

## Introit Psalm Tones

The Introit psalm tones are a special class of psalm tones. They are ‘fancier’ than regular psalm tones, probably because they are the first chant of the Mass.

The primary difference is that an Introit psalm tone has an incipit (beginning flourish) on both halves of the psalm instead of only at the beginning.

Here is Introit Psalm Tone VII in the solemn tone:



‘1<sup>st</sup>’, ‘2<sup>nd</sup>’, and ‘last’ refer to the syllables that are mapped onto the mediation (the ending of the first half) and the final (the ending of the second half). If you have only the first verse of a psalm in neumes and the rest just as pointed text, the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> syllables will be pointed (either in italics or bold print).

The puncta cava (hollow puncta) are for the reciting tone—the first one in each half—or for extra syllables in the mediation. If you have all the verses already set to the tone, each syllable will have its own punctum or neume, so you do not have to worry about the puncta cava.

Note that this psalm tone has 3<sup>rd</sup>-line Do clef and starts on SO. It has a reciting tone in each half (the first puncta cava in each half).

Here is the tone with its solfège syllables. There are three of the same syllable on the reciting tone to accustom you to it being repeated. Sing it several times slowly to get it into your ears (brain :-).

Intr. VII

so do ti do re re re re re fa mi mi re re mi \*

re ti do re re re re re mi fa re do do la so

Now turn in your Easter packet to the Introit *Resurrexit*.

An Introit consists of an Antiphon, a psalm verse, the Gloria Patri, and additional optional psalm verses.

It is sung in this order: Antiphon; first psalm verse, Gloria Patri, Antiphon.

If more time is needed, the extra psalm verses may be sung right after the first psalm verse, then the Gloria Patri is sung, then the repeat of the Antiphon.

Fr. Rossini’s Propers are ‘fully psalm-toned’ meaning that the Antiphon does not have its own chant (as in the *Liber Usualis*) but is also sung to the same psalm tone as the verse(s) and Gloria Patri.