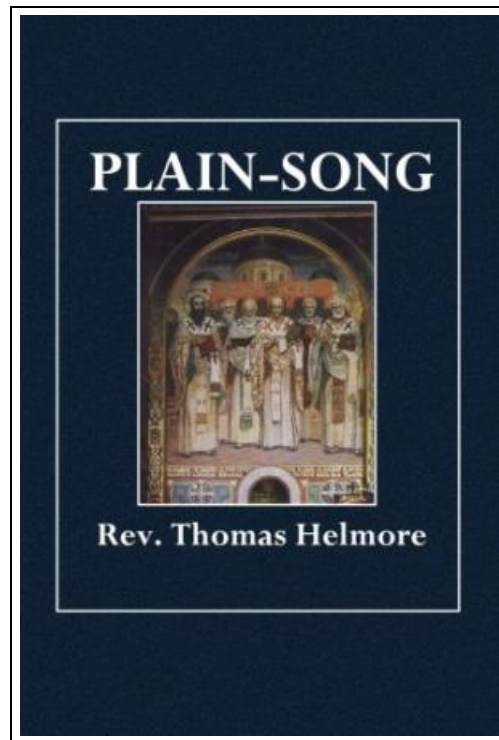# Plain Song

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Reviews

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(Dr. Carmine Hayes MD)

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CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform. Paperback. Condition: New. This item is printed on demand. 166 pages. Dimensions: 9.0in. x 6.0in. x 0.4in.Plain Song is the name by which is known a variety of Church music, more commonly and incorrectly called Gregorian. It was not invented by Pope Gregory, but was systematised and much improved by him. The decree of Pope Benedict XIV, in 1590, defines Plain Song as follows: This is the chant which S. Gregory labored so much to direct and to mould upon the rules of the musical art, a chant which excites the souls of the faithful to piety and devotion, and which if it be rightly and becomingly sung in the Churches of God, is heard with greater satisfaction by pious Christians and is deservedly more esteemed than ought else that is styled music. The use of this style of Church Music has never died out in the Roman Catholic Churches, and within the last two decades there has been a remarkable revival of it in the Church of England and to a lesser degree in the American Church. This revival is chiefly owing to the life-long labors of the Rev. Thomas Helmore, ably seconded by the Rev. Messrs. Wilberforce Doran, Spenser Nottingham, Richard Redhead, A. H. Brown, C. Warwick Jordan, and other clergymen and organists of the English Church, and every year a large Gregorian music festival is held in S. Pauls Cathedral, London. It is believed by antiquarians that Plain Song has its foundation upon the music which was sung by the Christians in the Apostolic age, and, consequently, traces its origin to the Jewish Temple Chant. At first it was transmitted by oral tradition only, but after the conversion of the Emperor Constantine, schools of singing were established. A Schola Cantorum was founded. in...

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