

Texts for Liturgy of Exposition [and Benediction]

Opening Prayer

Lord,
we thank you for the harvest earth has produced
for the good of man.
These gifts witness to your infinite love;
may the seeds of charity and justice also bear fruit in our hearts.
Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who live and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Responsory *(The responsory may be used after each of the readings)*

Leader: A man prepared a banquet and sent his servants to tell the guests:
Come all is ready.

Response: Eat my bread and drink my wine. Come all is ready.

Readings

First Reading: Deuteronomy 8.7-18

Remember the Lord your God: it was he who gave you this strength.

Psalms 66:2-3. 5. 7-8

The earth has yielded its fruit, for God, our God has blessed us.

Gospel: Luke 12:15-21

A man's life is not made secure by what he owns.

Prayer before Blessing

Lord our God,
may we always give due honour
to the sacramental presence of the Lamb who was slain for us.
May our faith be rewarded
by the vision of his glory,
who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Opening Prayer: *Roman Missal, Masses for Various Needs and Occasions, 27, After the Harvest (alt);* **Responsory:** *Holy Communion and Worship of the Eucharist outside Mass (HCW) (Appendix 3. Responsories);* **Readings:** *Lectionary Vol III Masses for Various Needs and Occasions, 20 After the Harvest.* **Prayer before Blessing:** *HCW, 68 alternative. English translation of The Roman Missal, Holy Communion and Worship of the Eucharist Outside Mass © 1973, 1974 International Committee on English in the Liturgy, Inc. All rights reserved. Editorial arrangement © 2004, Bishops Conference of England and Wales.*

Year of the Eucharist October 2004 – October 2005



1. The Harvest of Faith Resources for Liturgy of Eucharistic Exposition

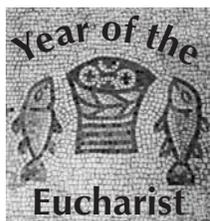
Feeding on the Eucharist, Christians nourish their soul and become the soul which sustains the world, thus giving a Christian meaning to life, which is the meaning of the Sacrament. The Sacrament brings the gift of charity and solidarity, because the Sacrament of the Altar is inseparable from the new commandment of mutual love.

The Eucharist is the power that transforms us and strengthens us in virtue. 'It spurs us on our journey through history and plants a seed of living hope in our daily commitment to the work before us' in the family, at work and in society...

From the beginning of the second century, St. Ignatius of Antioch defined Christians as those who 'live according to Sunday,' with faith in the Lord's resurrection and his presence in the Eucharistic celebration. St. Justin emphasized a practical urgency at the conclusion of the Sunday Eucharist: 'And they who are well-to-do, and willing, give what each thinks fit; and what is collected is placed with the presider, who assists orphans and widows and those who, through sickness or any other cause, are in want, as well as those who are in prison and the strangers sojourning among us, and, in a word, takes care of all who are in need.'

The Eucharist is the basis for the *missio ad gentes* (mission to the peoples of the world) and the means to bring it to perfection. From the Eucharist comes the duty of every Christian to cooperate in making the ecclesial body grow... The missionary mandate quite often entails martyrdom which to our very day is suffered by pastors and the faithful precisely during the celebration of the Eucharist. It allows the salvation given in the Sacrament of Bread and Wine to reach multitudes of people.

Paragraphs 70f from the Preparatory Document for the 2005 Synod on
The Eucharist: Source and Summit of the Life and Mission of the Church



Resources for Year of the Eucharist

- Exposition of the Holy Eucharist — Guide
- Holy Hours

for more information: www.liturgyoffice.org.uk/Resources/
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Prayer of Blessing for Harvest

All-powerful God,
we appeal to your tender care
that even as you temper the winds and rains to nurture the fruits
of the earth
you will also send upon them
the gentle shower of your blessing.
Fill the hearts of your people with gratitude,
that from the earth's fertility
the hungry may be filled with good things
and the poor and needy proclaim the glory of your name.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Book of Blessings

Prayers of Intercession

We pray for the church:

That as our community gives thanks for food provided by God's generosity, we pray that as a church we may work for change to ensure that no community may experience hunger, malnutrition or anxiety because of a lack of food.

We pray for the world and its leaders;

That decision makers and world leaders may follow principles of equity and fairness. We pray that the Holy Spirit will guide and inspire them.

We pray for ourselves:

That we may discern the difference between what we actually need and what we want, and be generous in sharing what we have.

We pray for CAFOD's work here and overseas:

That the work of CAFOD's partners in Bangladesh may bring hope and security to their communities, and that we too will help build a better future for all by our prayer and action.

CAFOD