

# PLAINSONG PROPERS

ADVENT TO SEPTUAGESIMA

BOOK ONE

by the Sisters of the Most Precious Blood O'Fallon, Missouri With Ecclesiastical Approval Archdiocese of St.Louis September 21, 1964

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**Northing** is more nerve-racking than programming a hymn for Mass only to discover that nobody else knows it—which leaves the poor musician singing all alone, trying desperately not to crumble.

The **Saint John Brébeuf Hymnal** uses an inspired series of **"common melodies"** with powerful texts for <u>each feast</u> of the liturgical year: the Baptism of the Lord, the Epiphany, the Ascension, Ordinary Time, and so forth. This strategy means your congregation can be gently weaned off the secular, Broadway-inspired, undignified hymns that have become all too common since the 1970s.

One of the main writers for the official blog of the Church Music Association of America declared (6/10/2022) that the Brébeuf Hymnal **"has no parallel and not even any close competitor."** 

Explore the game-changing book everyone is talking about:

https://ccwatershed.org/hymn/

#### FOREWORD

Several important considerations have converged to induce us to publish Plainsong Propers and "Plainsong Masses X and XVI" (on cards) in English. Foremost among these is the desire to maintain the "genius of the Roman Rite," that is, the chanting of Psalms or other Scripture texts at four key moments in the Eucharistic celebrations. By chanting the words of Sacred Scripture, the People of God make their commitment in the very words which God has given them: 1) when they assemble before his face, at the Entrance Song; 2) when they respond to his present message to them, at the Gradual; 3) when they gather round his altar bearing gifts, at the Offertory; 4) when they share "com-UNION" with God and with their fellow-Christians in the Eucharistic Banquet, at Communion.

A second consideration has been the fact that a real living Faith demands that man approach the all-holy God with great reverence. The transcendence of God, His essential "otherness" requires that man meet him in language, song, and gestures which are above those of his worka-day life. (It seems to be taken for granted that people "dress up" to go to Holy Mass on Sunday.) We believe that this innate need for the exalted is satisfied by Gregorian melodies. In them one experiences a sense of the sacred.

On the other hand, since the melodies contained in this booklet and on the cards are simple, basic ones, they are universal enough to be true expressions of worship for all. Nor are they so highly ornate, that they would require professional training. Hence we feel confident that by these publications we are carrying out the directives of the CON-STITUTION ON THE SACRED LITURGY:

"The treasury of sacred music is to be preserved and fostered with great care...to insure that, whenever the sacred action is to be celebrated with song, the whole body of the faithful may be able to contribute that active participation which is theirs." #114

"The Church acknowledges Gregorian chant as specially suited to the Roman liturgy: therefore, other things being equal, it should be given pride of place in liturgical services."#116 **TIS NEW COLLECTION,** with its marvelous CHORAL SUPPLEMENT and 3-volume (spiral bound) ORGAN ACCOMPANIMENT, has been described as "the peerless and indispensable resource for any parish musician <u>serious</u> about authentic Catholic music." • https://ccwatershed.org/hymn/

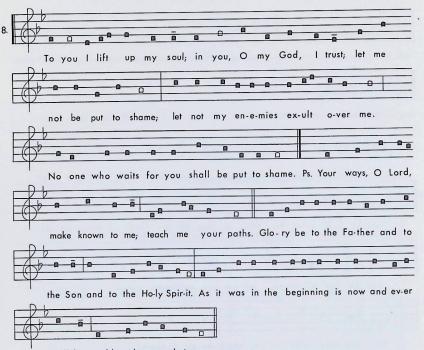
A few practical observations in regard to the music may be in order here. In the first place, since the melodies are meant to clothe the text, the speed of movement which best expresses the sacred words and which is most suitable to their liturgical function is most desirable. In most cases, a light flowing movement is preferable. The horizontal episema indicates a slight prolongation. The open white note is to be interpreted as a note of double time value. Although the propers have been composed primarily for parish choirs, many of the shorter melodies could very easily be sung by the congregation.

We wish to express sincere gratitude to Mr. Bernard Benziger for checking texts for us, and to N.C.W.C. for sending us photostatic copies of the official texts.

A very special word of acknowledgment is due to the late Dom Ermin Vitry, O.S.B., who bequeathed to the Sisters of the Most Precious Blood the fruits of his many years of research and study in Gregorian chant. His careful and authoritative analyses of hundreds of Gregorian antiphons have been the chief reference in the work of adapting these melodies to the vernacular texts.

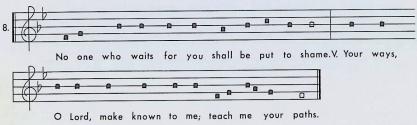
## FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

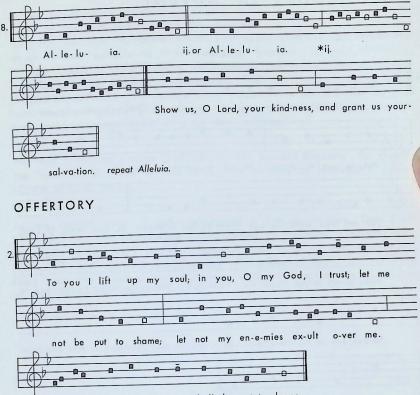
#### ENTRANCE HYMN



shall be world with-out end. A-men.

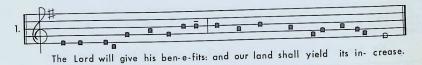
#### GRADUAL





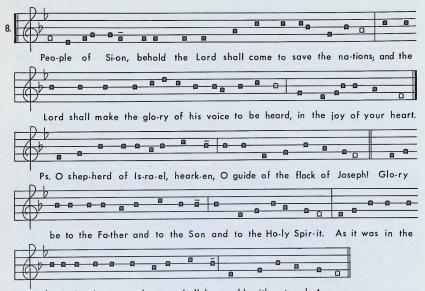
No one who waits for you shall be put to shame.

#### COMMUNION



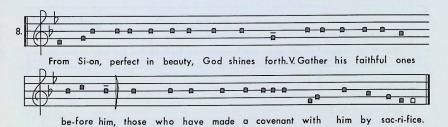
### SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

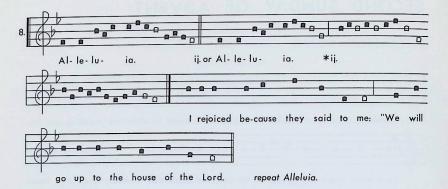
#### ENTRANCE SONG



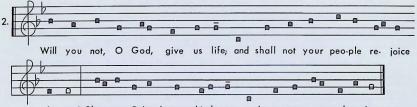
beginning is now and ev-er shall be world with-out end. A-men.

#### GRADUAL



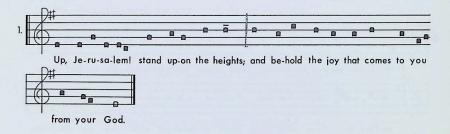


#### OFFERTORY



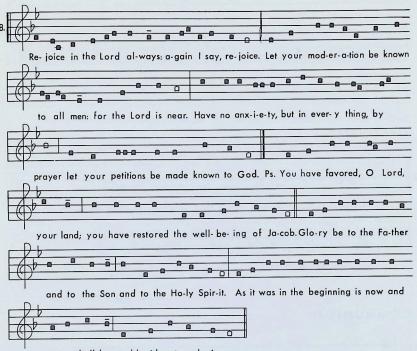
in you? Show us, O Lord, your kind- ness, and grant us your sal-va-tion.

#### COMMUNION



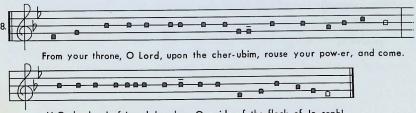
### THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

#### ENTRANCE SONG



ev-er shall be world with-out end. A-men.

#### GRADUAL



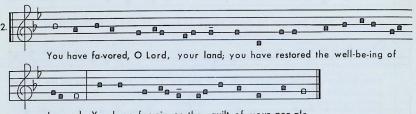
V. O shepherd of Israel, hearken, O guide of the flock of Jo-seph!



Rouse, O Lord, your pow-er, and come to save us.

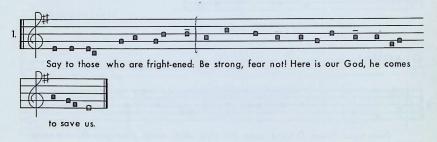
repeat Alleluia.

#### OFFERTORY



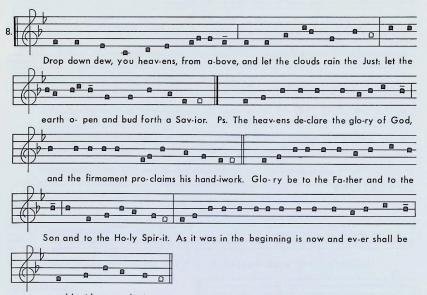
Ja- cob. You have for-giv- en the guilt of your peo-ple.

#### COMMUNION



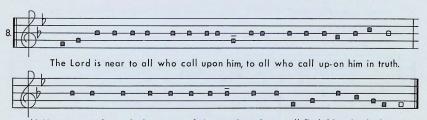
### FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

#### ENTRANCE SONG



world with-out end. A-men.

#### GRADUAL



V. May my mouth speak the praise of the Lord, and may all flesh bless his ho-ly name.



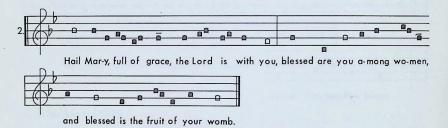
Come, O Lord, and de-lay not; for-give the sins of your



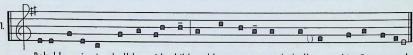
peo-ple Is-rael.

repeat Alleluia.

OFFERTORY



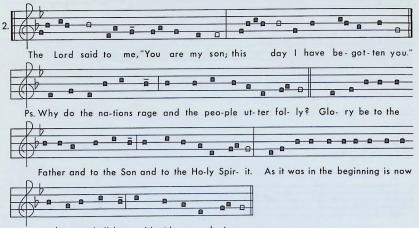
#### COMMUNION



Behold, a vir-gin shall be with child and bear a son, and shall name him Em-man-u-el.

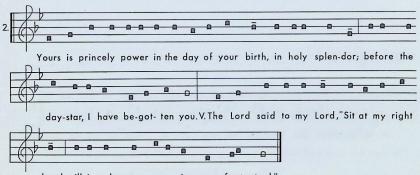
## MIDNIGHT MASS OF CHRISTMAS

#### ENTRANCE SONG



and ev-er shall be world with-out end. A-men.

#### GRADUAL



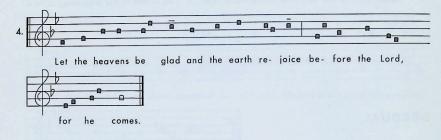
hand, till I make your en-e-mies your foot-stool."



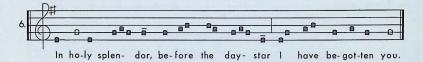
said to me, "You are my son; this day I have be-got-ten you." repeat Alleluia.

J

#### OFFERTORY

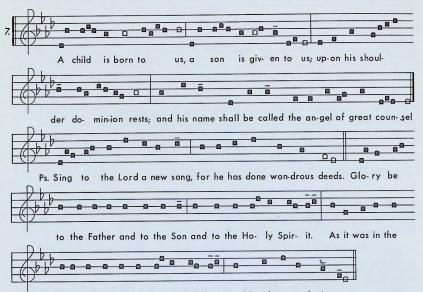


#### COMMUNION



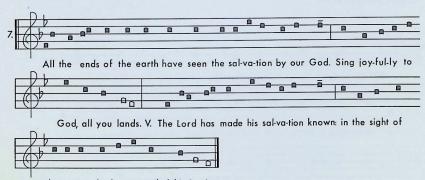
## THIRD MASS OF CHRISTMAS

#### ENTRANCE SONG

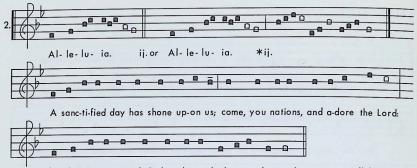


beginning is now and ev-er shall be world with-out end. A-men.

#### GRADUAL

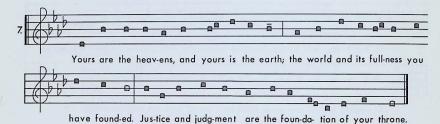


the nations he has re-vealed his jus-tice.



for this day a great light has descend-ed up-on the earth. repeat Alleluia.

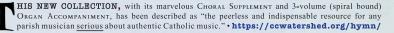
#### OFFERTORY



#### COMMUNION

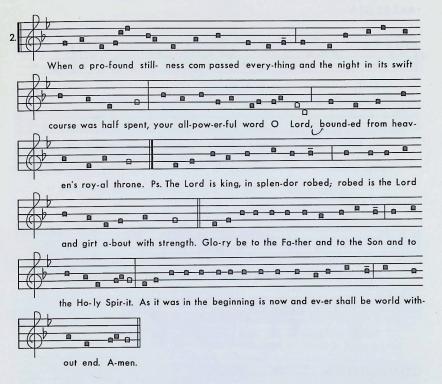


All the ends of the earth have seen the sal-va- tion by our God.

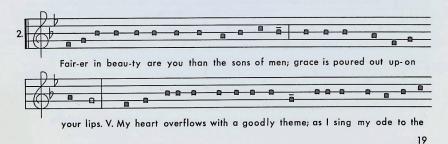


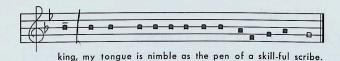
## SUNDAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF CHRISTMAS

#### ENTRANCE SONG



GRADUAL





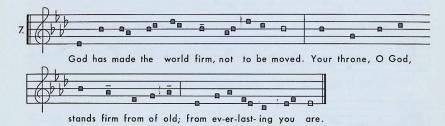


is king, in splen-dor robed; robed is the Lord and girt a-bout with strength.

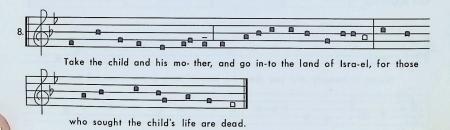
1

repeat Alleluia.

#### OFFERTORY

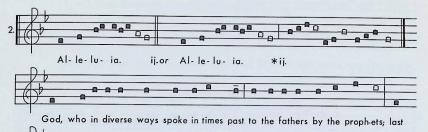


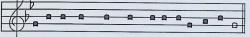
#### COMMUNION



## THE OCTAVE OF CHRISTMAS

ALL AS AT THE THIRD MASS OF CHRISTMAS EXCEPT: ALLELUIA





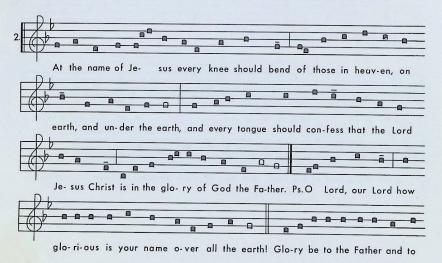
of all, in these days, has spoken to us by his son.

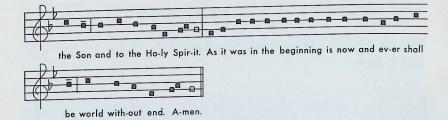
repeat Alleluia.

## FEAST OF THE HOLY NAME

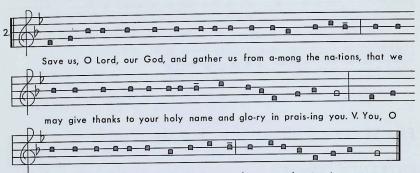
#### ENTRANCE SONG

1





#### GRADUAL



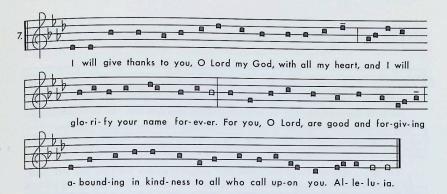
Lord, are our Father and our Re-deem-er, from ev-er-last-ing is your name.

#### ALLELUIA

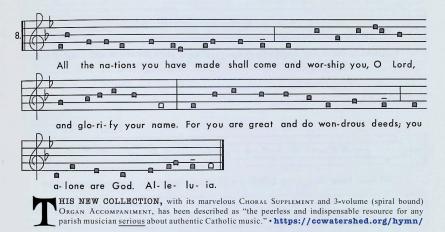


d'E

### OFFERTORY

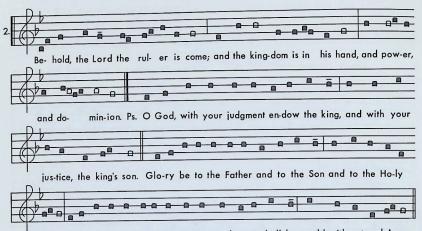


#### COMMUNION



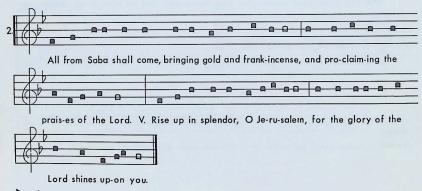
### EPIPHANY

#### ENTRANCE SONG



Spir-it. As it was in the beginning is now and ev-er shall be world with-out end. A-men.

#### GRADUAL

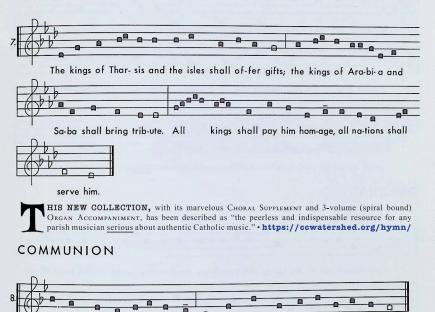


HIS NEW COLLECTION, with its marvelous CHORAL SUPPLEMENT and 3-volume (spiral bound) ORGAN ACCOMPANIMENT, has been described as "the peerless and indispensable resource for any parish musician <u>serious</u> about authentic Catholic music." • https://ccwatershed.org/hymn/



We have seen his star in the East; and have come with gifts to wor-ship the Lord.

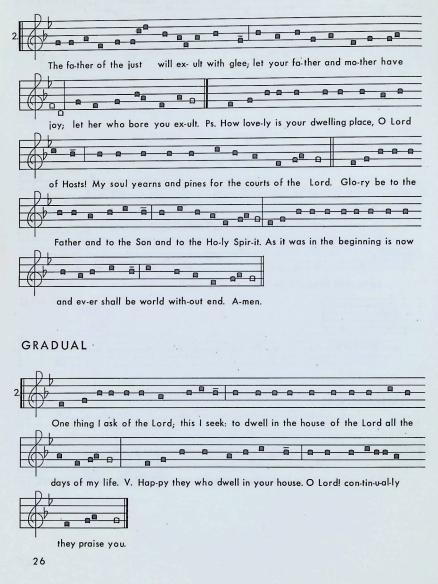
#### OFFERTORY

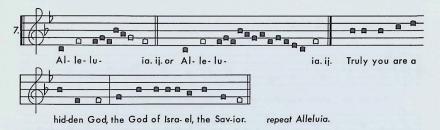


We have seen his star in the East; and have come with gifts to wor-ship the Lord.

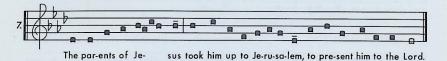
## FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

#### ENTRANCE SONG





#### OFFERTORY



#### COMMUNION

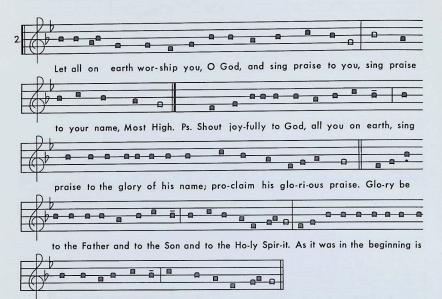




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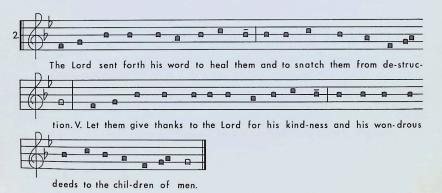
## SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

#### ENTRANCE SONG

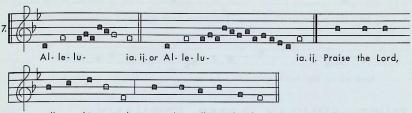


now and ev-er shall be world with-out end. A-men.

#### GRADUAL



ks , - i me

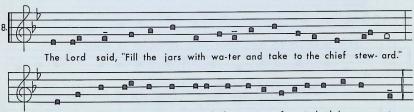


all you his an-gels, praise him, all you his hosts. repeat Alleluia.

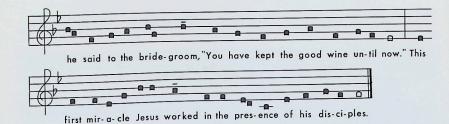
#### OFFERTORY



#### COMMUNION

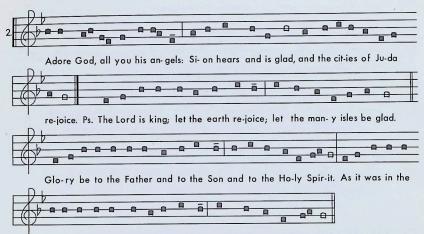


When the chief stew- ard had tasted the wa-ter aft-er it had be-come wine,



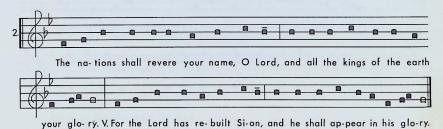
## THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

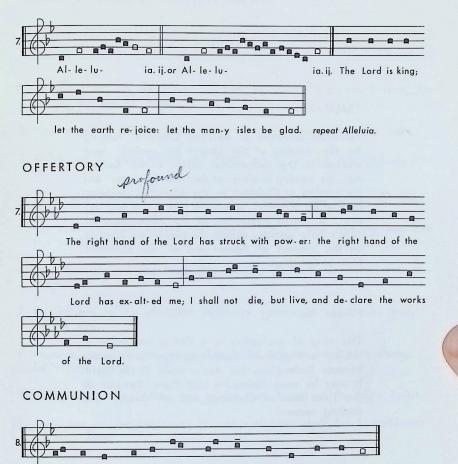




beginning is now and ev-er shall be world with-out end. A-men.

#### GRADUAL





All mar-velled at the words that came from the mouth of God.

# FOURTH, FIFTH, AND SIXTH SUNDAYS AFTER EPIPHANY AS ON THE THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

**HIS NEW COLLECTION,** with its marvelous CHORAL SUPPLEMENT and 3-volume (spiral bound) ORGAN ACCOMPANIMENT, has been described as "the peerless and indispensable resource for any parish musician serious about authentic Catholic music." • https://ccwatershed.org/hymn/

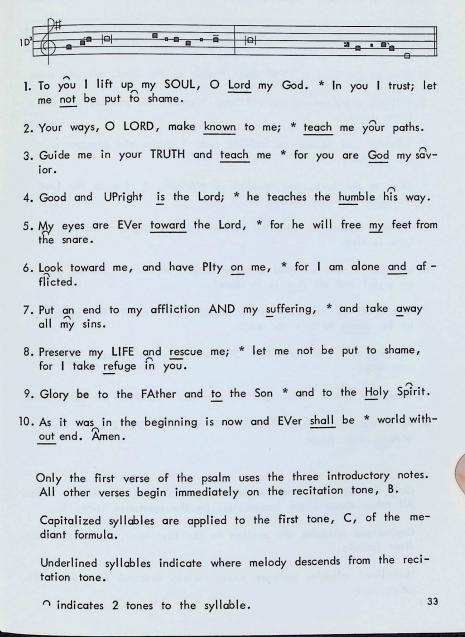
#### PSALM 24

Psalm 24 expresses so well the Church's longing for the coming of the Lord-- his coming here and now in the sacramental action of the Eucharist, his coming in glory at the end of time, and his coming at Christmas in the liturgical re-enactment of his merciful advent in time. This text is, then, a fitting expression of the commitment of God's holy people, during the Eucharistic Banquet on the Sundays of Advent and at the Midnight Mass of Christmas.

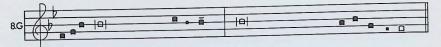
#### PSALM 95

This song of exultation is a fitting expression of the joy and gladness experienced by God's people, because Redemption has again come to the world. It may be sung during the Eucharistic Banquet at the Third Mass of Christmas and all through the ensuing season.

#### PSALM 24 (excerpts) ADVENT SEASON



## PSALM 95 (excerpts) CHRISTMAS AND EPIPHANY SEASON



- 1. Sing to the Lord a NEW song; \* sing to the Lord, all you lands.
- 2. Tell his glory among the NAtions; \* among all people, his won drous deeds.
- 3. Splendor and majesty go beFORE him; \* praise and grandeur are in his sanctuary.
- 4. Give to the Lord, you families of NAtions, \* give to the Lord the glory due his name.
- 5. Tremble before him ALL the earth; \* say among the nations: the Lord is king.
- 6. Let the heavens be glad and the EARTH rejoice; \* let the plains be joyful and all that is in them!
- 7. Then shall all the trees of the forest exult beFORE the Lord; \* for he comes to rule the earth.
- 8. He shall rule the world with JUStice \* and the people with his constancy.
- 9. Glory be to the Father and TO the Son \* and to the Holy Spirit.
- 10. As it was in the beginning is now and ever SHALL be \* world without end. Amen.

Only the first verse of the psalm uses the three introductory notes. All other verses begin immediately on the recitation tone, B.

Capitalized syllables are applied to the first tone, C, of the mediant formula.

Underlined syllables indicate where melody descends from the recitation tone.



Are you a Roman Catholic music director? Explore the terrific new resources available to you! As of 15 April 2023, more than 900 free rehearsal videos have been uploaded to the Brébeuf Hymn Portal—and they're free to download, without even a login! The Brébeuf Hymnal set, which includes the marvelous CHORAL SUPPLEMENT and 3-volume spiral bound ORGAN ACCOMPANIMENT, has been described as "the peerless and indispensable resource for any parish musician serious about authentic Catholic music."





#### A message we received on 5 December 2023:

**THOUGHT** I'd take the time to say this: This Christmas time, I've had the chance to sit down and play through the hymns in the *Saint Jean de Brébeuf Hymnal*. I'm by no means a great organist—but most of the Catholic hymnals I've played contain arrangements that are clunky and non-intuitive. The one happy exception was the *New Saint Basil Hymnal*.

However, having now played through the hymns as in the *Brébeuf Hymnal*, I can happily affirm: it has the best arrangement of hymns since the *New Saint Basil Hymnal*. They are both beautiful and accessible. **You have gathered the best** from Catholic hymnals throughout the world, and it has done wonders promoting congregational singing in our church since we have adopted it.

Thank you for all the hard work and dedication that went into making the hymnal, as well as making it so easy to use for both singer and pew-sitter. Merry Christmas to you and yours.

—Director of Music Saint Philip's Catholic Church [Further details withheld for anonymity's sake.]