

Tridentine Community News

March 11, 2018 – Fourth Sunday of Lent – Lætáre Sunday

First Permission Granted for Pre-1955 Holy Week

One of the most hotly debated subjects among traditional liturgy fans is use of the pre-1955 Holy Week. Fans of the old Holy Week prefer its more cohesive liturgies, despite the unusualness (to modern sensibilities) of the Easter Vigil typically being held on Saturday morning.

For many years, several churches globally, including some diocesan parishes and churches administered by the Institute of Christ the King, have offered some or all of the Holy Week liturgies according to the pre-1955 form, without having obtained any permission from the Vatican. This is ill-advised; traditional Catholics cannot flaunt the rubrics of the Church, lest it put them in the same basket as liturgical abusers encountered at certain Ordinary Form Masses.

Fortunately a solution is at hand: The February 18, 2018 bulletin of the Priestly Fraternity of St. Peter's Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish in Littleton, Colorado announced that the Pontifical Commission Ecclésia Dei has granted several parishes of the FSSP permission to use the pre-1955 Holy Week, provided that each parish also

secures permission from the FSSP Superior. This is the first time that the PCED has ever allowed the old Holy Week to be used. The Latin Mass Society of England and Wales learned that the permission has been granted *ad experimentum*, for three years, 2018, 2019, and 2020. Now those parishes that wish to offer the old Holy Week can follow the precedent established by the FSSP and request permission of the Holy See to do so.

It was only within the last few years that this writer recalls the Ecclésia Dei Commission stating that it did not have the authority to permit use of the old Holy Week, since its charter was to oversee the 1962 liturgy, not any earlier version. This new ruling clearly reverses the earlier determination.

A thorough comparison of the pre- and post-1955 Holy Week may be read here: <http://www.newliturgicalmovement.org/2009/03/compendium-of-1955-holy-week-revisions.html#.WqIE7-gbOC0>

Comments? Ideas for a future column? Please e-mail info@windsorlatinmass.org. Previous columns are available at www.windsorlatinmass.org.

Bloomfield Chant Tools App Arguably Obsoletes the Rossini Propers

Previous columns have described Rossini's *Proper of the Mass* book, which sets the Gregorian Propers of the Mass to simpler Psalm Tones; and the Android and iOS "Chant Tools" app written by Benjamin Bloomfield, son of Deacon Richard and Debbie Bloomfield. Readers may recall that a pilgrim showed the Chant Tools app to Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI. Recently our local choir director extraordinaire (in both senses of the word), Wassim Sarweh, noticed that Benjamin's upgrades to Chant Tools have provided a resource that has made the Rossini Propers effectively obsolete.

No longer just a mobile app, Chant Tools now runs from a web site, too:

<https://bbloomfield.io/jgabc/propers.html>. It now provides the incredible functionality of printing the entire Chant Propers and Ordinary [from the *Aspérges* to the *Kyrie* on down], menu-driven, on a single, comprehensive set of pages. Everything a choir would need for a Gregorian Chant Mass can be printed quickly and conveniently on one print run.

The screenshot shows the Bloomfield Chant Tools web application interface. At the top, there are navigation tabs: GABC Transcription Tool, Psalm Tone Tool, Readings Tool, Propers Tool (selected), and (About). A PDF icon and 'Further PDF options' are also visible. Below the navigation, there are several dropdown menus: 'Calendar: Traditional', '4th Sunday in Lent', 'Proper of the Saints...', 'Votive/Other Masses...', and 'Mass 17 - For the Sundays of Advent and Lent'. On the right side, there are more options: 'Mixed Propers', 'No Aspérges', '(Show Editor) Mode 5', and 'Psalm Toned'. The main content area displays the Introit 'Lætáre Jerúsalem' with Gregorian chant notation on a four-line staff. The text of the Introit is: 'INTR. V Lætáre Jerúsalem: et convéntum fáci-te omnes qui di-lí-gi-tis e-am: gaudé-te cum lætí-ti-a, * qui in tristí-ti-a fu-ístis: 2. Ut exsulté-tis, et sa-ti-émini * ab ubé-ribus conso-

If you like Rossini's Psalm Tone Propers, just specify the Feast Day you want [yes, most if not all of the liturgical year is selectable], with the "Psalm Toned" option for the Introit, Gradual, Offertory, et al. You will be provided with the text of the Propers and accompanying Chant notation. How is this better than Rossini? Rossini has the text of the Propers for many weeks' Feast Days on one page, sometimes far beneath the notes, making it difficult to match the words with the notes at the top of the page.

This is a clear example of modern technology working for the benefit of the Church. Well done, Benjamin!

Tridentine Masses This Coming Week

Tue. 03/12 7:00 PM: Low Mass at Holy Name of Mary, Windsor (Tuesday in the Fourth Week of Lent)

Sat. 03/17 8:30 AM: Low Mass at Miles Christi (Saturday in the Fourth Week of Lent)