

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

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EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

August 03, 2014

Prayer after Communion:

Accompany with constant protection, O Lord,
those you renew with these heavenly gifts
and, in your never-failing care for them,
make them worthy of eternal redemption.
Through Christ our Lord.

Reflection:

This particular Prayer after Communion comes from Mass in a monastery in the *Gelasian Sacramentary*. Examples abound in the Veronese and Gelasian Sacramentaries where the concise prayer for this part of the Roman tradition took shape.

I am often taken aback by our boldness and, in my opinion, our lack of manners when speaking with God. In today's Prayer after Communion, we almost demand that God accompany us, protect us, and make us worthy. Can I hear a "please"?

We are reminded, however, regardless of our human faults and failings, that our God will never fail to care for us. Our God loves us, protects us, and accompanies us in our daily lives. Our simple gifts of bread and wine have been transformed to heavenly gifts. Through our participation in the Sacrament, we have been transformed, too. We pray that through our participation, renewal, and transformation God will find us worthy of redemption.

Prayer:

Kind and ever-loving God, we come before you today, realizing that we have failed in what we have done and in what we have failed to do. Forgive us, Lord. We want to be in your presence always. Protect us, provide for us, be with us, care for us, and make us worthy. Please. Thank you. Amen.

Submitted by:
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