

Dark Dawning

Gerald Mallett '44

I heard the dawn lilt the grey unsmiling field,
 It caught its breath beside a gaunt transfigured tree;
 I saw it smother hollows where ling'ring shadows reeled,
 And crush the moody night that hung close to the sea.

Out o'er the deadened waves the sky was dimly smeared,
 And sunlight fought uselessly behind impris'ning clouds;
 For past the slapping shore thunder murmured low and
 weird,
 And broke the deathly thread of night's mysterious shrouds.

**Gregorian Chant**

Francis O'Connor '41

In recent years a movement has been on foot within the Church to reinstate many of the liturgical practices of the early Church. This movement is becoming stronger every year with the result that in many churches we see the ancient table altar taking the place of the elaborate structures which are now in use. Also the early vestments are being adopted more and more to replace the extremely modified forms that are in use today. Many other ancient customs are being reinstated, but the one I wish to speak of particularly is that of Church music.

The official liturgical music of the Church is Gregorian Chant. It received its name from Pope Gregory the Great who, in the sixth century, gathered together all the music of the Church, organised it, and made it the standard form for the Universal Church. Gregorian Chant is not a music to delight the senses as is the case with other forms of music; it is a most expressive form of liturgical prayer used by clergy and faithful alike. It is essentially a single line of melody with free measure and rhythm, flowing serenely without the startling transitions and heavily stressed beats which make other music so distracting. It is the elevation of the soul to God.

Besides pure Gregorian, there are Plain Chant and Polyphony in Church music today. Each of these is in-