

Federation of Diocesan Liturgical Commissions [FDLC]
Mystagogical Reflection on the Collects of the *Roman Missal*
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TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
August 25, 2013

Collect:

O God, who cause the minds of the faithful
to unite in a single purpose,
grant your people to love what you command
and to desire what you promise,
that, amid the uncertainties of this world,
our hearts may be fixed on that place
where true gladness is found.
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:

One of the amazing things about the “collect” prayers we encounter weekly at Mass is that they are general enough to gather together the thoughts and prayers of the assembly of believers. This text has a variety of images that individuals can grab onto! Still, the persons in church next to us might find another equally appropriate avenue with which they may identify. Singleness of purpose, loving God’s commandments, desiring God’s promises: we strive for these things every day.

As we hear this prayer we are invited to think of our own personal hopes and desires, our own striving to conform to God’s will in Christ. Where will we encounter “the uncertainties of this world” in the coming week? What are the hopes and desires we bring to our prayer today? How will we be challenged to embrace the will of God in Christ in the week to come?

Prayer:

God of love, open our hearts to your will. Give us the grace and the resolve to love your commands in all we do.

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Excerpt from *The Roman Missal, Third Edition* © 2010, ICEL.
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