

Federation of Diocesan Liturgical Commissions [FDLC]
Mystagogical Reflection on the Collects of the *Roman Missal*
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November 1
ALL SAINTS
Solemnity

Collect:

Almighty ever-living God,
by whose gift we venerate in one celebration
the merits of all the Saints,
bestow on us, we pray,
through the prayers of so many intercessors,
an abundance of the reconciliation with you
for which we earnestly long.
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:

The Collect for All Saints has a long-honored place in the Mass and was included in the Missal prior to the Second Vatican Council. Although similar in content to the previous missal, the descriptive phrases have been expanded in this new translation of the *Roman Missal, Third Edition*.

The imagery in this prayer for the celebration of All Saints draws on John's heavenly vision of a great multitude in white robes and holding palm branches found in the seventh chapter of Revelation. It expresses our faith in the interaction between the Church Triumphant, the heavenly kingdom, and the Church Militant, the earthly kingdom. Not only is it reassuring to us that there are a great number of saints in heaven but the fact that they are advocating for our spiritual welfare is extraordinary.

On this day we give thanks for the witness of faith that all the saints throughout the ages have given to us. It gives us great joy to celebrate this feast in the awareness that the multitude of saints are interceding for us as we yearn for union with God.

Prayer:

Lord God, by your grace, the saints have followed in your path of life. Hear our pleas for your mercy, O Lord, and help us to attune our lives to these models of faith lived in your goodness.

Submitted by:
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