

## Re: The Pipe Organ

As described in:

### MUSICAE SACRAE

*Encyclical of Pope Pius XII on Sacred Music* (25 December 1955)

Here's the (full and complete) sentence in Latin :

*Ipse autem cantus choralis qui a Sancto Gregorio, eius instauratore, « Gregorianus » appellari coeptus est, inde a saeculo VIII vel IX in omnibus fere Europae christianae regionibus solus non fuit ad cultus splendorem conferendum, cum in sacris aedibus instrumentum, quod « organum » dicitur, adhibitum esset.*

In the 1950s, the United States Bishops' Conference translated it thus :

14. Gregorian chant attained new beauty in almost all parts of Christian Europe after the 8th or 9th century because of its accompaniment (!) by a new musical instrument called the “organ.”

Here's a correct translation:

14. “Gregorian chant was **not the only means** in the 8th and 9th centuries by which ... new splendour was being added to worship, inasmuch as the use in churches **of the musical instrument called** the organ had already begun.”

**Note • As of 2 May 2023, the erroneous (bizarre) translation is still printed on the Vatican website.** They are off by at least half a millennium.