

Federation of Diocesan Liturgical Commissions [FDLC]
Mystagogical Reflection on the Collects of the *Roman Missal*
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FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 28, 2013

Collect:

Almighty ever-living God,
constantly accomplish the Paschal Mystery within us,
that those you were pleased to make new in Holy Baptism
may, under your protective care, bear much fruit
and come to the joys of life eternal.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Reflection:

This Collect sustains the focus of this Easter Time. At the Renewal of Baptismal Promises during the Easter Vigil we prayed, "... through the Paschal Mystery we have been buried with Christ in Baptism, so that we may walk with him in newness of life." We are united with Christ in the spiritual birth of Baptism and we are united with him every time we celebrate the Paschal Mystery of his Death and Resurrection.

Our unity with Christ motivates us to bear fruit. The Communion Antiphon for this day recalls it, "I am the true vine and you are the branches, says the Lord. Whoever remains in me, and I in him, bears fruit in plenty, alleluia" (cf. Jn. 15:1, 5).

In Lent we marked our repentance and prayed for those to be baptized. During this Easter Time, may we develop our ability to bear good fruit as signs of that repentance (Mt. 3:8). This is a season of transformation as we die and rise with Christ.

Prayer:

Lord, help me to live a fruitful life so that I may be transformed into new life in unity with you.

Submitted by:

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