

Federation of Diocesan Liturgical Commissions [FDLC]

Mystagogical Reflection on Texts of the *Roman Missal*

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FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 18, 2014

Prayer after Communion:

Graciously be present to your people, we pray, O Lord,
and lead those you have imbued with heavenly mysteries
to pass from former ways to newness of life.
Through Christ our Lord.

Reflection:

This prayer seeks to request a particular kind of presence from our Lord. It does not imply that the Lord is ever absent from us, rather it asks that God be “graciously” present – that is, present with his mercy and compassion. The Latin actually might be better translated as “graciously draw near” than “graciously be present”.

Having received this Real Presence through the heavenly mysteries – the sacraments – especially in Body and Blood of Eucharist, the Body of Christ now asks to receive God’s grace in a permeating way. Filled with the “heavenly mysteries” and transformed through this grace, we pray to pass from our old life of sin to a new way of life in the image of Christ.

Prayer:

Draw ever nearer to us, O Lord, and fill us with your grace and compassion. Permeated with the grace of your heavenly mysteries, free us of our former selves and make us new beings created in your image.

Submitted by:

Julie Males

Director, Office for Worship & RCIA

Diocese of Lafayette-in-Indiana

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