

**Federation of Diocesan Liturgical Commissions [FDLC]
Mystagogy Reflection on Texts of the *Roman Missal***

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[In the Diocese of the United States]
Sunday between January 2 and January 8
THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD, **Solemnity**

At the Vigil Mass

Prayer after Communion:

Renewed by sacred nourishment,
we implore your mercy, O Lord,
that the star of your justice
may shine always bright in our minds
and that our true treasure may ever consist in our confession of you.
Through Christ our Lord.

Reflection:

As with the other liturgical celebrations of the Christmas cycle, the central element of this Solemnity is the birth of Christ. The Word made flesh came once to us at Bethlehem, yet is present in the sacred nourishment referred to in this Prayer after Communion. There are no barriers preventing our being in the presence of the Holy One except our self-imposed blindness. Thus, on this feast of revelation, we implore God's mercy which tempers justice, Christ's bright star in every human heart, to illuminate the path to holiness of life. This is the true treasure of living by the light of Christ, guiding our confession which is displayed in words and in deeds that are fruitful and just.

It is one thing to pray for guidance and another to accept the guidance offered. A conscious desire to be attentive to the grace of inspiration is the unspoken implication of this simple but evocative Epiphany prayer.

Prayer:

O God, enough with the shadows that blind your people!
Open a way for us when there is no way;
and, by the light of your Son,
guide us to our true homeland,
fulfilled at last with the joy of your presence for ever and ever. Amen.

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