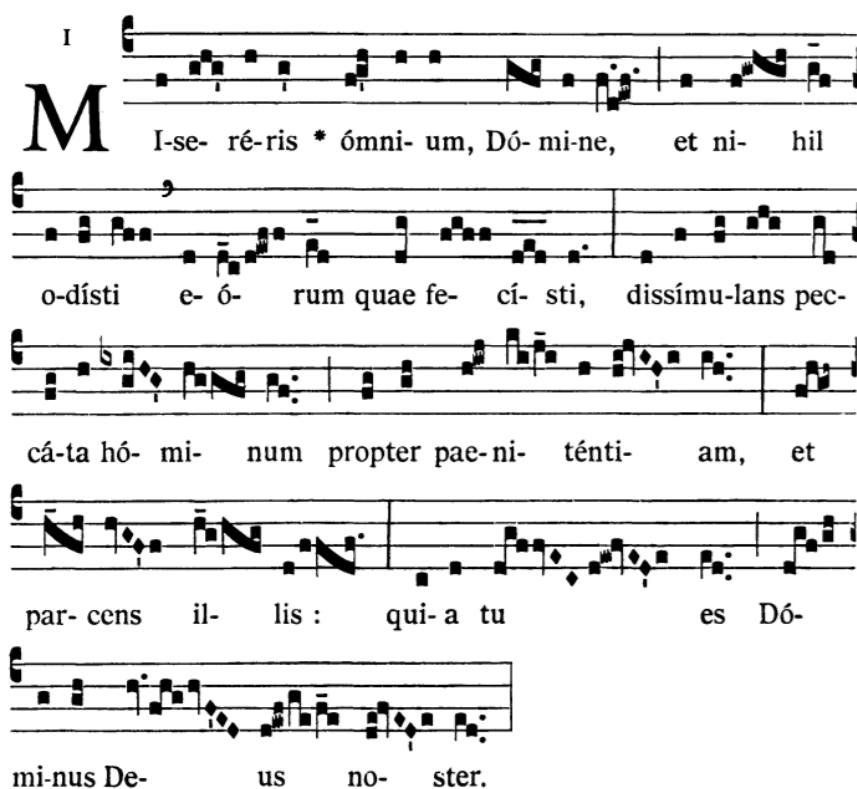


About the Simplified Latin Propers

The Graduale Romanum is THE book of music for the Catholic Mass, which every parish ought to aspire to sing. However, they can be very challenging. Psalm tone alternatives are useful, but can get boring if overused. As many composers have done for English chant, I have set the Latin propers to simpler melodies that follow the same mode and basic melodic shape. The incipit is kept most of the time, and many of the most characteristic melismas. The Solemnis edition is the starting point, and the method of choosing structural pitches laid out by Fr. Kelly is followed, for the most part. I hope some scholas find this a useful alternative when there isn't time to learn all the original propers.

Here is an example from the introit for Ash Wednesday.

Original Chant



The original chant is written on five staves. It begins with a large 'M' and a '1' above the first staff. The lyrics are: **M** I-se-ré-ris * ómni-um, Dó-mi-ne, et ni-hil o-dísti e-ó-rum quae fe-cí-sti, dissímu-lans pec-cá-ta hó-mi-num propter pae-ni-ténti-am, et par-cens il-lis : qui-a tu es Dó-mi-nus De-us no-ster.

Simplified Latin Propers

Wis 11 : 24-25, 27 ; Ps 56



The simplified propers are written on three staves. It begins with a large 'M' and 'Intr' above the first staff. The lyrics are: **M** I-se-ré-ris * ómni-um, Dómi-ne, et ni-hil odísti e-ó-rum quae fe-cí-sti, dissí-mu-lans peccá-ta hómi-num propter pae-ni-tén-ti-am, et par-cens il-lis : qui-a tu es Dóminus De-us noster.