

was observed faithfully until the Divine Redeemer's coming.

8. St. Paul showed us clearly that sacred chant was used and held in honor from the very beginning in the Church founded by the Divine Redeemer when he wrote to the Ephesians: "Be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs." He indicates that this custom of singing hymns was in force in the assemblies of Christians when he says: "When you come together each of you has a hymn."

9. Pliny testifies that the same thing held true after apostolic times. He writes that apostates from the Faith said that "this was their greatest fault or error, that they were accustomed to gather before dawn on a certain day and sing a hymn to Christ as if He were God." These words of the Roman proconsul in Bithynia show very clearly that the sound of church singing was not completely silenced even in times of persecution.

10. Tertullian confirms this when he says that in the assemblies of the Christians "the Scriptures are read, the psalms are sung, sermons are preached."

11. There are many statements of the fathers and ecclesiastical writers testifying that after freedom and peace had been restored to the Church the psalms and hymns of liturgical worship were in almost daily use. Moreover, new forms of sacred chant were gradually created and new types of songs were invented. These were developed more and more by the choir schools attached to cathedrals and other important churches, especially by the School of Singers in Rome.

12. According to tradition, Our predecessor of happy memory, St. Gregory the Great, carefully collected and wisely arranged all that had been handed down by the elders and protected the purity and integrity of sacred chant with fitting laws and regulations.



Attention Chapter Leaders

We are currently in the process of updating our records. We need all those who are currently operating a local lay chapter of *Opus Mariæ Mediatrix* (or anyone interested in starting one) to please contact us with the name and current location of your chapter and the names of your acting officers and members.

Please contact:

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News of Note

Traditional Latin Mass returns to Diocese of Charleston, South Carolina.

Bishop Robert Baker has given permission for a once a month traditional Latin Mass to be offered on the 2nd Saturday of the month at Stella Maris Church on Sullivans Island.

The bishop said that he has received more letters on the subject of the Latin Mass than on any other since he took office in 1999. He said in a statement that he was also considering whether to allow several other churches in the state to offer the traditional Latin Mass (the whole state of South Carolina is in the Diocese of Charleston).

- Information provided by *The Associated Press*

The full article as well as other current News of

Note can be accessed from our web-site at:

www.omm.org