# Handout Notes for Chant Class July 7th – July 11th, 2014 Saint Meinrad Archabbey



Pope Gregory the Great dictating the chant as inspired by the Holy Spirit!

#### TYPES OF CHANT NOTATION

### 1. Hearing and repeating the sounded word.

The description of a book, like the Cantatorium of Monza (9th century) that is without notation, as a volume of 'musical art' is puzzling only if one forgets how well the texts of chants served as a form of musical notation by recording the syllables through which the melody sounded, and by revealing a grammatical structure that was itself a kind of musical mnemonic since the musical phrases responded to it with varying degrees of closure.

- 1) Speak the text as a proclamation with accents and phrasing.
- 2) Sing that text on a single pitch with all its accents and phrasing.
- 3) Sing it with the original melody using the same word rhythms.

### 2. Retracing the early neumes while singing the pitches of the chant.

Have someone who knows the melody sing it to you and then repeat it while retracing the neume designs as you sing.

### 3. Read the four-line staff, using both the C clefs and the F clef.

Sing the notes of the melody while using either letters or numbers for the pitches. Sing the same melody using the word rhythms and phrasings of the text.

- 1. The recitation pitch (or "dominant") corresponds to the optimum pitch level.
- 2. **Intonation patterns** in chant correspond to the rising patterns used by speakers.
- 3. **Cadence patterns** in chant correspond to the dropping pitches used by speakers.
  - The Horizontal dimension
- 1. The **rhythm** and **tempo** of a phrase in chant corresponds to the rhythmic flow of speech used by a good public reader.
- 2. **Pretonic** syllables tend to flow more or less rapidly toward the tonic accent of a word or a phrase (e.g.: a-nun-ti-á-vit).
- 3. The **Tonic** accent of a word or a phrase contains all the energy and momentum for all the syllables that follow it (e.g.: <u>Dó</u>-mi-nus).
- 4. **Post-Tonic** syllables are carried by the energy of the preceding Tonic accent syllable (e.g.: Dó-<u>mi</u>-nus).
- 5. **Final** syllables dissipate the remaining energy from the Tonic accent and bring the forward momentum to a stop (e.g.: Dó-mi-nus). A common example of this phenomenon is that of letting a car coast to a stop at a stop sign.

The principles of this performance practice flow out of the polished matching of a sacred text with a gregorian melody. For that reason whoever gives attentive effort to Latin (or English!) diction in singing, by that very fact already possesses very many of the requisites for executing Gregorian chant properly (cf. the introduction to the Liber Hymnarius, 1983).

# Chant Rhythm Latin and English

Chant rhythm begins with a full breath, then:

SURGE to (or with) the first word accent; SWING from accent to accent; COAST from the last accent to the end of the word.

Example:

SURGE SWING SWING COAST I will SING to the LORD for E- ver and E- ver.

Begin with a simple swinging motion from side to side from one word accent to the next as you first **speak** and only then, sing the text. After that, you can start to retrace the neume designs with your hand as you sing the notes.

LECTOR: Whoever shall be promoted to this [clerical] grade, will have been imbued with doctrine and reading experience and will be skilled in the knowledge of words [that is to say, their pronuntiation] and [their] meaning, so that, with regard to the sense units, he will know where each sense grouping ends, where the discourse should still hang [in the air], where the final sense group closes. Thus prepared, he will maintain the [relative] strength of pronuntiation so that the minds of all [his listeners] will be able to comprehend the sense [of what they hear]. [He will do this] by expressing the proper feeling [affectus] of the sentences, now [in the form of] an indicative sentence, now sorrowing, now rebuking, now exhorting, or in other similar ways, according to the proper category [genera] of what is being proclaimed. Many things in scripture can take on an opposite meaning by the way they are pronounced! An example: "Who will accuse the elect of God? The God who justifies [Is this a statement of fact, or is it a question that demands a negative answer?]."

Furthermore, [a lector] should know the relative strength of every accent so that he will know toward which principle syllable his oral proclamation is tending. The psalmist, however, should be noted for a good voice and good training, so that by the attraction of such sweetness, he may be able to stir the souls of his hearers. His voice, however, should not be raucous or harsh, but lyric, sweet, smooth and clear. He should have the voice quality and the kind of tunes that are congruent with holy religion, not those of the tragic theater but those which show Christian simplicity in their melodic shapes. Neither should they exhibit the [qualities] of musical gesturing and the entertainment arts [the theater], but rather be such that promote compunction for those who hear his singing.

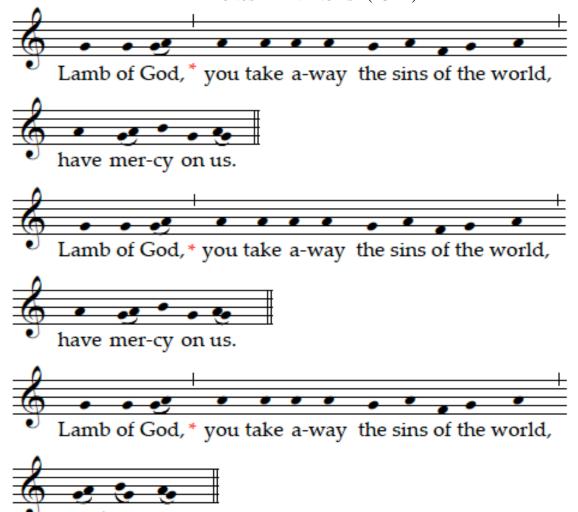
(St. Isidore's *De Ecclesiasticis Officiis* was written between 598 and 615 A.D., at a date some time later than the first arrival in Spain of the last parts of {Pope] Gregory's *Moralia in Job* .)

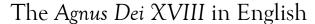
# **Chant Handouts**

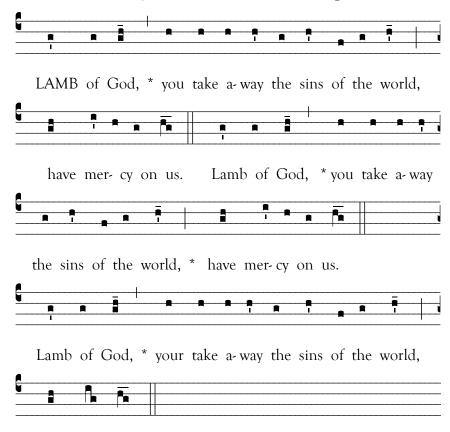
#### THE AGNUS DEI IN LATIN







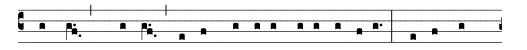




grant us peace.

Text: ICEL Music: Columba Kelly, © Saint Meinrad Archabbey, 2011 ALL RIGHTS RESERVED

# **SANCTUS XVIII**



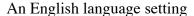
Sanctus, \* Sanctus, Sanctus Dominus De-us Sá-ba-oth. Ple- ni sunt



Caeli et ter-ra glo-ri-a tu-a. Ho-sán-na in ex-cél-sis. Be-ne-dic-tus



Qui ve-nit in no- mi- ne Do- mi- ne. Ho- sán na in ex- cél- sis.





ex-cél - sis.

# The Memorial Acclamations

# THE ICEL SETTINGS FOR THE MISSAL

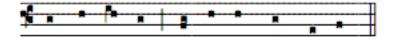


#### MEMORIAL ACCLAMATIONS

# Mode 2

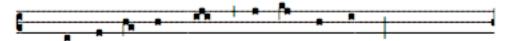


We pro-claim your death, O Lord and pro-fess your

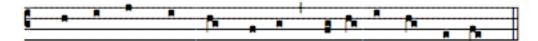


re-sur-rec-tion un-til you come a-gain.

### Mode 7

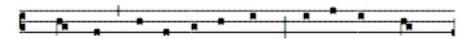


When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup,



we pro-claim your death, O Lord, un-til you come a-gain.

#### Mode 8



Save us, Sa-vior of the world, for by your Cross



and Re-sur-rec-tion you have set us free.

Text: ICEL

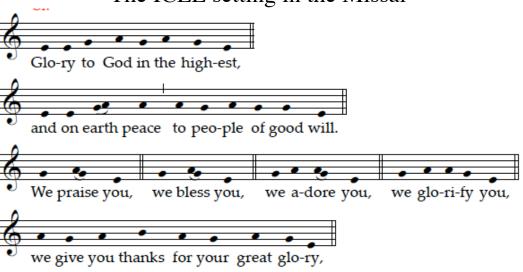
Music: Columba Kelly, @ Saint Meinrad Archabbey 2011

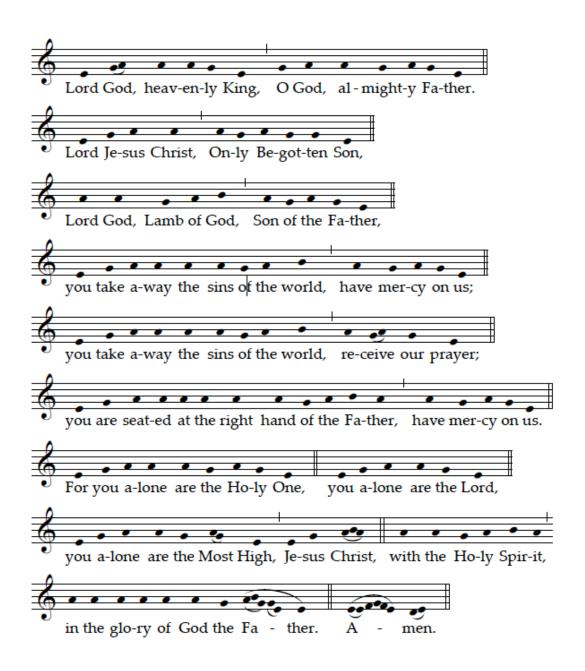
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# The Gloria from Mass XV

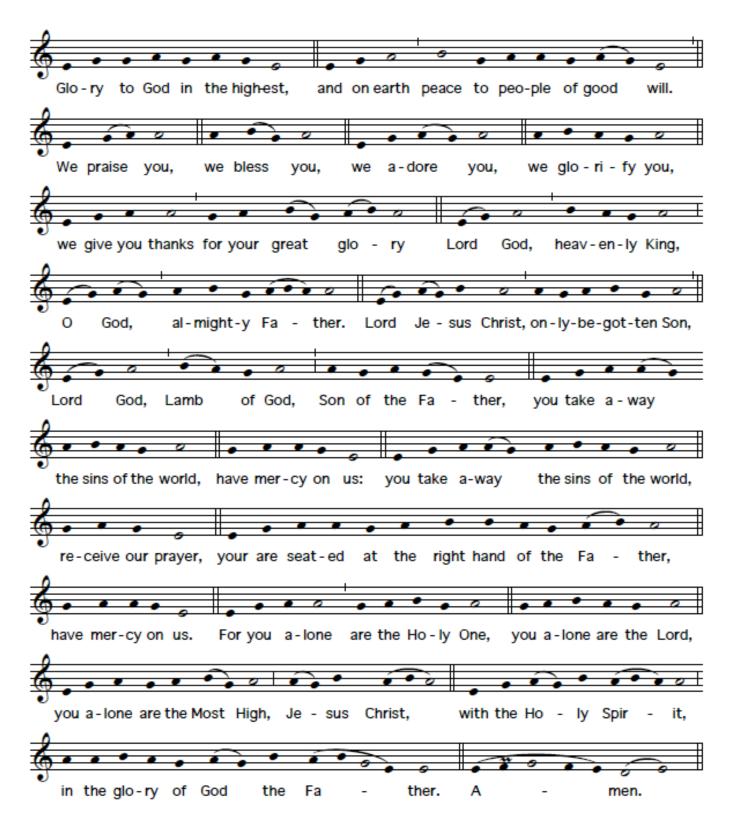


# The ICEL setting in the Missal





Gloria XV English setting (St. Meinrad tone)



Text: ICEL

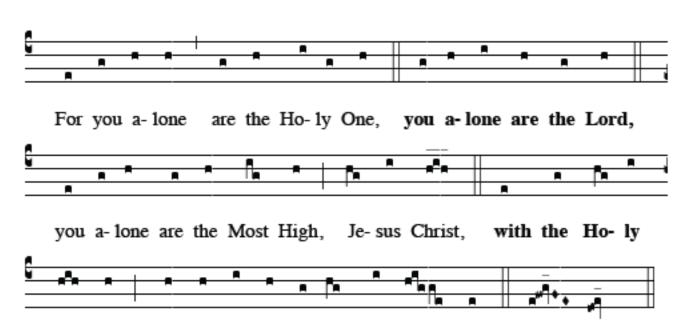
Music: Columba Kelly © Saint Meinrad Archabbey 2012

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# Mode IV



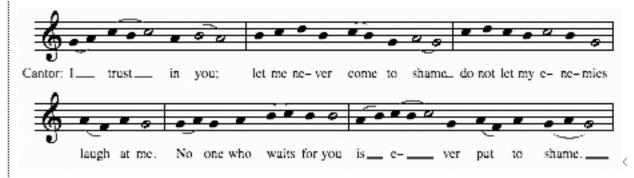
you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther, have mer-cy on us.



Spir- it, in the glo-ry of God the Fa- ther, A- men.

# Entrance Antiphon

(1st Sunday of Advent: based on Ad te levavi)\_



People's Refrain



Use an 8th mode psalm tone for the psalm verses.

Antiphon

Refrain

Psalm verse

Refrain

etc. until the ministers are settled in their places in the sanctuary

Conclude with the Antiphon

# Psalm Tones Set Moods

Mode 1: (Ps.144/145: 10-11) solemnity



All your creatures shall thank <u>you</u>, <u>O</u> **Lord**, and your friends shall re-<u>peat their</u> **blessing** They shall speak of the glory of <u>your</u> **reign** and declare your <u>might</u>, <u>O</u> **God**.

Mode2: (Ps.129/130: 3-4) reverence and awe



If you, O Lord, should mark <u>our</u> **guilt**, Lord, who <u>would sur-vive</u>? But with you is <u>found for</u>-**giveness**; for this we re-**vere you**.

Mode 3: (Ps.129/130:1-2) intense feeling, either sadness or joy



Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord, Lord, hear my voice!
O let your ears be at-tentive to the voice of my pleading.

Mode 4: (Ps.118/119:97-98) reflective, meditative



Lord, how I love your law!

It is ever in my **mind**.

Your command make me wiser than my foes;

for it is mine for-ever.

# Psalm Tones Set Moods (Continued)

Mode 5: (Ps.95/96:11-12) joyful, happy



Let the heavens rejoice and earth <u>be</u> **glad**, let the sea and all within it <u>thun-der</u> **praise**, let the land and all it <u>bears</u> <u>re</u>-joice, all the trees of the wood shout for joy.

Mode 6: (Ps.115/116:12-13) calm, relaxed, contented



How can I re-pay the **Lord** for his good-ness to **me**?
The cup of salvation I will **raise**:
I will call on the name of the **Lord**.

Mode 7: (Ps.148:1-2) joyful, triumphant



Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise him in the heights.
Praise him, all his angels, praise him, all his host.

Mode 8: (Ps.129/130:7-8) authoritative, a narrator's voice



Because with the lord <u>there is</u> mercy and fullness of <u>re</u>-demption, Israel indeed he <u>will re</u>-deem from all its in-iquity.

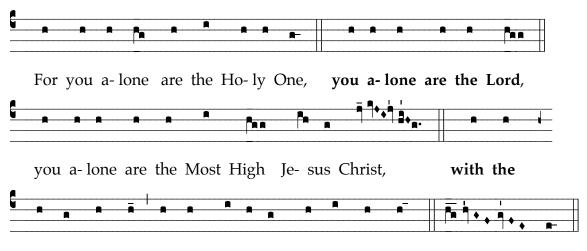
The goal will be to have the psalm tone memorized. Then sing the text in a good speech rhythm, in a manner that literally "swings" from one word accent to another until it comes quietly to rest on the last accent of the line. A refrain or antiphon can be made of a liturgical text by using just the first and the last line of the psalm tone. If three lines are needed, then use the first two lines and the last line of the psalm tone.

# Eight Chant Alleluia Refrains for congregational use in the eight modes



# Ambrosian Style Gloria





Ho-ly Spir- it, in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther, A-men.

Music: Columba Kelly, OSB

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# An Antiphon based on the Prodigal Son Parable Appropriate for a Penance Service Based on the 8th mode psalm tone

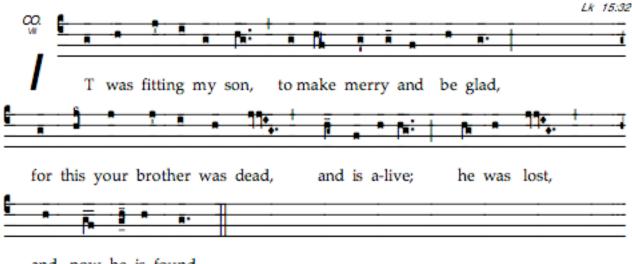


8. Dix- it Do- mi- nus Do- mi- no me- o: se- de a dex- tris me- is.

#### As found in the Graduale Romanum:



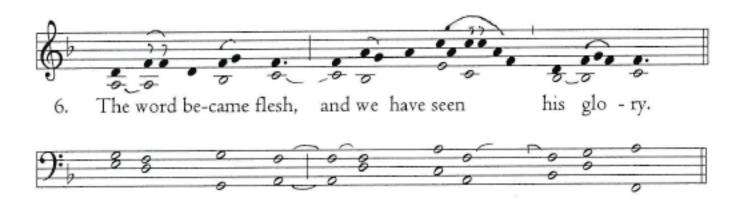
This antiphon is found on page 95 of the Graduale Romanum as a Communion antiphon. It is based on the Latin psalm tone for the 8th mode. In fact, it uses the intonation and the final cadence of the psalm tone three times to produce the antiphon!



and now he is found.

The text of both the Latin and the English versions should first be spoken with great intensity and feeling according to the meaning of each phrase (e.g.: now pleading with the elder son, now full of sorrow for what was the "death" of the younger son, now with great joy for finding him and finding him alive!). Only then should one begin to practice singing the actual melody of the antiphons. When there is more than one note on a syllable, move quickly to the last note, unless there is a sign on a note that indicates some lengthening.

The 8th mode psalm tone should be used for the psalm verses to be inserted between each repeat of the antiphon. If used during the distribution of Communion, it makes a great meditation on what our attitude should be toward the others who are also going to Communion with us! At a Penance Service it could be used to set the mood and theme for reading and homily that will be given.



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#### THE FOUR BASIC MODES IN ONE ANTIPHON

The Communion Antiphon Comedite pinguia,

The structure pitches of the antiphon:



Co- me- di- te pin- gui- a, et bi- bi- te mul- sum,

(6<sup>th</sup> mode)



et mit-ti-te par-tes e-is qui non prae-pa-ra-ve-runt si-bi: (4th mode)



sanc- tus e- nim di- es Do- mi- ni est, no- li- te con- tri- sta- ri: (1st mode)



gau- di- um et- e- nim Do- mi- ni est for- ti- tu- do no- stra. (8th mode)

The original ornamented antiphon:



Co- me- di- te pin- gui- a, et bi- bi- te mul- sum,



et mit-ti-te par-tes e-is qui non prae-pa-ra-ve-runt si- bi:



sanc- tus e- nim di- es Do- mi- ni est, no- li- te con- tri- sta- ri:



gau- di- um et- e- nim Do- mi- ni est for- ti- tu- do no- stra.

# THE ORIGINAL NOTATION

Co Comedite pinguia et bibite mui

sum et mittite partes ess qui

non preparauerunt sibi sanctus

enim dies dominiest nolite contri

stari gaudium et enim dominiest

fortitudo nostra

Communion antiphon Comedite pinguia, in E 121

### THE NOTATION IN THE GRADUALE TRIPLEX



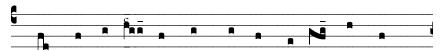
Communion antiphon Comedite, in Graduale Triplex, p.268

# AN ENGLISH LANGUAGE SETTING Comedite pinguia

(Cf. Gradual triplex, p. 268)



8. O come and eat rich foods and drink sweet wine.



and send a share to those who have pre-pared noth-ing



for them-selves. For this day is sac-red to the Lord our



God, do not give way to sad-ness, for the joy of the



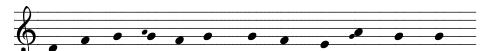
Lord

is our strength.

#### A SIMPLE VERSION



O come and eat rich foods and drink sweet wine.



and send a share to those who have pre-pared noth-ing



for them-selves. For this day is sac-red to the Lord



our God. Do not give way to sad-ness, for the joy of the

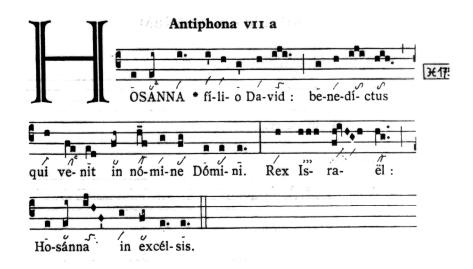


Lord is our strength.

# Congregational refrain:



Come and eat, for the joy of the Lord is our strength!



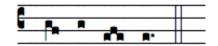
English Antiphon from the new Roman Missal Mt 21: 9



HO-SAN-NA to the Son of Da-vid! \* Bless-ed is he who comes



in the name of the Lord, The King of Is- ra- el: Ho-san-na



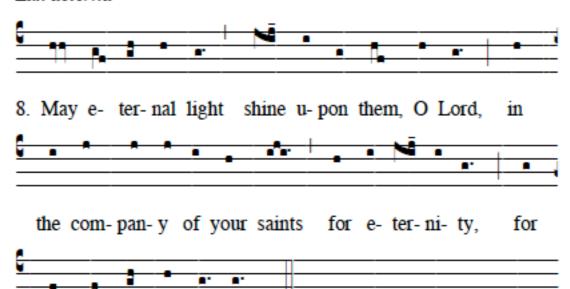
in the high- est.

# In paradisum (Latin & English)



# COMMUNION

# Lux aeterna



you are full of goodness.

# PUER NATUS EST NOBIS Introit for the Third Mass of Christmas GT 47-48 The Structure Pitches



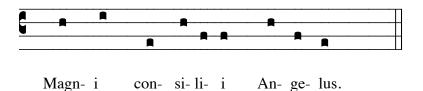
Pu- er na- tus est no- bis et fi- li- us da-tus est no- bis:



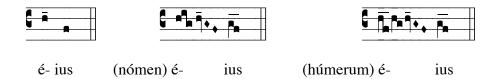
cu- ius im-per- i- um su- per hu-me-rum e- ius:



et vo-ca-bi- tur no-men e- ius

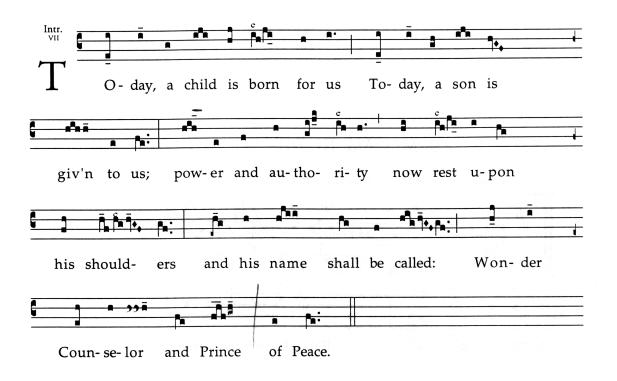


Embellishments for the word *eius*:



The greater embellishment is used for the *eius* (his) of the more important word *humerum* (his shoulder). This little infant carries the **entire universe** on his [little] shoulder!





# FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



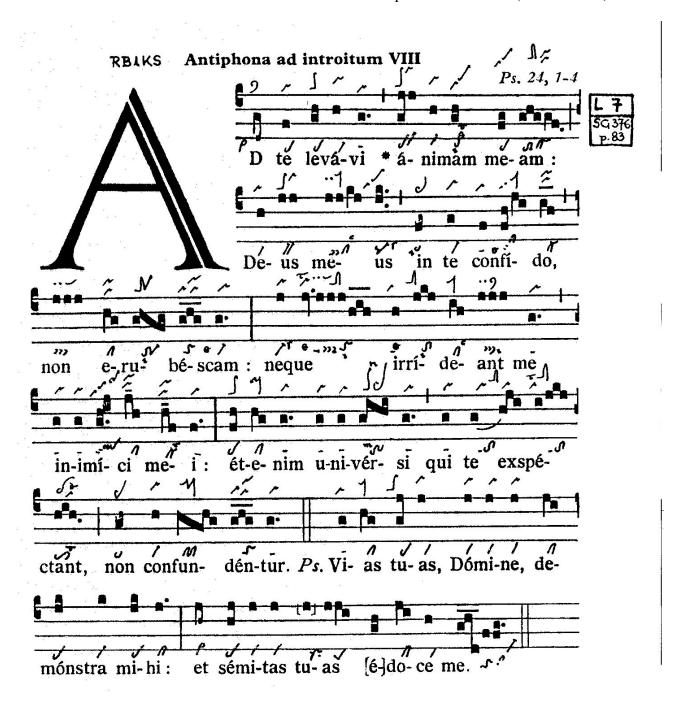
Text: ICEL

Music: Columba Kelly © Saint Meinrad Archabbey 2011

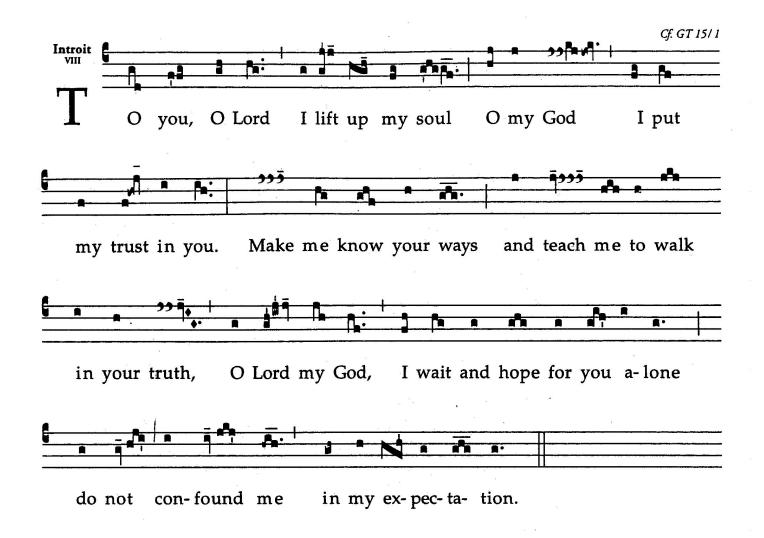
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# The Latin original as found in the Graduale Triplex, page 15

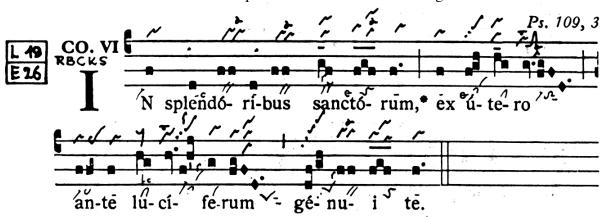
The neumes above the staff are from the Manuscript Laon 239 (circa 920 AD) The neumes below the staff are from the Manuscript Einsiedieln 121 (circa 970 Ad)



The square notes on the staff give us the exact pitches and basic grouping of the notes of the melody. The neume designs above and below the staff show us rhythmic nuances of the forward flow of the melody as might be indicated by a conductor's hand gestures for the singers to follow.



The Communion Antiphon for the Christmas Midnight Mass



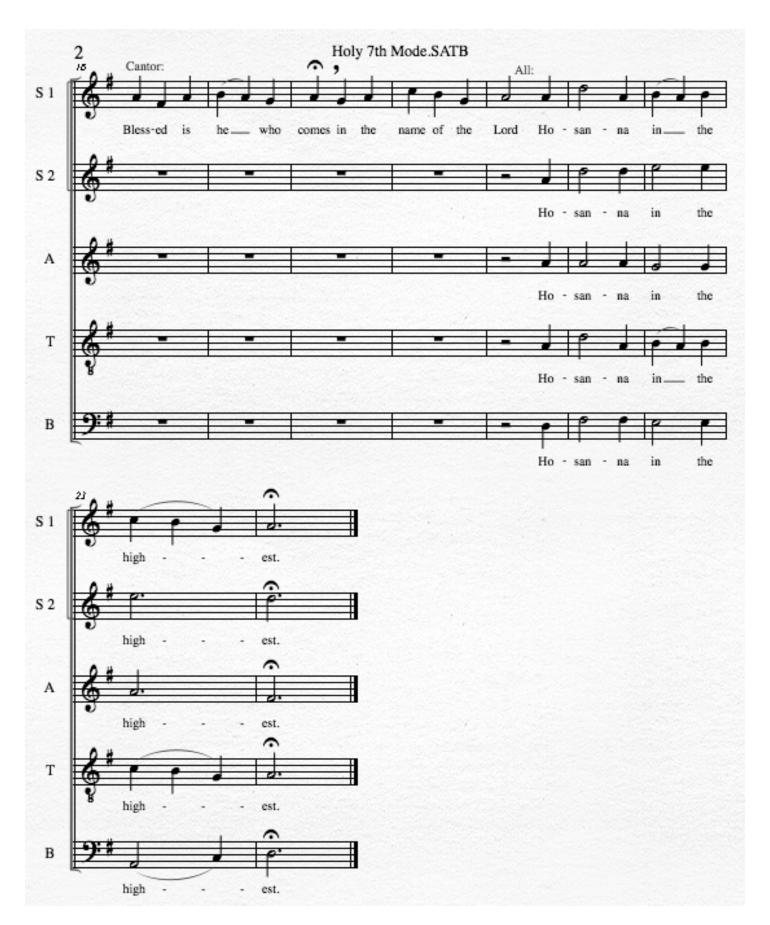
Speak the text with great energy and a sense of excitement: "i-----N spen- dor - i- bu-----s etc. Then sing the melody with the same rhythm and expression.

The neumes above and below the staff are a director's gestures to get you to sing it that way!

New ICEL text for the Holy, Holy



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# **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Some WWW Addresses:

http://abbaye.solesmes.free.fr/GB/entree.php?js=1

The official web site for the abbey of Solesmes.

http://www.giamusic.com/sacred music/music search.cfm

Responsorial Psalms for Advent/Christmas and Lent/Easter.

http://www.ocp.org/en/products/music/16571.php

The Passion according to St. John.

http://www.saintmeinrad.edu/monastery\_liturgicalmusic.aspx

St. Meinrad Liturgical Music:

Paraclete Press:

http://www.paracletepress.com/nstore/store.php?cat=133&ID=4

Saint Meinrad music

Basic chant books:

Liber Cantualis ISBN 2-85274-040-0

Graduale Triplex, ISBN 2-85274-055-03

(Available either from Solesmes or Paraclete Press)

Gregorian Chant a guide, by Dom Daniel Saulnier

Solesmes, 2003, ISBN 2-85274-241-1

An Overview of Gregorian Chant by Dom Eugène Cardine.

Translated by Dom Gregory Casprini, (Orleans, MA: Paraclete Press) 1992.

Beginning Studies in Gregorian Chant By Dom Eugène Cardine.

Translated by William Tortolano. (Chicago: G.I.A. Publications) 1988.

Gregorian Semiology by Dom Eugène Cardine. Translated by Dr. Robert Fowel[1]s, (Solesmes) 1982.

*Gregorian Chant Intonations and the Role of Rhetoric* by Columba Kelly (The Edwin Mellen Press, 2003. ISBN 0-7734-6872-2).

An Introduction to the Interpretation of Gregorian Chant by Columba Kelly (The Edwin Mellen Press, 2006. ISBN 0-7734-5993-6).