

Under Pope Pius XII, the Sacred Congregation for Rites issued *De musica sacra et sacra liturgia* (“Instruction on Sacred Music and Sacred Liturgy”) on 3 September 1958.

An excerpt:

59. Therefore, the *authentic* Gregorian chant is that which is found in the “typical” Vatican editions, or which is approved by the Sacred Congregation of Rites for some particular church or religious community, and so it must be reproduced only by editors who have proper authorization, accurately and completely, as regards both melodies and the texts.

The signs, called *rhythmica*, which have been privately introduced into Gregorian chant, are permitted, provided that the force and meaning of the notes found in the Vatican books of liturgical chant are preserved.