

## *The response I would have liked to receive*

Dear Mr. Craig,

1. You are correct that many parishes have been replacing the Propers with music/texts lacking the episcopal approval specifically required by the GIRM.
2. Since this has been going on for decades, we must proceed cautiously in our efforts to correct such abuses.
3. The promotion of congregational singing—a praiseworthy goal, indeed—was never intended to completely eradicate the actual texts of Mass. We regret that this has happened in so many parishes.
4. Our committee will issue statements in support of reintroducing the Propers, encouraging parishes to sing some of them (in Latin or English). The liturgical movement has always supported the dictum of Pope Pius X:  

**“Do not sing at Mass; sing the Mass.”**
5. Without question there is work to be done. For instance, more musical settings of the Propers ought to be composed in the vernacular and made available. However, our modern technology—unimaginable even twenty years ago—will assist in this process.