

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

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November 1

ALL SAINTS, **Solemnity**

Prayer after Communion:

As we adore you, O God, who alone are holy
and wonderful in all your Saints,
we implore your grace,
so that, coming to perfect holiness in the fullness of your love,
we may pass from this pilgrim table
to the banquet of our heavenly homeland.
Through Christ our Lord.

Reflection:

This Prayer after Communion has its origins in the Paris Missal and was included in the post Vatican II *Roman Missal*. On this great feast we honor God's holiness shining through in these holy men and women as we celebrate the communion of all the Saints.

The vivid imagery in this text describes life's journey as a movement from one table, the table of the Lord where we celebrate the Eucharist, to the banquet table in our "heavenly homeland" for which we long. The use of the term "pilgrim table" where life's journey begins, not only addresses the transience of life on earth, but even calls to mind the secular thanksgiving feast of gratitude and unity we celebrate at this time of year.

In this prayer we make a plea for God's grace to transform us, sanctifying us so that we may make that passage from "pilgrim table" to the eternal banquet enjoyed by all the Saints.

Prayer:

Gracious God, fill us with your grace that we may know your ways and follow you on the path to holiness. Given this heavenly food for our journey, sanctify us so that we may come to enjoy your heavenly banquet. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

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