June 29
SAINTS PETER AND PAUL, APOSTLES
Solemnity
At the Mass during the Day

Prayer after Communion:

Grant us, O Lord,
who have been renewed by this Sacrament,
so to live in the Church,
that, persevering in the breaking of the Bread
and in the teaching of the Apostles,
we may be one heart and one soul,
made steadfast in your love.
Through Christ our Lord.

Reflection:

This prayer is inspired by a description of the life of the early Church that is found in the Acts of the Apostles 2:42: “They devoted themselves to the teaching of the apostles and to the communal life, to the breaking of the bread and to the prayers.”

In the early Church, this meant sharing the same thoughts, attitudes, and desires to take care of everyone so that no one lacked for anything. In the breaking of the bread they recognized Christ’s presence. They were devoted to prayer because through it they were in communion with Christ. Their teachings were about Christ who died and was raised by the Father for the salvation of all.

Is not this description of Church the same for us? Today we pray that in receiving the Body and Blood of Christ, we are renewed in the life of grace given us in Baptism and strengthened to live out the call to be Church. How can we live out this call today? Pope Francis, in his address to Ecclesial Movements on May 18, 2013, gives three words that can help us be Church: “The first: Jesus….The second: prayer….Finally: witness….means living Christianity as an encounter with Jesus that brings me to others….”

Prayer:

Almighty God, we are most grateful for the nourishment and graces received in Holy Communion. Let them strengthen us to be living examples for others in our communities, so that they recognize the presence of Christ in their midst and welcome you into their hearts.

Submitted by:
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