Some choirs will choose the first four verses (1c-4c) during Christmastide and reserve the final four verses (1e-4e) for Epiphanytide.
The complete Latin poem by Sedulius (5th century Catholic poet) has 23 lines, each beginning with a successive letter of the alphabet. The doxologies added, reforms of Urban VIII, and verses omitted by the Breviary make it more difficult to notice the acrostic.

To obtain the vocalist scores:
CCWATERSHED.ORG/NICOLAS

1c. Christum canamus
2c. Vener pulaelae
3c. Quem venter matris
4c. Pa lamen que fit pa-
1e. Non eripitemor-
2e. Pec cata, quae non
3e. VNUM que jussa
4e. Quas ad locutus
After 1c—play “C” then “B”

After 2c—play “A” then “B”

After 3c—play “C” then “B”

After 4c—the Christmas piece ends, and a Picardy third may be applied, according to the organist's sensibility.

After 1e—play “C” then “B”

After 2e—play “A” then “B”

After 3e—play “C” then “B”

After 4e—the Epiphany piece ends, and a Picardy third may be applied, according to the organist's sensibility.