly offered the following information regarding the stamps: Children's Song Series. These are songs which Japanese children must learn in their primary schools (grade schools in U.S.) and in the lower secondary schools (junior high schools in U.S.). There will probably be 18 stamps in the series (possibly more).

The first stamp to be issued in 1980 is "Wintry Scène" (Fuyugeshiki). "Wintry Scène" was composed in 1913 for the fifth grade children in elementary Schools. The composer of this song is unknown.



## JAPAN

Scott 1380

Michel 1415

Mr. Chuichi Maeda kindly offered the following information regarding the stamps: Children's Song Series. These are songs which Japanese children must learn in their primary schools (grade schools in U.S.) and in the lower secondary schools (junior high schools in U.S.). There will probably be 18 stamps in the series (possibly more).

The second stamp to be issued in 1980 is "Mt. Fuji" (Fuji-San). "Mt. Fuji" was composed and published in 1910 for elementary school children and is the first elementary school song depicting the famed Japanese mountain. The composer of this song is unknown.



## MONACO

Scott 1110

Michel 1316

Issued to commemorate the 300th anniversary of the birth of the famous Italian violinist and composer Antonio Vivaldi. Vivaldi's exact date of birth is not known and is variously given between 1675 and 1679. In the background is a view of St. Mark's Place in Venice. He was born in Venice and died in Vienna, July 28(?), 1741. He started as an ordained priest but later devoted himself entirely to music. Vivaldi composed about 40 operas besides oratorios, cantatas, etc., but he is best known for his instrumental music: sonatas, concertos, orchestral music, etc. A few notes are seen in the lower right hand corner of the stamp which are probably purely decorative and are certainly too fragmentary to be recognized.



## MOZAMBIQUE

Scott 602

Michel 665 A

This stamp is from a set of four and a souvenir sheet issued to commemorate the 3rd anniversary of independence. The notation is the opening of the new national anthem. A communication from Radio Mozambique dated 18 May, 1979, informs me that "Mozambique's national anthem was approved by FREMILO's central committee and officially adopted on the day of Mozambique's independence, the 25th of June, 1977. It is not possible to know the name of the composer, because the anthem is the result of an arrangement from various compositions collected in a nationwide campaign." Hence, a collective effort. They were also good enough to send me a copy of the music and a tape recording of the anthem sung by a male chorus with band accompaniment.



## NETHERLANDS

Scott B552-553

Michel 1136-1137

These stamps were issued to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the "Maatschappij Tot Bevordering der Toonkunst", a musical society founded in 1829 in Amsterdam. This organization from the very start has been influential in the development of music in the Netherlands. Among its interests has been the founding of schools and colleges of music, music libraries, the furthering of musical science, support of artists, providing scholarships and awards, etc. There are over 50 branches throughout the country and they are particularly active in the formation of new choirs from the large oratorio to cappella choirs. These are known as the "Toonkunst" choirs. They enjoy a special reputation and receive subsidies from the government and from local authorities. The notation on Scott B552(Michel 1136) is a fragment of the score of "Psalmen Trilogie", a work for baritone, chorus and orchestra composed by Jurriaan Andriessen, a leading Dutch composer, for the anniversary festival concert. Pictured on Scott B553 (Michel 1137) is the chorus and orchestra in performance.

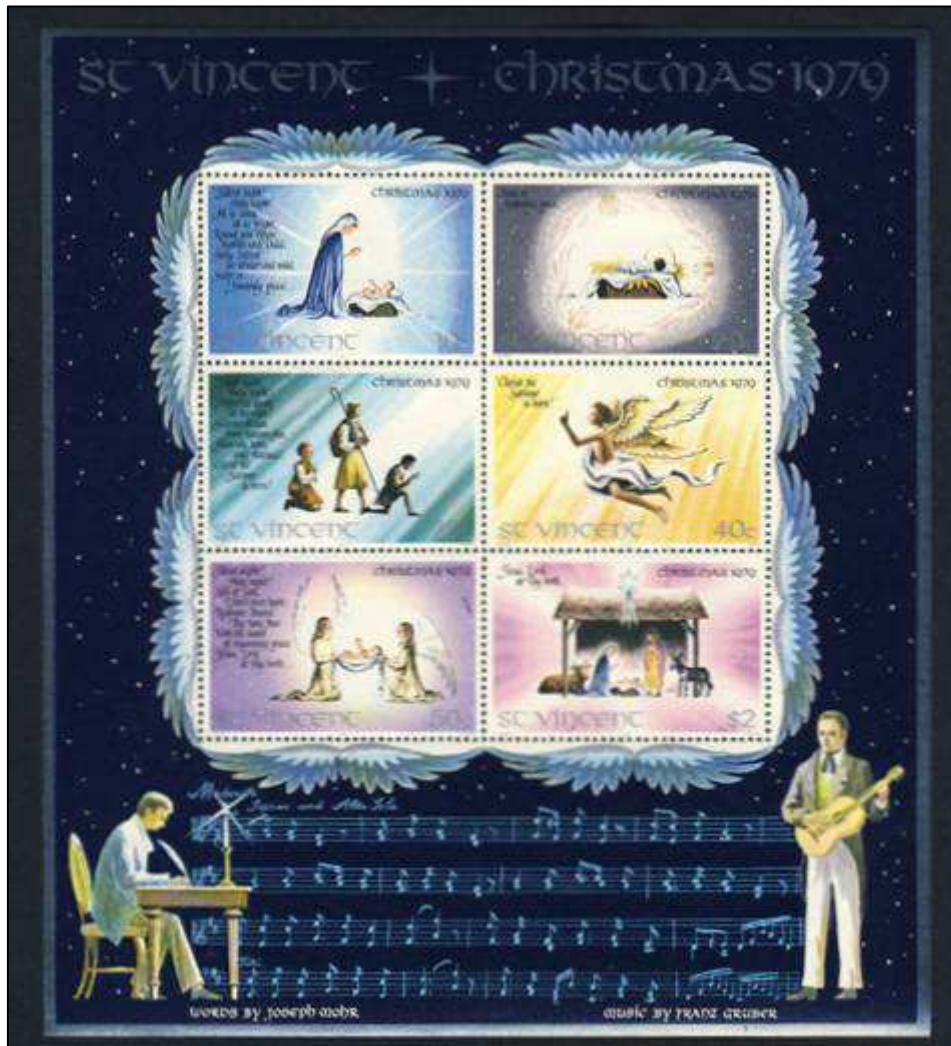


## ST. VINCENT

Scott 592a

Michel 562-567

This souvenir sheet of six stamps was issued for Christmas 1979, and contains the music to "Silent Night, Holy Night" (at the bottom) composed by Franz Gruber. The story of this famous song is too well known to repeat here.





## ST. VINCENT-GRENADINES

Scott B71

Michel 160-164

The Grenadines of St. Vincent are listed in the "For the record" area of the Scott Catalogue and bear no catalogue numbers. This sheet of six stamps was issued for Christmas of 1978 and contains the melody of the refrain from the Christmas song, "We Three Kings of Orient Are". The words and music to this famous song were written in 1857 by John H. (Henry) Hopkins (1820-1891).



## TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS

Scott 354

Michel 390-392

For the 25th anniversary of the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II in 1953, a commemorative booklet was issued containing the music used in the coronation ceremonies. These include the national anthem "God Save the Queen", the anthem "Zadok the Priest" by Händel and "The Hundredth Psalm" from the cantata by R. Vaughan Williams. "Zadok the Priest" was composed for the coronation of King George II in 1727 (one of four coronation anthems) and has been included in every coronation service since that time. For the coronation of Queen Elizabeth, Vaughan Williams composed a hymn based on the famous "The Old Hundredth" - All People that on Earth do Dwell. He arranged this so that the congregation in the Abbey as well as the thousands listening outside could join in the singing and make their contribution to the ceremonies of the day. These hymns stand alone and are not part of any larger works - though Händel later reworked "Zadok" and included it in his "Esther" (Ethel Bloesch).

