



A workshop to introduce new settings of the Ordinary of the Mass to cantors, music leaders and other liturgical ministers

These notes – which describe workshops tried and tested elsewhere – are provided to help less experienced leaders lead a workshop for ministers from their deanery, area, or diocese.

It is suggested that the workshop is divided into 3 sessions of 45 minutes, with a brief break between sessions 2 and 3 for stretching and talking to neighbours. A longer break between session 2 and 3 should be provided to allow people to browse printed settings and resources.

<p>Session 1</p>	<p>Launch straight in with the music rather than inviting comments on the new translation - unless you particularly wish to spend the whole time dwelling on the meaning and intention of the word 'consubstantial' or whether to beat one's breast once or thrice during the <i>Confiteor</i>. Sing the Missal chant and any setting adopted by your Diocese or Deanery, along with something new you feel confident and comfortable leading which has worked well in your own parish or school or worshipping community. Point participants towards helpful resources.</p>
<p>Session 2</p>	<p>Revised settings - noting the risk of falling back into singing the old text along with the familiar melody.</p>
<p>Session 3</p>	<p>New settings - concentrate on those which suit your style because if you make something sound difficult in your presentation, it won't appeal. In order to offer variety beyond your skill-set, consider playing a recording of a setting which is very different to the style in which you usually worship and feel comfortable. This will also help those participants who learn by ear and can't read music.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Give them as take away sheet the <i>Keep Calm and sing the Mass</i> handout which can be downloaded from the Society of Saint Gregory website (www.ssg.org.uk) • Give them a flyer for the Society of Saint Gregory, so that they can learn how the Society can support and encourage them in their ministry, and request a free copy of <i>Music and Liturgy</i>. (Flyers are available from your Diocesan SSG rep.)

Practical Tips

1. Produce a workshop sheet for participants giving the music that you intend to introduce. If the sheets are collected in at the end of the session, or if at the very least if sheets are clearly labelled *For Workshop Use Only*, and only contain the congregational setting for parts of a Mass you will not need to obtain copyright permission for these sheets.

Be sure that your sheets include

- Mass settings for parishes where there are no or very limited musical resources –good, basic, simple, easy to learn and sing
- Mass settings for music groups of basic/mixed ability/mixed instruments
- Mass settings for choirs... to lead assembly

In all cases include details of publisher, and if the item is included in, for example, the latest editions of *Laudate* or *Celebration Hymnal for Everyone*.

2. Provide a further music list, which participants can annotate as they go along, as it may be tricky otherwise for them to remember which one they particularly liked from all the settings with exactly the same texts, especially if they don't read music. Again ensure

that you include details of publisher, and if the item is included in, for example, the latest editions of *Laudate* or *Celebration Hymnal for Everyone*.

3. Ensure that, across the workshop, various styles are represented, including contemporary, guitar-led, cantor-led, choral harmonies. Demonstrate at least one setting unaccompanied, for the benefit of those participants whose parishes don't have any instrumentalists.
4. Encourage any priests present to sing their introductions to the Great Amen, and Memorial Acclamations in particular; perhaps also to sing a through-composed Doxology, or intone a new *Gloria*.
5. Take any printed copies of settings you have, or can get your hands on, so that participants can see and hold what they may soon need to buy. NB Decani Music (www.decanimusic.co.uk; 0845 456 8392) may be prepared to provide a variety of copies on sale or return if you feel able to manage a bookstall; otherwise, ask for their latest leaflet advertising available Mass settings.
6. Offer the opportunity for organists / pianists to play through settings before / after / during a break in the workshop.



Keep Calm and sing the Mass: A Workshop is a formation resource published by the Society of Saint Gregory.

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