

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

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TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

August 31, 2014

Prayer after Communion:

Renewed by this bread from the heavenly table,
we beseech you, Lord,
that, being the food of charity,
it may confirm our hearts
and stir us to serve you in our neighbor.
Through Christ our Lord.

Reflection:

We eat the bread of God, the bread from heaven and do not die, but live for ever. We are guests already dining at the great messianic banquet. Invited guests, yes, but ones who must participate as well, else we have no life within us. The bread of life strengthens us to be true followers of Christ. Where else can we go? We have found the Holy One of God who has the words of eternal life.

Petition, Eucharist, renewal, conversion, service, and back to petition – this is the life cycle of discipleship. Jesus tell us, “Just so, the Son of Man did not come to be served but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many” (Matthew 20:28). Jesus serves us the food of everlasting life that is his Body and his Blood. This spiritual food is not for our personal edification only, but for *metanoia* – transforming our hearts of stone into hearts burning within us. Hearts on fire propel us out into the world to be disciples of Christ to all we meet. We go and we serve by feeding, welcoming, clothing, healing, and visiting because we know that the Lord is with us always, until the end of the age.

Prayer:

Gracious God, you sent your Only Son to be your gift of life to the world. May we follow his example of selfless service until we dine with you in heaven.

Submitted by:
Dianne Rachal
Director, Office of Worship
Diocese of Shreveport

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