



**To:**Most Rev. Daniel E. Thomas  
**From:**Daniel Craig  


24 August 2013 — *Saint Bartholomew the Apostle*

Dear Committee on Divine Worship,

It has now been four (4) months since I first wrote to you, seeking an answer to my question. At this point, I have written to each member of your Committee on the following dates:

**24 April 2013**

**19 June 2013**

**15 July 2013**

. . . but my question (**please see page 2**) remains unanswered.

I am beginning to despair of ever receiving a response. I have incurred considerable postage costs trying to obtain a reply from your committee. It's very difficult for me to understand why an answer cannot be given to a question that is, frankly, rather basic.

For your convenience, I have once again typed out my question (**please see page 2**). To read six (6) pages of documentation, please reference my initial inquiry mailed to each member of your Committee on 4/24/2013.

*Thank you so much for your kind assistance in this matter!*

Sincerely yours,

**Included in mailing:** CARDINAL PREFECT ANTONIO CAÑIZARES LLOVERA MOST REV. DANIEL E. THOMAS  
MOST REV. OCTAVIO CISNEROS MOST REV. DANIEL E. FLORES MOST REV. RONALD P. HERZOG  
MOST REV. ARTHUR J. SERRATELLI MOST REV. EDWARD K. BRAXTON JUSTIN F. CARDINAL RIGALI  
FRANCIS CARDINAL GEORGE DANIEL N. CARDINAL DINARDO ARCHBISHOP GREGORY MICHAEL AYMOND

## Question

On 20 November 2012, the Secretariat of Divine Worship confirmed that “local musicians” are allowed to replace the *Entrance Chant* with an alternate text and/or melody under the 4th Option of the G.I.R.M. even if this text/melody lacks approval *so long as it does not appear inside a collection.*

That contradicts the current G.I.R.M. which says the *Entrance Chant* can only be replaced with “another liturgical chant . . . **approved by the Conference of Bishops or the Diocesan Bishop.**”

— Which statement are we bound to follow as Catholics?

### REMINDER:

The current GIRM (§367) says: In choosing the chants between the readings, as well as the chants at the Entrance, at the Offertory, and at Communion, the norms laid down in their proper places are to be observed (cf. nos. 40-41, 47-48, 61-64, 74, 86-88).