

Singing "Simply", or Straight Chanting (*Recto Tono*)

Start by singing everything on one pitch (the key or tonic pitch, do):



Have mercy on me, O God, in your kindness; in your compassion, blot out my offense.

To emphasize a particular word, raise the pitch by a whole step, from do to re:



Have mer - cy on me, O God, in your kind-ness; in your com - pas - sion, blot out my of - fense.



Have mer - cy on me, O God, in your kind-ness; in your com - pas - sion, blot out my of - fense.

The singer can also jump up a fourth ("Here comes the the bride") to an initial accent:



Have mer - cy on me, O God, in your kind - ness;



in your com - pas - sion, blot out my of - fense.

Combining those two patterns can give a balanced, clear reading that mostly stays on one pitch.

We sometimes call this "straight chanting."

It is used for short chants, and for the Six Psalms at Matins.

Solfege syllables for reading in church



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

