PRIEST'S INTENTIONS FOR MASSES

Sun, Oct 24 THIRTIETH SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME

5:30 pm † Fr. John S. Brown 8:00 am † Baldomero Acosido

11:00 am † Jack Cloward

5:30 pm For the People of the Parish

Mon, Oct 25 Weekday

8:00 am † Joseph Papin

Tue, Oct 26 Weekday

8:00 am Mass for Collective Intentions

Wed, Oct 27 Weekday

8:00 am † Toufik Tanous

Thu, Oct 28 SAINTS SIMON AND JUDE, APOSTLES

8:00 am † Dr. Thomas B. Day

11:00 am † Ann Renzi (Funeral Mass)

Fri, Oct 29 Weekday No Mass

Sat, Oct 30 Weekday

8:00 am † Joseph Papin

Sun, Oct 31 THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY in ORDINARY

5:30 pm For the People of the Parish

8:00 am † Jimmy Tan 11:00 am † Etta Weed

5:30 pm † John Hilgeman, Sr.;

† Minnie Hilgeman



We love having you as part of our flock! Get updates about Masses and parish life via email or text!

Sign up! Visit olg-church.org and scroll to the blue and white sheep.

FOOD AND FELLOWSHIP IN THE PARISH CENTER

All are welcome Sunday mornings after Mass.

Oct 24 Coffee and Donut Sunday

Sponsored by Cub Scout Pack 951 All donations benefit the activities of the pack including camping trips, supplies and derbies.

Oct 31 Bread Sunday

Sponsored by the Catholic Women's Club Enjoy freshly-baked breads, muffins, coffee, tea, juice, Lox, bagels and donuts. To preorder bread loaves "to go" see ad on page 4.

Nov 7 ICF Food and Fellowship Sunday

Sponsored by the International Catholic Families

It's comfort food! Biscuits and gravy and other breakfast delights. Details to come!



Welcome to Our Lady of Grace!

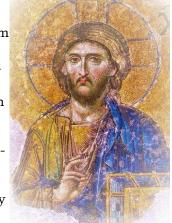
elcome to all members and visitors who are joining us for the celebration of the Eucharist.

If you have been away from the Church for a little while or for quite some time, but now feel a tug at your heart calling you back to the Catholic Church,

welcome home!

If you feel drawn to the Catholic Church yet come from another faith tradition - or have no faith experience at all - we are glad you are here!

The Catholic Church has been teaching truth since she was founded by Christ over 2,000 years ago. We invite you to enrich your life through joining our parish family. In addition to our liturgies there are many ministries and service groups



that help you to build friendships and serve our parish along with the greater community. We also offer lifelong learning through our many faith formation opportunities for children and adults.

For baptized Catholics needing to complete their Sacraments of Initiation please contact our Director of Catechetical Ministry, Lissa Hutcheson, at (619) 466-5656. For those interested in joining the Catholic Church, please contact Deacon John Sawaya at (858) 869-5079. You can also contact them by using the "Contact us" link at olg-church.org.

Allergies

The first morning Mass of the Sunday or holy day will always be incense-free. The Sunday 11:00 am Mass will almost always include the use of incense.

Mindfulness of Others

Please silence all devices and refrain from using them during the liturgy.

READINGS FOR OCT 24 - 31

Sun: Jer 31:7-9; Heb 5:1-6; Mk 10:46-52

Mon: Rom 8:12-17; Lk 13:10-17

Tue: Rom 8:18-25; Lk 13:18-21

Wed: Rom 8:26-30; Lk 13:22-30

Thu: Eph 2:19-22; Lk 6:12-16

Fri: Rom 9:1-5; Lk 14:1-6

Sat: Rom 11:1-2a, 11-12, 25-29; Lk 14:1, 7-11

Sun: Dt 6:2-6; Heb 7:23-28; Mk 12:28b-34

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass readings:

Jer 31:7-9 Heb 5:1-6 Mk 10:46-52

GROW: How often do we pray with abandon? Perhaps when turbulence makes us wonder if our plane's going down, when a friend or loved one faces a difficult diagnosis or lifethreatening injury, when we face a setback, a major decision, or a heartbreak. On some days, though, have we been guilty of just going through the motions when we pray? Not so for Bartimaeus. "Jesus, son of David, have pity on me," he repeatedly implores, ignoring the shushing of the crowd. When Jesus asks him what he wants, the blind man doesn't beat around the bush. "I want to see." Recognizing his faith. Jesus heals him. Bartimaeus could not see, yet he had recognized Jesus as the Messiah and persisted in prayer. His example reminds us to be persistent in prayer, holding nothing back from Je-

sus who desires to make us whole.

GO: While Bartimaeus faced physical blindness, this did not prevent him



from recognizing Jesus as the Son of David, the Messiah. In our modern-dav world so filled with distractions, we can become blind to the face of Jesus, or simply take his abundant love for us for granted. As the psalmist reminds us, "The Lord has done great things for us. We are filled with joy." Looking back on our lives, we can probably see a few miracles – the birth of a child, the stunning beauty of a sunrise over the mountains or the arborvitae in our backyards, the friends who walk alongside us through each chapter of life. Today's readings encourage us to open our eyes to the face of Jesus in our lives, and in turn to reflect his steadfast love to those we encounter.

ACTIONS: Read today's psalm response: "The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy." Reflect on the people and experiences that have brought you closer to God – friends, family, a priest, for example. Write them a note or say a prayer of thanksgiving.

Written by The Faithful Disciple

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AUXILIARY PRIEST

Rev. Maxime Villeneuve, OSA

PRIEST IN RESIDENCE

Rev. Minh Do

DEACON

Dcn. John Sawaya

SCHEDULE of MASSES

SUNDAY VIGIL

(Saturday) 5:30 pm

SUNDAY

8:00 am, 11:00 am, 5:30 pm

MONDAY-THURSDAY AND SATURDAY

8:00 am

Holy days and holidays listed separately in bulletin.

SACRAMENTS

INFANT BAPTISM

Baptisms are celebrated on the second and fourth Sundays of each month at 12:30 pm. Preparation packet is available in the parish office.

RITE of CHRISTIAN INITIATION of ADULTS

Contact Deacon Sawaya (858) 869-5079.

HOLY MATRIMONY

Marriage preparation begins nine months in advance. Please contact Fr. Peter McGuine or Deacon Sawaya.

PENANCE AND RECONCILIATION

Monday 6:00 pm Thursday 8:45 am Saturday 4:00 pm or by appointment.

Anointing of the Sick

Call the parish office (619) 469-0133.

Weekend 7 — the final session of our *Be Renewed* Eucharist Initiative!

efore each Sunday Mass on **Oct 23-24** we will hear a brief



explanation about the fourth part of the Mass, our meal sharing, the Liturgy of the Eucharist. See the comprehensive explanation insert inside this bulletin.

Annual Intellectual Disabilities Drive

The Knights of Columbus will be soliciting donations for St. Madeleine Sophie's Center, El Cajon, after Masses on **Oct 30-31** and **Nov 6-7**.

Formerly called the "Tootsie Roll Drive" simply drop your donation into the yellow canisters outside any door of the church. All contributions going to this wonderful cause are tax deductible. Checks can be written to the Columbian Foundation.

Cub Scout Pack 951 Popcorn Continues

ct 23-24 after Masses are your last opportunities to support the scouts by purchasing popcorn. Look for the Scout tables at the front and south entrances of the church! Proceeds from the sales support pack activities such as camping, hiking, fishing, woodcrafts, derbies and

Our Liturgical Ministry Choirs Return!

o you or your children have a talent for singing or playing an instrument? Do you want to learn how to sing? Are you ready serve your parish? Then join one of OLG's many choirs!

Cantate Kids is a choir designed for children grades 3-10 and they are directed by Daniel Mendoza. Rehearsals are in the church on Thursdays from 4:00 to 5:30 pm starting **Nov 11**. Cantate Kids serve approximately once a month at the 11:00 am Mass from November to Pentecost. Singers are welcome!



The Gaudete Choir is a choir for adults and teens grades 11+ who serve at the 11:00 am Sunday Mass. Directed by Daniel Mendoza, rehearsals start Thu, **Nov 4** from 7:00 to 9:00 pm in the

Lauerman Hall Youth Room. Instrumentalists and singers are welcome to join with no professional training needed!

The Laudate Ensemble is a band and choir that serves year round for the 5:30 pm Sunday Mass. It is open to older teens grades 11+ and adults. Directed by Robert Filley, the Laudate Ensemble is always looking for new singers. Rehearsals are in the church on Thursday evenings from 7:00 to 9:00 pm.

If you are interested in any of these choirs, sign up with our Director of Liturgical Music, Daniel Mendoza, at dmendoza@olg-church.org.

Catholic Women's Club Raffle Sales

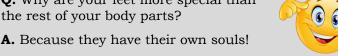
ales take place after all weekend Masses Oct **23-24** and **Oct 31-Nov 1**. There are over 50 prizes and one or more could be yours! Single



ticket cost is \$1.00 each, or six for \$5.00, 13 for \$10.00 or 26 for \$20! Winning tickets will be pulled at the Nov 6 CWC Annual Holiday Craft Fair. You do not need to be present

to win. The CWC uses net proceeds from fundraising to support parish organizations, OLG School, OLG School of Religion, other religious education as well as a few diocesan ministries.

Q. Why are your feet more special than the rest of your body parts?



Learning about the Priesthood

n Sat, Nov 6, the Diocese of San Diego is hosting an Explorer Day for those men who are interested in exploring a possible vocation to the priesthood. The day will be held at the St. Francis Center on the campus of the University of San Diego from 8:30 am to 3:30 pm. If living a life of service for Christ and the people of God is PRIESTHOOD attractive to you, take advantage of the

opportunity to attend this upcoming Explorer Day. To register, please contact Fr. Peter in the parish office or call Fr. Lauro Minimo, Director for Priestly Vocations, at (619) 291-7446.

Bread Sunday Returns—Pre-order now!

un, **Oct 31** is Catholic Women's Club Bread Sunday! Place your order online and your bread will



be bagged and ready for pick-up on Bread Sunday. Choose from Irish Soda, Yeast, Cranberry-walnut, Sprouted Quinoa, Rustic Oat and Guinness Spice for only \$7.00 per

loaf, payable at pick up. Order online at olg-church.org/upcoming events.

YOUTH MINISTRY ACTIVITIES

New Life is back to meeting on Sunday nights in the Youth Room from 6:30 to 8:30 pm. Meet old friends and make new ones while having fun and sharing faith. Pizza and snacks are available.

On Fri, Nov 5 Escape middle school youth learn the meaning of serving others in the name of Jesus through Box of Joy, a service project of Catholic Missions that shares the spirit of Christmas across the world. Parents must provide transportation. From 6:30 to 7:15 pm youth will shop at the 99¢ Only Store at 2320 Fletcher Parkway, El Cajon, 92020. Then,



wrapping takes place in the Youth Room from 7:15 to 8:15 pm. After a short time of prayer for the children who will receive each Box of Joy, the evening ends. No permission form is necessary.

Save the Date! On Fri, Nov 12 Escape youth take on a Thanksgiving Decathlon at Guardian Angels, 9310 Dalehurst Dr., Santee, 90271, from

6:30 to 8:30 pm. More details to



For more info about our youth groups you can visit olg-church.org/parish groups and choose Youth Group, then Escape (Jr. High) or New Life (High School). For answers to your questions call Doris, Youth Minister, at (619) 466-5451.

OLG | SAN DIEGO YOUNG ADULTS

Mass Followed by Tacos

eet at OLG on Sun, **Oct 24** for 5:30 pm Mass (sit together in the section in front of the Mary statue or where you feel most comfortable) then head to City Tacos, 8325 La Mesa Blvd, La Mesa, 91942, for socializing. Come to Mass or dinner only.

Movie Nights "Silence"

artin Scorcese's 2016 adaptation of the 1966 novel by Shusaku Endo will be screened on two Wednesday's, **Nov 3** and **11**. Gather in the Youth Room. The film will start promptly at 7:00 with time for group discussion.

• The OLG Young Adults (ages 18-39) get together weekly on Thursdays in the Youth Room from 7:30 - 9:30 pm.



For more opportunities for Catholic adults in their 20s & 30s follow Instagram @sd.ecya or visit sdcatholic.org/office-for/young-adult-ministry.

San Diego White Mass

The San Diego White Mass for healthcare workers will be on Sat, Oct 30, at 10:00 am at St. Elizabeth Seton Church, 6628 Santa Isabel St, Carlsbad, 92009. A reception will follow with a talk by Dr. Lauren Rubal, who will share her inspiring conversion story. Everyone, Catholic or not, healthcare worker or not, is invited.

Vatican Eucharistic Miracles Exhibition

osted by Guardian Angels Parish, 9310
Dalehurst Rd, Santee, 92071, this free
event takes place Friday through Sunday,
Nov 5-7 and is open to all. There will be
docent-led tours of documented Eucharistic
Miracles from around the world, perpetual
adoration, guest speakers, praise and worship and more. For a complete calendar of

events and contact info visit tinyurl.com/5bmyx8s.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please pray for those who have requested prayer and for the special intentions written in the Book of Intentions in the Baptistery of our church.

Griselda Albanez Heriberto Albanez Tilly Allison Gabriela Alvarenga Marvin Alvarenga Angie Arrayan Patrick Attardo Violetta Bacniss Gary Barker Carol Bessone Angie Biner Anita Branch Deborah Butcher Stephanie Butcher Pam Carlson Linda Coit Rosemary Cosgrove John Coyne Gerry Cruz Barbara Cyr Catherine Dizon Dee Draper Steve Duggins Mark Habina Dawn Hoope

Susan Hori Lvnn Jolivet Ken Kanine Rebecca Leyden Tim Leyden Mickey Lyle Jean Marcotte Donald Marsh Barbara Messier Mary Montoya Jacob McDermott Donna O'Fallon Anthony Renzi Violet Rhodes Charlisse Rola Sue Seguin David Smith Theresa Smith Tony Tabadisto Terry Tedrow Marilyn Winger Kyle Wollett

Names remain listed for four weeks and can be renewed by contacting Marie Pospichal at mpospichal@olg-church.org.





Visit olg-church.org and scroll to the "Annual Catholic Appeal" ad. Click the "2021 ACA video" link to see how funds raised will support diocesan and local efforts to announce the Gospel and serve God's people. Click the "Renewing Hope" image to make a pledge and/or gift to this year's Appeal. Thank you!

All Souls Triduum of Masses at OLG Wed, Thu, Sat, Nov 3, 4 and 6, 8:00 am

Intention envelopes are available on the info table in the church vestibule and the in the parish office.



Please pray for the repose of the souls of

JOAN NELSON | JULIEN FORCIER BRENDA HILGEMAN

May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

Donate Your Extra Halloween Candy

ach year, Halloween candy is collected from parishes and used for the Christmas distribution at the Casa de los Pobres (House of the Poor) in Mexico.



If your family wants to be especially helpful, please put your candy in quart-size Ziploc Freezer bags. Toothbrushes and toothpaste are also greatly appreciated!

Please deliver your donation to the parish office by Thu, Nov 4.

FUNERAL LITURGIES AT OUR LADY of GRACE

Holiday Angels

School Support - General

School Support - Tuition Assistance

ANN RENZI

Rosary, Thu, **Oct 28** at 10:30 am Mass, at 11:00 am followed by a reception in the Parish Hall Private Inurnment at a later time

May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

World Mission Sunday

This weekend, Oct 23-24 Pope Francis invites us to support vulnerable communities in Africa, Asia, the Pacific Islands and parts of Latin America and Europe. Special envelopes are available in the pews—be sure to note WMS in the memo line or visit olg-church.org and click the donate ad.

CALLING ALL ANGELS!

LG parishioners have been generously serving East County families and seniors in



basics at Thanksgiving and Christmas for over 32

years through the OLG Holiday Angel Program. In this time of pandemic, we are all familiar with the increased needs of our most vulnerable community members. With your support, we will continue the program again this year using the same gift-cardgiving format from last year for the safety of volunteers and program

participants.

The Holiday Angel Program is now accepting monetary donations for Thanksgiving and Christneed of life's mas for the families and seniors in crisis. Any donation amount is helpful; we will serve as many people as possible with the donations we receive. Visit olg-church.org and click on the "Online Donation" link or place vour check in the donation basket. Be sure to write "Holiday Angel Program" in the memo line. Thank you, OLG faith family, for your enduring generosity! If you have questions, please contact Angel Coordinator Lesley Bradley at (619) 878-0278.

WEEKLY OFFERING REPORT

\$3,247.00

\$156.00

\$220.00

Oct 12 - 18, 2021	\$16,713.80
Plate	\$1,803.91
Envelopes	\$10,363.39
Online Giving	\$4,546.50
Breakdown of Gifts Received	
\$0.01 - \$5.00	21
\$5.01 - \$10.00	45
\$10.01 - \$25.00	106
\$25.01 - \$50.00	65
\$50.01 - \$100.00	30
\$100.01 - \$150.00	8
\$150.01 - \$500.00	12
\$500.01 - Over	3
Total Contributing Households	290
Building Fund	\$11,316.00
Food Pantry	\$1,994.00
Religious Education	\$216.00

Please Consider Online Giving Give a one-time gift or set up recurring gifts

Visit olg-church.org and click on the "Online Giving" image or link (or use the QR code with your smart phone app). Thank you!





Shop at smile.amazon.com/ch/27-3860489 or with AmazonSmile in the Amazon shopping app and Amazon will donate 0.5% of your purchase to Our Lady of Grace parish! Thank you for your support!

OUR LADY of GRACE PARISH AND SCHOOL DIRECTORY

2766 NAVAJO ROAD, EL CAJON, CA 92020



PARISH OFFICE

PHONE: (619) 469-0133 (619) 469-0575 OLG-CHURCH.ORG

Hours: Mon-Thu 8:30 AM-4:30 PM

Pastor	FR. PETER McGuine Ext. 17
Deacon	DCN. JOHN SAWAYA
Business Manager	PATRICIA KANE Ext. 12
Special Projects Coordina	tor Ken Discenza Ext. 24
Bookkeeper	Sioni Bautista Ext. 16
Office Manager	Marie Pospichal Ext. 10
Publicity & Comms	Georgene Kruzel Ext. 33

Housekeeping MARIA ARIAS

Maintenance & Facilities DAN BRESLIN & VINCE OLIVER

MATTHEW HILGEMAN

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

Liturgy Coordinator Rosa Hilgeman | Ext. 14

Director of Liturgical Music

DANIEL MENDOZA II | Ext. 26

Cantate Kids and Gaudete Choir (11:00 am Sun)

ROBERT FILLEY Director

Laudate Ensemble (5:30 pm Sun)

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

SCHOOL OF RELIGION, CONFIRMATION & ADULT FAITH FORMATION

PHONE: (619) 466-5656

Director of Catechetical Ministry LISSA HUTCHESON

Youth Ministry Coord. Jr. High, Sr. High

Doris Hertzig (619) 466-5451

Young Adults (18-39 yrs.) BERNADETTE ROSE HILGEMAN



To email members of the parish staff, please visit our website at: olg-church.org

Click on the "Contact Us" in the upper right corner of the browser window. And please Like Us on Facebook!

Reporting Sexual Abuse

Complaints about sexual abuse by a member of the clergy or by a parish or Catholic school employee or volunteer can be made by calling Mary Acosta at (858) 490-8353 or email misconduct@sdcatholic.org.

On the cover: Jaden and Christian Paterson complete service hours as part of their Confirmation preparation.



Parish School

PHONE: (619) 466-0055 (619) 466-8994 Fax:

WEB: **OLG.ORG**

Hours: WEEKDAYS 7:15 AM-3:30 PM

(DURING SCHOOL YEAR)

Principal **ERIN MARES** | Ext. 11

emares@olg.org

RACHEL SATO | Ext. 27 Vice-Principal

rsato@olg.or

Development & KELLI BALISTRERI | Ext. 16

Admissions kbalistreri@olg.org

Administrative Assistant **Linda Peters** | Ext. 10

lpeters@olg.org

PARISH MINISTRIES AND ORGANIZATIONS

To email members of the parish staff or the ministry leaders listed below please visit our website at: olg-church.org - click on the "Contact Us" link in the upper right corner of the browser window.

For a ministry leader phone number please call the Parish Office at (619) 469-0133.

55 Plus Club—Mary Cloward

BLOOD DRIVE—Debbie Ipsen

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CLUB (CWC)

CWC-Mary Cloward

Book Club—Julie Hazelton Craft Fair—Kathy Porterfield

CENTERING PRAYER—Irma Eichinger or Beatrice Doblado

CUB SCOUTS—Pack 951—Crystal Carr

Cursillo-Dcn. John Sawaya

EVENTS COMMITTEE—Nettie Aguinaldo

FOOD PANTRY—Since 1981

(619) 469-0061 M-F, 9:30-11:00 am Bob Cosgrove

HOLIDAY ANGELS—Since 1988—Lesley Bradley

INTERNATIONAL CATHOLIC FAMILIES (ICF)

Carla Pedroncelli

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS—Frances Cabrini Council 8879 Robert Yslas, Grand Knight

LADIES OF GRACE—Rosemarie McLain

LEGION OF MARY—Since 1987—Dee Draper

MEN FOR CHRIST—Steve Faucher

MINISTRY TO THE SICK & HOMEBOUND Rosa Hilgeman

PRAYER QUILT MINISTRY—Since 2006

Nettie Aguinaldo

PRO-LIFE

Vicki Whitmire (40 Days for Life)

WALKING WITH PURPOSE—Women's Bible Study Joanie Hilgeman



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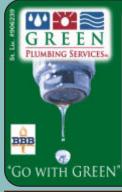
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Be Renewed EUCHARIST INITIATIVE

Understanding the Real Presence of Christ in the Mass

A Walk Through the Mass: A Step-by-Step Explanation



Week Three: Meal Sharing; The Liturgy of the Eucharist

After the Liturgy of the Word, we move to the altar for the sacred meal of sacrifice, sharing, and thanksgiving. As at a meal in the home of a friend, we 1) set the table, 2) say grace and 3) share the food (eat and drink). At Mass these ritual actions are called 1) the Preparation of the Altar and Gifts, 2) the Eucharistic Prayer, 3) the Communion Rite.

Preparation of the Altar and Gifts

The early Christians each brought some bread

and wine from their homes to the church to be used for the Mass and to be given to the clergy and the poor. Today a similar offering for the parish and the poor is made with our monetary contributions.

The priest receives bread and wine

brought forward by members of the congregation, keeping the spiritual efficacy and significance of the early church offerings.

He then mixes water with the wine and washes his hands. (Mixing water with wine and washing hands are things all Jews did at meals in Jesus' day.)

Finally, he invites us to pray that the sacrifice be acceptable to God. We respond "Amen" to the Prayer Over the Gifts.

The Eucharistic Prayer

The prayer which follows is addressed to the Father and brings us to the very center of the Mass and the heart of our faith. While the words of the prayer may vary from Sunday to Sunday, the prayer always has this structure:

1) We call upon God to remember all the wonderful saving deeds of our history. 2) We recall the central event in our history, Jesus Christ, and in particular the memorial he left us on the night before he died. We recall his Passion,

Death and Resurrection. 3) After gratefully calling to mind all the wonderful saving acts God has done for us in the past, we petition God to continue those deeds of Christ in the present: we pray that we may become one body, one spirit in Christ.



Invitation. The prayer begins with a dialogue between the leader and the assembly. First, the priest greets us with "The Lord be with you." He then asks if we are ready and willing to approach the table and to renew our baptismal commitment, offering ourselves to God: "Lift up your hearts." And we say that we are prepared to do so: "We lift them up to the Lord." We are invited to give thanks to the Lord our God. And

(Continued on back)

we respond: "It is right and just."

To "give thanks" translates the traditional Greek verb which now names the whole action: Eucharist.

Preface and Acclamation

Institution Narrative: Consecration. The priest continues the prayer, giving praise and thanks, and calling upon the Holy Spirit to change our gifts of bread and wine into the Body and Blood of Christ. He then recalls the events of the Last Supper—the institution of the Eucharist. At this important moment in the prayer, we proclaim the mystery of faith. Several texts are possible, for example: "We proclaim your Death, O Lord, / and profess your Resurrection / until you come again." The priest continues recalling the wonderful deeds of salvation: the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Christ.

Prayer for unity and intercessions. The grateful memory of God's salvation leads us to make a bold petition, our main petition at every Eucharist: we pray for unity. "Humbly we pray / that, partaking of the Body and Blood of Christ, / we may be gathered into one by the Holy Spirit" (Eucharistic Prayer II). To this petition we add prayers for the bishop of Rome and for the bishop of the local Church; we pray for the living and the dead as well as ourselves that through the intercession of the saints we may one day arrive at the table in heaven.

We look forward to that glorious day and raise our voices with those of all the saints who have gone before us as the priest raises the consecrated bread and wine and offers a doxology, a prayer of glory to God in the name of Christ: "Through Him, and with Him, and in Him, / O

"Through Him, and with Him, and in Him, / O God, almighty Father, / in the unity of the Holy Spirit, / all glory and honor is yours, / for ever and ever." Our "Amen" to this prayer acclaims

our assent and participation in the entire Eucharistic Prayer.

The Communion Rite

Our Father and Sign of Peace. We prepare to eat and drink at the Lord's Table with those words taught us by Jesus: "Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us." Keenly aware that Communion (the word means "union with") is the sign and source of our reconciliation and union with God and with one another; we make a gesture of union and forgiveness with those around us and offer them the Sign of Peace.

Invitation to Communion. The priest then shows us the Body of Christ and invites us to come to the table echoing the words of John the Baptist "Behold the Lamb of God...." We respond, "Lord, I am not worthy...", as the Centurion did when he asked Jesus to cure his servant (Matthew 8:8). None of us, on our own, are worthy to embrace the fullness of Christ. It is only through the love and mercy of God bestowed upon us that we become worthy to receive. The members of the assembly now approach the altar in procession.

Communion. As God fed our ancestors in the desert on their pilgrimage, so God gives us food for our journey. We approach the minister who gives us Eucharist with the words "The Body of Christ," and we respond, "Amen." During this procession we usually sing a hymn that unites our voices, minds and thoughts, even as the Body and Blood of Christ unites us into one body. Then we pray silently in our hearts, thanking and praising God and asking for all that this sacrament promises. The priest then unites our prayers into the Prayer After Communion, to which we respond, "Amen."