

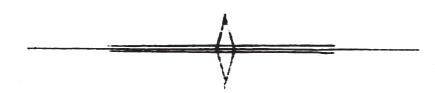
"Bonum est confiteri Domino, et psallere nomini tuo, Altissime."

"It is good to give praise to the Lord and to sing to Thy Name O Most High". Ps. 91. 2.

This great Offertory, with its companions "Ad Te levavi" and "Diffusa est gratia", recalling as they do, the expansive thought of Michael Angelo, stands as a manifestation of the finely poised spiritual Art of the mature "Prince of Music" (Such is Palestrina's brief but glorious epitaph in Rome recording the duration of his life, - 1525 - 1594.)

Word-painting is used with the greatest of discretion within the complicated contrapuntal and harmonic structure of successive fugal expositions. The conclusion is a masterly stretto on the word "Altissime" in the high registers of the voices and climaxes a solemn affirmation of faith.

A.M.F.



Fr. Mary of the Azgels Chair, Water) -4-

(1) Ngton. 5/1/65.

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