

CENTRE AND SUMMIT OF THE MASS

“Now the centre and summit of the entire celebration begins: namely, the Eucharistic Prayer, that is, the prayer of thanksgiving and sanctification. The priest invites the people to lift up their hearts to the Lord in prayer and thanksgiving; he unites the congregation with himself in the Prayer that he addresses in the name of the entire community to God the Father through Jesus Christ in the Holy Spirit. Furthermore, the meaning of the Prayer is that the entire congregation of the faithful should join itself with Christ in confessing the great deeds of God and in the offering of Sacrifice. The Eucharistic Prayer demands that all listen to it with reverence and in silence.”



GROWING IN HOLINESS

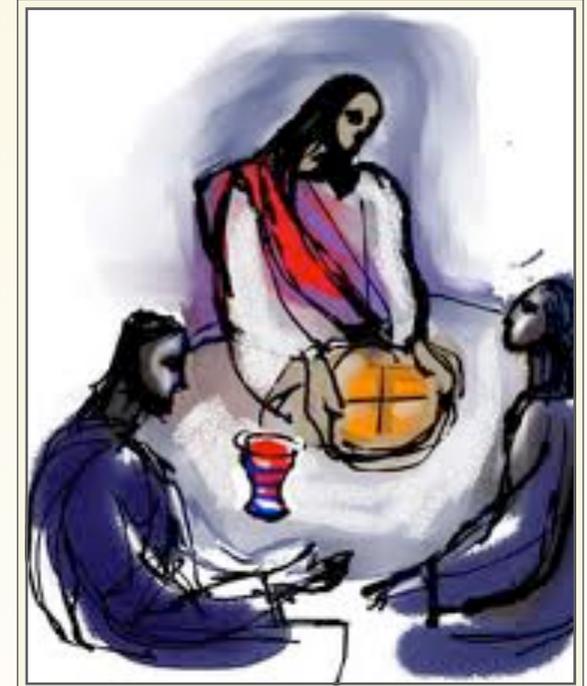
The people of God are the worshipping community which offers the sacrifice of Christ to the Father. The Eucharist is the action of the whole Church, and this should be expressed in the way we celebrate together. Today's Roman Missal bears witness to the ancient and unbroken tradition of the Catholic Church. It complements and enriches the liturgical norms of the Council of Trent. Above all, it seeks to draw Christ's priestly people more deeply into the celebration of the Eucharistic sacrifice through their 'conscious, active and fruitful participation', so that they may grow in holiness.

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RENEWAL

PRAYING THE MASS



PART III - LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

For the next four Sundays, we will be looking at the coming changes to the prayers in the Holy Mass, so that all our Parishioners are acquainted with the new prayers and responses. Today, we will look at the changes to The Preface, Words of Consecration of the Chalice, Mystery of Faith, and Lamb of God.



SOME BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Second Vatican Council reminded us of our ancient faith: Christ is always present in his church, especially in its liturgical celebrations. So, each time we come to Mass we experience the presence of Christ in four different ways:

Christ is present in the congregation – the people gathered together;

Christ is present in the person of the priest;

Christ is present in the Scriptures that we listen to during Mass;

Christ is present in the bread and wine when it becomes Christ's Body and Blood.

The more we are able to understand and join in the Mass, the more we will come to love it. The new translation will help us to do that because the words we will now use will say more clearly what our faith is teaching us.



The Liturgy of the Eucharist

PRESENT TEXT

Priest: The Lord be with you

People: And also with you.

Priest: Lift up your hearts.:

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Priest: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Take this, all of you, and drink from it. This is the cup of my Blood, the Blood of the new and everlasting Covenant. It will be shed for you and for all, so that sins may be forgiven. Do this in memory of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

a Christ has died, Christ is risen,

Christ will come again.

b Dying you destroyed our death, rising
you restored our life.

Lord Jesus, come in glory.

c When we eat this bread and drink this
cup, we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus,
until you come in glory.

d Lord, by your cross and resurrection you
have set us free.

You are the Saviour of the world.

This is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. Happy are those who are called to his supper.

Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word and I shall be healed.

NEW TRANSLATION

Priest: The Lord be with you.

People: And with your spirit.

Priest: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Priest: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right and just.

Common to all Eucharistic Prayers will be the words of institution over the "chalice":

Take this, all of you, and drink from it, for this is the chalice of my Blood, the Blood of the new and eternal covenant, which will be poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in memory of me.

The mystery of faith.

And the people continue, acclaiming:

We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.

Or:

When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord, until you come again.

Or:

Save us, Saviour of the world, for by your Cross and Resurrection you have set us free.

Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.