# The Obsidian Kyriale Classification System

*Nota Bene 01: I have wanted to re-jig the Kyriale classification system for a little while now, in order to stimulate the wide reintroduction of the Kyriale chants into Novus Ordo Mass liturgies throughout the whole Catholic Church.*

*Nota Bene 02: Ideally, you would provide missal supplements in the form of printed booklets for a given mass which correspond to the appropriate chants, so that the congregation is encouraged to deepen their knowledge, skill, and appreciation of the Catholic faith from a liturgical participation perspective.*

*Nota Bene 03: The Kyriale chants also work in splendid harmony with a dedicated choir/schola (for I get the feeling that no one ever really masters all that the text and notation of the after-mentioned suppose), who would embellish the liturgy with the appropriate Graduale Romanum chants, interleaved with the rest of the Mass liturgy, as the Kyriale chants are rendered by ‘all’.*

*(Please see my Obsidian Kyriale Classification System suggestions below, ordered by liturgical precedence.)*

**I. In Paschale Time** – The Easter Triduum.

**II. Class 1 – Grade 1** – The Solemnity of Christmas, the Solemnity of the Epiphany, the Solemnity of the Ascension, the Solemnity of Pentecost, the Sundays of Eastertide, and the Sundays of Christmastide, the Diocesan Chrism Mass.

**III.** **Class 1 – Grade 2** – Holy Week (Holy Monday to Holy Wednesday), Ash Wednesday **(Gloria omitted)**, the continuation of Easter Sunday through its Octave (the Sunday after Easter Sunday not included), and the continuation of Christmas Day through its Octave (the Sunday after Christmas Day not included).

**XVII. Sundays Of Advent and Lent** – The Sundays of Lent, and the Sundays of Advent.

**IV. Class 2 – Grade 1** – The Solemnities of the Lord (General Calendar), the Solemnities of the Blessed Virgin Mary (General Calendar), the Solemnities of the Saints (General Calendar), and All Souls day.

**V. Class 2 – Grade 2** – Solemnities which occur in the Particular Calendars:

+The Principal Patron of one’s own town/city/similar place, and the significant Saints with strong connections to one’s own Diocese.

+The Anniversary of the Dedication of one’s own Church.

+The Titular of one’s own Church.

+The Titular or Holy Founder or Principal Patron of one’s own Religious Order/Congregation.

**XI. For Sundays Throughout the Year** – The Ordinary Sundays throughout the year.

**VI. Class 2 – Grade 3** – Feasts of the Lord (General Calendar).

**VII. Class 2 – Grade 4** – Feasts of the Lord (Particular Calendars).

**IX. For Feasts of the Blessed Virgin Mary – Grade 1** – Feasts of the Blessed Virgin Mary (General Calendar).

**VIII. Class 2 – Grade 5** – Christmas Eve, and the Feasts of the Saints (General Calendar).

**X. For Feasts of the Blessed Virgin Mary – Grade 2** – Feasts of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Particular Calendars).

**XII. Class 3 – Grade 1** – Feasts which occur in the Particular Calendars:

+The Principal Patron of one’s own Diocese, and the significant Saints with strong connections to one’s own Diocese.

+The Anniversary of the Dedication of the Cathedral Church.

+The Principal Patron of one’s own Region or Province or Nation or other Large Territory, and the significant Saints with strong connections to one’s own Region or Province or Nation or other Large Territory.

+The Titular or Holy Founder or Principal Patron of one’s own Religious Order/Congregation/Province.

**XIII. Class 3 – Grade 2** – Feasts which occur in the Particular Calendars:

+Other Feasts of one’s own Church.

+Other Feasts which occur in the Particular Calendar of one’s own Diocese/Religious Order/Congregation.

**XIV. Class 3 – Grade 3** – The Ferias of Lent from Laetare Sunday to Palm Sunday **(Gloria omitted)**, and the Ferias of Advent from Gaudete Sunday to Christmas Eve (not inclusive) **(Gloria included)**.

**XV. Commemorations** – Consecrations, Ordinations, Commemorations, Ferias in Eastertide, and Ferias in Christmastide.

**XVIII. For Ferias In Advent and Lent** – The Ferias of Lent from Ash Wednesday (not inclusive) to Laetare Sunday, the Ferias of Advent from the First Sunday of Advent to Gaudete Sunday, Vigils (excluding the Easter Vigil of course), Ember Days, and Rogation Days.

**XVI. For Ferias Throughout the Year** – Self explanatory I would hope… Basically, anything else where the Gloria is omitted, such as all Obligatory Memorias, Optional Memorias, and Ordinary Days throughout the year!

*Nota Bene 04: Any ad-hoc celebration of Holy Mass which does not strictly speaking fit into this Obsidian Kyriale Classification System, should be appropriately slotted into a class where its siblings would be of commensurate solemnity and similar importance.*

# Appendix

Please be aware, that there are two versions of the Kyriale, one interleaved within the Graduale Romanum, and one free-standing. Unfortunately, they have slightly fallen out of synch. As such, it is advisable to use the Graduale Romanum Kyriale for specific feasts and solemnities throughout the liturgical year (I to XVIII) where appropriate i\_e\_ where there is nothing already appropriate in the free-standing version. Please also be aware, that there are a few more ‘Credos’ in the interleaved Graduale Romanum Kyriale, as well as quite a few chant intonations for various preferential liturgical prayers, in the Toni Communes. This section is adjacent following the interleaved Kyriale in the Graduale Romanum. You may like to weave them into your Masses, at leisure, for super-added potency.