

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

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SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

July 20, 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:

Miriam-Webster's Dictionary defines the word *imbue* as "to cause (someone or something) to be deeply affected by a feeling or to have a certain quality." In this Prayer after Communion, not only do we ask God to graciously be present to us having just received the Body and Blood of Christ, we also ask to be imbued with the heavenly mysteries causing us to be transformed. Thus, by our very eating and drinking of the Body and Blood of Christ, we ask God to cause something powerful to happen within us – transformation.

This transformation happens because of God's graciousness. It is God who does the transforming. As the Holy Spirit is called down upon gifts of bread and wine to change them into the Body and Blood of Christ, so too, do we ask the grace of the Holy Spirit to change us.

St. Augustine said, "Be what you see; receive what you are." We are to be the Body of Christ in the world. We are to be poured out for others that they might have new life. When we say, "Amen" to the Body and Blood of Christ, we commit ourselves to be transformed into a new person, leaving behind our old ways of thinking and doing, and becoming Christ's Body in the world.

Prayer:

Lord, as we ponder the mystery of the Eucharist, change us that we might become your Body, your hands, and your feet in a world in great need of your love.

Submitted by:
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