

Fr. Adrian Fortescue :

the question who chose our old propers as one of the many unknown details of the origin of our rite. The new ones are arranged by someone appointed by the Congregation of Rites and approved by it. As for why certain verses were chosen for certain days, that question too is full of difficulty. On many days the reason is obvious. When a feast has a marked character and a verse can be found that suits it, it is chosen, often with great skill.² The propers of Christ-

so, as the Eastern liturgies show. Or consider the rites of other Sacraments. Baptism has an elaborate service that may be compared to the Mass. But whatever day one baptizes the service is exactly the same. We do not change the prayers of Baptism so as to remember the Saint of the day. The difference is, of course, that Mass was always more a public act, the common worship of the community; so it would more naturally conform to the divine office, which is the origin of the variable idea.

¹ P.L. lxxviii, 641-724. It has been again revised since Gregory ; but its fundamental arrangement goes back to him.

² A glance through the old *propria* will be a new revelation of how well our fathers knew their Bibles. The finding of texts, often in remote places, that fit the occasion so perfectly argues that they must almost have known the Bible by heart.



<https://ccwatershed.org/hymn>

NE OF THE main authors for the Church Music Association of America's blog declared (6/10/2022) that the *Father Brébeuf Hymnal* "**has no parallel and not even any close competitor.**" That author also said (6/10/2019) of the *Brébeuf Hymnal* that it's "hands down, the best Catholic hymnal ever published. [...] It is such a fantastic hymnal that it deserves to be in the pews of every Catholic church."