

Federation of Diocesan Liturgical Commissions [FDLC]
Mystagogical Reflection on the Collects of the *Roman Missal*
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SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
December 9, 2012

Collect:

Almighty and merciful God,
may no earthly undertaking hinder those
who set out in haste to meet your Son,
but may our learning of heavenly wisdom
gain us admittance to his company.
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Reflection:

This is the season to be watchful and alert as we “make haste” to meet the Son of God. As John preached at the River Jordan, we must prepare the way. This requires that we avoid distraction and stay on course. How hard that is to do in a secular season that fills our desire with temptations of worldly gifts. As the Prayer after Communion this day suggests, we must “judge wisely things on earth” and “hold firm to the things of heaven.” We need to focus on what lies ahead, seeking “heavenly wisdom,” and running toward the goal of the heavenly dwelling.

In his instruction on prayer, Jesus taught his disciples to pray, “thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.” During this season, if we can remain focused on the goals of the kingdom, perhaps our secular lives can be transformed. Paul wrote to the Philippians, “I continue my pursuit toward the goal, the prize of God’s upward calling, in Jesus Christ.” If we can transform this earthly kingdom to a place that prepares the way of the Lord, we will be prepared for the prize of meeting Christ in the heavenly kingdom.

Prayer:

Lord, we seek the prize of your heavenly calling. We pray that you will help us to transcend the distractions and temptations that keep us from being focused on the ways of your kingdom. Strengthen us and enlighten our minds in your ways so that we may gain our place in your eternal kingdom.

Submitted by:
Karen L. Podd
Chairperson, Buffalo Diocesan Liturgical Commission
Diocese of Buffalo

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