

**Federation of Diocesan Liturgical Commissions [FDLC]**  
**Mystagogical Reflection on the Collects of the *Roman Missal***  
Link to Mystagogy Project on FDLC home page: <http://www.fdlc.org>.

PENTECOST SUNDAY, Solemnity  
May 19, 2013  
At the Mass during the Day

Collect:

O God, who by the mystery of today's great feast  
sanctify your whole Church in every people and nation,  
pour out, we pray, the gifts of the Holy Spirit  
across the face of the earth  
and, with the divine grace that was at work  
when the Gospel was first proclaimed,  
fill now once more the hearts of believers.  
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 prayer from the *Gelasian Sacramentary* and recovered by the reforms of Vatican II intends to unite us across time and space through the one and same Spirit. In the first half of the Collect, we catch glimpses of the first reading and the psalm. Yet, what is most striking is the recollection of that moment when the "Gospel was first proclaimed." Exactly when was that moment? At Jesus' proclamation in the synagogue of the word fulfilled in our hearing? At his Incarnation in Bethlehem? In the beginning when the Word became flesh? When God spoke light into the void? When I first listened and believed?

The simple answer is yes. The Spirit that makes all the nations one is the same Spirit at work in every age from the first moment of creation to the fulfillment of its recreation on the last day. Here, the divine grace of Christmas and Easter, of all time and history marked by the work of the Spirit, is poured into our hearts that we too may proclaim the Gospel, ancient and ever-new, to all the nations in this time and in this place.

Prayer:

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful that by your divine grace we may embody the Gospel and proclaim it in every moment of our lives.

Submitted by:  
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