

**Federation of Diocesan Liturgical Commissions [FDLC]**

**Mystagogical Reflection on Texts of the *Roman Missal***

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November 2

THE COMMEMORATION OF ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

(All Souls' Day)

**2**

**Prayer after Communion:**

Having received the Sacrament of your Only Begotten Son,  
who was sacrificed for us and rose in glory,  
we humbly implore you, O Lord,  
for your departed servants,  
that, cleansed by the paschal mysteries,  
they may glory in the gift of the resurrection to come.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**Reflection:**

We recall the Paschal Mystery, here in the plural, perhaps to emphasize the two central moments of Jesus' Death and Resurrection. We are reminded that Jesus' Death was a sacrifice, a sacrifice to end all ritual sacrifices – and then he rose in glory. We pray that the departed may glory in that gift of resurrection to come. We are also reminded that we are praying for all the departed, in the plural, as these Masses are for all who have died.

Finally, we recall that the Eucharist is a cleansing sacrifice and that the Eucharist, offered for those who have died, can purify them and present them to God on high. In our on-going ecumenical discussions, it is essential we proclaim that we do celebrate the Eucharist for the living as well as for the dead.

**Prayer:**

Echoing the Communion Antiphon, may the perpetual light of the risen Lord, along with all the Saints in Heaven, shine on all those who have died. Lord, in your mercy, do not forget your own.

Submitted by:

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