

Federation of Diocesan Liturgical Commissions [FDLC]

Mystagogical Reflection on Texts of the *Roman Missal*

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Sunday after the Epiphany of the Lord
THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD, **Feast**
January 12, 2014

Prayer after Communion:

Nourished with these sacred gifts,
we humbly entreat your mercy, O Lord,
that, faithfully listening to your Only Begotten Son,
we may be your children in name and in truth.
Through Christ our Lord.

Reflection:

This feast draws Christmastide to a close; in it we prolong the epiphany of the God-man to the world. Jesus – Creator of All, Splendor of the Father, King of Kings – submits to being baptized...what is assumed can then be redeemed.

We are all adopted children of God: our Baptism makes it so. Yet Jesus is God's Son in a wholly different way – as one who is “begotten”. Far from being just a theological abstraction, Jesus is the Son of God from before all time. Each Christmas Day we hear about the Word that was “in the beginning”, who was with, and who WAS God.

Jesus' Sonship makes it possible for us to truly be children of God. This prayer following Communion asks that God will strengthen the “family ties” begun in Baptism by this sharing in the family meal, these “sacred gifts” – the Eucharist.

When we base our lives on God's command to listen to his Son Jesus – in the Word proclaimed in the Scriptures, in the life of the Church, in the experiences and wisdom of others grounded in God's Spirit – we will be God's children, not just in name, but also in truth.

Prayer:

God our Father, may your children always listen to the words of your Son, so that we who have been anointed with the oil of gladness may always bring your good news – in name and in truth – to the whole world.

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