

### 3 September 1958 Vatican document issued under Pope Pius XII:

27. With regard to sung Masses, the following must also be noted:

a. If a priest and his ministers enter the church by a rather long route, nothing forbids, after the chanting of the *antiphon of the Introit and its versicle*, the chanting of many other verses of the same psalm.

In this case, the antiphon can be repeated after every one of two verses, and when the priest has reached the altar, the psalm is broken off, and if necessary, the *Gloria Patri* is sung and the antiphon repeated.

b. *Following the Offertory antiphon*, it is proper to sing in the ancient Gregorian modes the verses which were once sung after the antiphon.

If the Offertory antiphon is taken from some psalm, the other verses of the same psalm may be chanted. In such cases, the antiphon may be repeated after every one or two verses of the psalm and, when the Offertory of the Mass is completed, the psalm should be concluded with the *Gloria Patri* and the repeated antiphon.

If the antiphon is not taken from a psalm, a psalm suitable to the solemnity may be chosen. Moreover, when the Offertory antiphon is finished, one may chant some short Latin hymn, which must, however, be in keeping with that part of the Mass and not be prolonged beyond the *Secret*.

c. *The Communion antiphon* must be chanted while the celebrant is receiving the Most Blessed Sacrament. If the faithful are to communicate, the singing of the antiphon is to begin when the priest distributes Holy Communion. If this Communion antiphon has been taken from some psalm, the other verses of the same psalm may be sung, in which case the antiphon may be repeated after every one or two verses and, the Communion over, the psalm should be concluded with the *Gloria Patri* and the repeated antiphon. But if the antiphon is not taken from a psalm, one may choose a psalm fitting to the solemnity of the liturgical action.

When the Communion antiphon is completed, another short Latin hymn in keeping with the sacred act may also be sung, especially if the people's Communion is prolonged.

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