More Psalm Tones

*Tone VIII G*

Notice that the first verse gets the incipit but all following verses do not. Sing it slowly several times.

*A Gradual normally has an Antiphon and a psalm verse, both of which have their own complex chant. The Alleluia normally has a two-part Alleluia, the second part of which is called the *jubilus*, followed by a psalm verse in a fancy chant that finishes with the notes of the jubilus, followed by a single repeat of the Alleluia. In Fr. Rossini’s propers, the entire Graduale and Alleluia are sung to a single psalm tone. When there is a Sequence, the Alleluia is not sung for the third time because the Alleluia appears at the end of the Sequence.*

Now look at the Easter Gradual and Alleluia, *Haec dies–Pascha nostrum.* Same formula! Don’t rush; just sing it calmly. The Gradual–Alleluia is sung with G do, starting and ending note D (so). The Sequence starts on the note E, one step above the final of the Alleluia (and the next to last note of the Alleluia). You will hear the first verse of *Victimae paschali laudes* on the recording.

*Tone IV E* with solfege syllables. Sing it slowly several times.

Now look at the Easter Offertorium, *Terra tremuit.* Fr. Rossini’s Offertorium is very short and straightforward so that it can be followed by another Easter chant to fill the time with the incensations and offering of gifts by the priest. Practice it several times.

(Normally the Offertorium is exactly the opposite–long and very ornate, with optional verses that are even more ornate, mostly meant to be chanted by one or two cantors alone.)