

Eucharistic Prayers of the Saints

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Saint Alphonsus Liguori

Prayer to Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament

O most lovely, most sweet,
and dearest Jesus!
Life, hope, treasure,
and only love of my soul!

Oh, how much has it not cost Thee to remain with us
in this Sacrament.

It was necessary for Thee to die
in order to remain afterwards upon our altars;
and how many injuries hast Thou not been made to
suffer,

in consequence of this presence among us!
But Thy love, and Thy desire to be loved by us,
have surmounted all.

Come then, Lord,



come and occupy my heart,
and afterwards close the gate to it for ever,
so that no creature may ever enter again
to take away a part of this love which belongs entirely
to Thee,
and which I am unwilling to give to any other.
Do Thou alone, my dear Redeemer, reign over me!
Do Thou alone possess me entirely,
and if at any time I should not obey Thee perfectly,
punish me severely,
that for the future I may be more careful to please
Thee,
according to Thy desire.
Let me no more desire nor seek
for any other pleasure than to please Thee,
to visit Thee often at Thine altar,
to converse with Thee,
and to receive Thee in Holy Communion.



Let them look for other goods who will!
For me, I love only,
I desire only the treasure of Thy love.
The only favour I ask at the foot of this altar is,
that I may forget myself altogether,
to remember only Thy goodness.
Blessed Seraphs, I do not envy you your glory!
But by the love which you bear to your God and
mine,
oh, teach me what I must do to love Him
and please Him like you!
O my Lord and King,
hidden in this Sacrament,
since Thou dost invite me to converse with Thee,
I will open my heart with confidence, and speak.
O my Jesus, ardent Lover of souls,
I know to well the injustice and ingratitude of men
towards Thee.



Thou lovest them, and they do not love Thee;

Thou dost confer benefits on them,

and they return Thee with insults;

Thou wouldst have them hear Thy voice,

and they will not listen;

Thou dost offer them graces,

and they refuse them.

Ah! my Jesus, I, too,

was once among the number of these ungrateful

souls.

O my God, it is only too true.

But I desire to amend,

and I wish to compensate for the injuries I have done

Thee,

by doing all I can to please Thee for the remainder of

my life.

Tell me, O Lord, what Thou dost require of me.

I will do it without the least reserve.



Make known to me Thy will by the way of holy
obedience,

and I hope to accomplish it.

My God, I firmly promise never to leave undone any
act

which I know to be agreeable to Thee,
although the performance of it should cost me the
loss of all things

– of relations, friends, character, health,
and even life itself.

Let me loose all,
if only I may do Thy will!

Happy loss, when all is sacrificed to content Thy
heart,

O God of my soul!

I love Thee, O Sovereign Good,
above all goods worthy of my love,
and in loving Thee I unite my feeble heart



with the hearts of all the Seraphim.

I unite it with the Heart of Mary

and with the Heart of Jesus.

I love Thee with my whole soul;

I wish to love Thee alone,

now and for ever.

Amen.



Saint Alphonsus Liguori

Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the most Blessed Sacrament. I love you above all things and I desire to possess you within my soul.

Since I am unable now to receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as being already there, and unite myself wholly to you. Never, never permit me to be separated from you.



Saint Ambrose of Milan

Preparation before Mass, Prayer of St. Ambrose before Mass

Lord, Jesus Christ,
I approach your banquet table
in fear and trembling,
for I am a sinner,
and dare not rely on my own worth
but only on your goodness and mercy.
I am defiled by many sins
in body and soul,
and by my unguarded thoughts and words.
Gracious God of majesty and awe,
I seek your protection,
I look for your healing;
Poor troubled sinner that I am,



I appeal to you, the fountain of all mercy.

I cannot bear your judgment,
but I trust in your salvation.

Lord, I show my wounds to you.

I know my sins are many and great,
and they fill me with fear,
but I hope in your mercies,
for they cannot be numbered.

Lord Jesus Christ, eternal King, God and man,
crucified for mankind,
look upon me with mercy and hear my prayer,
for I trust in you.

Have mercy on me,
full of sorrow and sin,
for the depth of your compassion never ends.

Praise to you, saving sacrifice,
offered on the wood of the cross for me



and for all mankind.

Praise to the noble and precious blood,
flowing from the wounds of my crucified

Lord Jesus Christ

and washing away the sins of the whole world.

Remember, Lord, your creature,
whom you have redeemed with your blood.

I repent my sins,
and I long to put right what I have done.

Merciful Father, take away
all my offenses and sins;
purify me in body and soul,
and make me worthy to taste the holy of holies.

May your body and blood,
which I intend to receive,
although I am unworthy,
be for me the remission of my sins,



the washing away of my guilt,
the end of my evil thoughts,
and the rebirth of my better instincts.

May it incite me to do the works pleasing to you
and profitable to my health in body and soul,
and be a firm defense
against the wiles of my enemies. Amen.



Saint Bonaventure

Pierce, O Sweet Lord Jesus

PIERCE, O most Sweet Lord Jesus, my in-most soul with the most joyous and healthful wound of

Thy love, with true, serene, and most holy apostolic charity, that my soul may ever languish and melt with love and longing for Thee, that in longing for Thee, that it may yearn for Thee and faint for Thy courts, and long to be dissolved and to be with Thee.

Grant that my soul may hunger after Thee, the bread of angels, the refreshment of holy souls, our daily and super-substantial bread, having all sweetness and savour and every delight of taste; let my heart ever hunger after and feed upon Thee,



upon Whom the angels desire to look, and may my in-most soul be filled with the sweetness of Thy savour; may it ever thirst after Thee, the fountain of life, the fountain of wisdom and knowledge, the fountain of eternal light, the torrent of pleasure, the richness of the house of God.

May it ever compass Thee, seek Thee, find Thee, run to Thee, attain Thee, meditate upon Thee, speak of Thee, and do all things to the praise and glory of Thy Name, with humility and discretion, with love and delight, with ease and affection, and with perseverance unto the end.

May Thou alone be ever my hope, my entire assurance, my riches, my delight, my pleasure, my



joy, my rest and tranquility, my peace, my
sweetness, my fragrance, my sweet savour, my
food, my refreshment, my refuge, my help, my
wisdom, my portion, my possession and my
treasure, in Whom may my mind and my heart be
fixed and firmly rooted immovably henceforth
and forever. Amen.



Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton

O, food of Heaven

O, food of Heaven, how my soul longs for you
with desire! Seed of Heaven, pledge of its
immortality, of that eternity it pants for. Come,
come my Jesus, bury yourself within this heart. It
shall do its best to preserve that warmth which will
bring forth the fruits of eternity. O, Amen. Our
Jesus.



Saint Faustina Kowalska

Saint Faustina's Litany to the Blessed Host

*(Diary of Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska,
paragraph 159)*

O Blessed Host, in golden chalice enclosed for me,
That through the vast wilderness of exile I may pass -
pure, immaculate, undefiled;

Oh, grant that through the power of Your love
This might come to be.

O Blessed Host, take up Your dwelling within my
soul,

O Thou my heart's purest love!

With Your brilliance the darkness dispel.

Refuse not Your grace to a humble heart.

O Blessed Host, enchantment of all heaven,

Though Your beauty be veiled
And captured in a crumb of bread,
Strong faith tears away that veil.



*(Diary of Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska,
paragraph 356)*

O Blessed Host, in whom is contained
the testament of God's mercy for us,
and especially for poor sinners.

O Blessed Host, in whom is contained
the Body and Blood of the Lord Jesus
as proof of infinite mercy for us,
and especially for poor sinners.

O Blessed Host, in whom is contained
life eternal and of infinite mercy,
dispensed in abundance to us
and especially to poor sinners.

O Blessed Host, in whom is contained
the mercy of the Father, the Son,
and the Holy Spirit toward us,
and especially toward poor sinners.

O Blessed Host, in whom is contained
the infinite price of mercy which will
compensate for all our debts,



and especially those of poor sinners.

O Blessed Host, in whom is contained
the fountain of living water which springs
from infinite mercy for us,
and especially for poor sinners.

O Blessed Host, in whom is contained
the fire of purest love which blazes forth
from the bosom of the Eternal Father,
as from an abyss of infinite mercy for us,
and especially for poor sinners.

O Blessed Host, in whom is contained
the medicine for all our infirmities,
flowing from infinite mercy, as from a fount,
for us and especially for poor sinners.

O Blessed Host, in whom is contained
the union between God and us
through His infinite mercy for us,
and especially for poor sinners.



O Blessed Host, in whom are contained
all the sentiments of the most sweet
Heart of Jesus toward us,
and especially poor sinners.

O Blessed Host, our only hope
in all the sufferings and adversities of life.

O Blessed Host, our only hope
in the midst of darkness and of storms within and
without.

O Blessed Host, our only hope
in life and at the hour of our death.

O Blessed Host, our only hope
in the midst of adversities and floods of despair.

O Blessed Host, our only hope
in the midst of falsehood and treason.

O Blessed Host, our only hope
in the midst of the darkness and godlessness which
inundate the earth.



O Blessed Host, our only hope
in the longing and pain in which no one will
understand us.

O Blessed Host, our only hope
in the toil and monotony of everyday life.

O Blessed Host, our only hope
amid the ruin of our hopes and endeavors.

O Blessed Host, our only hope
in the midst of the ravages of the enemy and the
efforts of hell.

O Blessed Host, I trust in You
when the burdens are beyond my strength
and I find my efforts are fruitless.

O Blessed Host, I trust in You
when storms toss my heart about
and my fearful spirit tends to despair.



O Blessed Host, I trust in You
when my heart is about to tremble
and mortal sweat moistens my brow.

O Blessed Host, I trust in You
when everything conspires against me
and black despair creeps into my soul.

O Blessed Host, I trust in You
when my eyes will begin to grow dim
to all temporal things
and, for the first time,
my spirit will behold the unknown worlds.

O Blessed Host, I trust in You
when my tasks will be beyond my strength
and adversity will become my daily lot.

O Blessed Host I trust in You
when the practice of virtue will appear difficult for
me
and my nature will grow rebellious.



O Blessed Host, I trust in You
when hostile blows will be aimed against me.

O Blessed Host, I trust in You
when my toils and efforts will be misjudged by
others.

O Blessed Host, I trust in You
when Your judgments will resound over me;
it is then that I will trust in the sea of Your mercy.



Saint Francis of Assisi

The Real Presence of Jesus

The whole world should tremble and heaven rejoice, when Christ, the Son of the living God, is present on the altar in the hands of the priest.

What wonderful majesty! What stupendous condescension! O sublime humility! O humble sublimity! That the Lord of the whole universe, God and the Son of God, should humble himself like this and hide under the form of a little bread for our salvation. Look at God's condescension, my brothers, and pour out your hearts before him, humble yourselves that you may be exalted by him.



Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque

To My Eucharistic Lord

O LORD JESUS, my love, in memory of the Sacrifice of Thyself which Thou didst offer on the Cross and which Thou dost still offer in the Blessed Sacrament, I beg of Thee to accept that which I make of my whole being, immolated and sacrificed to Thy adorable designs and wishes. Receive me in the spirit of penance and sacrifice.

O Heavenly Physician of my soul, Sovereign Remedy for my evils, I present myself to Thee as a sick person without hope in any other but in the charitable Heart of my Savior, who alone knows my maladies and can cure me of them.



I hope for this favour from Thy bounty since in this amiable Sacrament Thou hast made Thyself my medicine, my healing balm. My cowardice and my coldness in Thy love have been the cause of all my infirmities; but Thou canst, if Thou wilt, cure me, for I am ready to suffer anything in order to be cured. Cut, burn, amputate; provided that I love Thee and be saved, I will submit to everything. On my part, I am ready to apply the iron and fire of entire mortification and crucifixion of myself to cure the wounds which pride and self-love have caused to my soul.

Apply Thyself then to my poor languishing heart as a balm of love. O my charitable Physician, have pity on my weakness and deliver me from it for the glory of Thy name. Amen.





Saint Peter Julian Eymard

Litany of the Most Blessed Sacrament

Lord, have mercy, R. *Lord, have mercy.*

Christ, have mercy, *Christ, have mercy.*

Lord, have mercy, *Lord, have mercy.*

Christ, hear us, *Christ, hear us.*

Christ, graciously hear us, *Christ, graciously hear us.*

God the Father of Heaven, *have mercy on us.*

God the Son, Redeemer of the world, *have mercy on us.*

God, the Holy Spirit, *have mercy on us.*

Holy Trinity, One God, *have mercy on us.*

O Living Bread, Who from Heaven descended,
have mercy on us.



Hidden God and Savior, *have mercy on us.*

Grain of the elect, *have mercy on us.*

Vine sprouting forth virgins, *have mercy on us.*

Wholesome Bread and delicacy of kings, *have
mercy on us.*

Perpetual sacrifice, *have mercy on us.*

Clean oblation, *have mercy on us.*

Lamb without spot, *have mercy on us.*

Most pure feast, *have mercy on us.*

Food of Angels, *have mercy on us.*

Hidden manna, *have mercy on us.*

Memorial of God's wonders, *have mercy on us.*

Super substantial Bread, *have mercy on us.*

Word made flesh, dwelling in us, *have mercy on us.*

Holy Victim, *have mercy on us.*

O Cup of blessing, *have mercy on us.*

O Mystery of faith, *have mercy on us.*



○ Most high and venerable Sacrament, *have mercy on us.*

○ Most holy of all sacrifices, *have mercy on us.*

○ True propitiatory Sacrifice for the living and the dead, *have mercy on us.*

○ Heavenly antidote, by which we are preserved from sin, *have mercy on us.*

○ stupendous miracle above all others, *have mercy on us.*

○ most holy Commemoration of the Passion of Christ, *have mercy on us.*

○ Gift transcending all abundance, *have mercy on us.*

○ extraordinary memorial of Divine love, *have mercy on us.*

○ affluence of Divine largess, *have mercy on us.*

○ most holy and august mystery, *have mercy on us.*



Medicine of immortality, *have mercy on us.*
Awesome and life-giving Sacrament, *have mercy on*
us.

Unbloody Sacrifice, *have mercy on us.*

Food and guest, *have mercy on us.*

Sweetest banquet at which the Angels serve, *have*
mercy on us.

Bond of love, *have mercy on us.*

Offering and oblation, *have mercy on us.*

Spiritual sweetness tasted in its own fountain, *have*
mercy on us.

Refreshment of holy souls, *have mercy on us.*

Viaticum of those dying in the Lord, *have mercy on*
us.

Pledge of future glory, *have mercy on us.*



Be merciful, *spare us, O Lord.*

Be merciful, *graciously hear us, O Lord.*

From the unworthy reception of Thy Body and
Blood, *deliver us, O Lord.*

From passions of the flesh, *deliver us, O Lord.*

From the concupiscence of the eyes, *deliver us, O
Lord.*

From pride, *deliver us, O Lord.*

From every occasion of sin, *deliver us, O Lord.*

Through that desire, with which Thou desirest to
eat the Passover with Thy disciples, *deliver us, O
Lord.*

Through that profound humility with which Thou
didst wash Thy disciples' feet, *deliver us, O Lord.*

Through that most ardent love, with which Thou
instituted this Divine Sacrament, *deliver us, O Lord.*



Through the most precious Blood, which Thou hast left for us upon the altar, *deliver us, O Lord.*

Through those Five Wounds of Thy most holy Body, which was given up for us, *deliver us, O Lord.*

Sinners we are, *we beseech Thee, hear us.*

That Thou wouldst graciously preserve and augment the faith, reverence, and devotion in us towards this admirable Sacrament, *we beseech Thee, hear us.*

That Thou wouldst graciously lead us through the true confession of our sins to a frequent reception of the Eucharist, *we beseech Thee, hear us.*

That Thou wouldst graciously free us from every heresy, falsehood, and blindness of the heart, *we beseech Thee, hear us.*



That Thou wouldst graciously impart to us the Heavenly and precious fruits of this most Holy Sacrament, *we beseech Thee, hear us.*

That Thou wouldst graciously protect and strengthen us in our hour of death with this Heavenly Viaticum, *we beseech Thee, hear us.*

O Son of God, *we beseech Thee, hear us.*

Lamb of God, Who taketh away the sins of the world, *spare us, O Lord.*

Lamb of God, Who taketh away the sins of the world, *graciously hear us, O Lord.*

Lamb of God, Who taketh away the sins of the world, *have mercy on us, O Lord.*

Christ, hear us, *Christ, hear us.*

Christ, graciously hear us, *Christ, graciously hear us.*

Lord, have mercy, *Lord, have mercy.*



Christ, have mercy, *Christ, have mercy.*

Lord, have mercy, *Lord, have mercy.*

Pray 1 Our Father and 1 Hail Mary

V. Thou didst furnish them with Bread from
Heaven, Alleluia.

R. Having in it every delight.

Let us pray: O God, Who under a marvellous
Sacrament has left us a memorial of Thy Passion;
grant us; we beseech Thee; so to venerate the
sacred mysteries of Thy Body and Blood, that we
may ever perceive within us the fruit of Thy
Redemption. Thou, Who livest and reignest
forever and ever. Amen.



Saint Pio of Pietrelcina

*Resta con me, Signore (Stay with Me, Lord):
Prayer of St. Pio of Pietrelcina After Holy
Communion*

Stay with me, Lord, for it is necessary to have You present so that I do not forget You. You know how easily I abandon You.

Stay with me, Lord, because I am weak and I need Your strength, that I may not fall so often.

Stay with me, Lord, for You are my life, and without You, I am without fervor.

Stay with me, Lord, for You are my light, and without You, I am in darkness. Stay with me, Lord, to show me Your will.



Stay with me, Lord, so that I hear Your voice and
follow You.

Stay with me, Lord, for I desire to love You very
much, and always be in Your company.

Stay with me, Lord, if You wish me to be faithful
to You.

Stay with me, Lord, for as poor as my soul is, I
want it to be a place of consolation for You, a nest
of love.

Stay with me, Jesus, for it is getting late and the
day is coming to a close, and life passes; death,
judgment, eternity approaches. It is necessary to
renew my strength, so that I will not stop along the
way and for that, I need You.

It is getting late and death approaches, I fear the
darkness, the temptations, the dryness, the cross,
the sorrows.



O how I need You, my Jesus, in this night of exile!

Stay with me tonight, Jesus, in life with all its
dangers. I need You.

Let me recognize You as Your disciples did at the
breaking of the bread, so that the Eucharistic
Communion be the Light which disperses the
darkness, the force which sustains me, the unique
joy of my heart.

Stay with me, Lord, because at the hour of my
death, I want to remain united to You, if not by
communion, at least by grace and love.

Stay with me, Jesus, I do not ask for divine
consolation, because I do not merit it, but the gift
of Your Presence, oh yes, I ask this of You!

Stay with me, Lord, for it is You alone I look for,
Your Love, Your Grace, Your Will, Your Heart,



Your Spirit, because I love You and ask no other
reward but to love You more and more.

With a firm love, I will love You with all my heart
while on earth and continue to love You perfectly
during all eternity. Amen.



(Attributed) Saint Pope John XXII

Prayer before the Blessed Sacrament

O Jesus, present in the Sacrament of the Altar, teach all nations to serve you with a willing heart, knowing that to serve God is to reign. May your sacrament, O Jesus, be light to the mind, strength to the will, joy to the heart. May it be the support for the weak, the comfort for the suffering, the wayfaring bread of salvation for the dying, and, for all, the pledge of future glory.



Saint Theresa of Calcutta, Mother Theresa

A Prayer for Deliverance

Deliver me, O Jesus,
From the desire of being loved,
From the desire of being extolled,
From the desire of being honored,
From the desire of being praised,
From the desire of being preferred,
From the desire of being consulted,
From the desire of being approved,
From the desire of being popular,
From the fear of being humiliated
From the fear of being despised,
From the fear of suffering rebukes,



From the fear of being culminated,
From the fear of being forgotten,
From the fear of being wronged,
From the fear of being ridiculed,
From the fear of being suspected.



Saint Thérèse of Lisieux

Song of Today

My life is a moment, a passing hour.
My life is a moment that flits away from me.
O my God, You know that for loving You on Earth
I have only today!

Oh! I love you Jesus, my soul is drawn to You.
Be my sweet support for one day alone!
Come reign in my heart, give me Your smile
Just for today!

What does it matter, Lord, if the future is bleak!
I cannot pray for tomorrow's needs.
Keep my heart pure, keep me in Your shade,
Just for today!



If I think of tomorrow, I fear my inconstancy,
And I feel stirrings of sadness and boredom in my
heart;

But I gladly accept the trial of suffering, O my
God,
Just for today!

Living Bread, Bread of Heaven, Eucharist divine,
Moving mystery that is the work of love:
Come, dwell in my heart, Jesus, my white Host,
Just for today!

I have only this passing day in which to form
This cluster of loving souls.

Oh! Jesus, give me the flaming spirit of an apostle,
Just for today!



Soon I shall fly away to sing His praises,
When the endless day dawns upon my soul
Then I shall sing on an angelic lyre
THE ETERNAL TODAY!



Saint Thomas Aquinas

Adoro te Devote
(Devoutly I Adore You)

ADORO te devote, latens Deitas, quae sub his
figuris vere latitas: tibi se cor meum totum subiicit,
quia te contemplanans totum deficit.

O Godhead hid, devoutly I adore Thee, Who truly
art within the forms before me; To Thee my heart
I bow with bended knee, As failing quite in
contemplating Thee.

Visus, tactus, gustus in te fallitur, sed auditu solo
tuto creditur; credo quidquid dixit Dei Filius: nil
hoc verbo Veritatis verius.



Jesus, eternal Shepherd! hear our cry; Increase the
faith of all whose souls on Thee rely.

Sight, touch, and taste in Thee are each deceived;
The ear alone most safely is believed: I believe all
the Son of God has spoken, Than truth's own word
there is no truer token.

In cruce latebat sola Deitas, at hic latet simul et
humanitas; ambo tamen credens atque confitens,
peto quod petivit latro paenitens.

God only on the cross lay hid from view; But here
lies hid at once the manhood too; And I, in both
professing my belief, Make the same prayer as the
repentant thief.



Plagas, sicut Thomas, non intueor; Deum tamen
meum te confiteor; fac me tibi semper magis
credere, in te spem habere, te diligere.

Thy wounds, as Thomas saw, I do not see; Yet
Thee confess my Lord and God to be; Make me
believe Thee evermore and more; In Thee my
hope, in Thee my love to store.

O memoriale mortis Domini! panis vivus, vitam
praestans homini! praesta meae menti de te vivere
et te illi semper dulce sapere.

O Thou memorial of our Lord's own dying! O
living bread, to mortals life supplying! Make Thou
my soul henceforth on Thee to live, Ever a taste of
heavenly sweetness give.



Pie pellicane, Iesu Domine, me immundum
munda tuo sanguine; cuius una stilla salvum
facere totum mundum quit ab omni scelere.

O loving Pelican! O Jesus Lord! Unclean I am, but
cleanse me in Thy Blood! Of which a single drop,
for sinners split, Can purge the entire world from
all its guilt.

Iesu, quem velatum nunc aspicio, oro fiat illud
quod tam sitio; ut te revelata cernens facie, visu
sim beatus tuae gloriae. Amen.

Jesus, whom, for the present, veil'd I see, What I so
thirst for, oh! vouchsafe to me; That I may see Thy
countenance unfolding, And may be blest Thy
glory in beholding. Amen.



Saint Thomas Aquinas

*Bone Pastor, Panis Vere
Good Shepherd, True Bread*

Bone Pastor, Panis Vere

Bone pastor, panis vere,

Iesu, nostri miserere:

Tu nos pasce, nos tuere:

Tu nos bona fac videre

In terra viventium.

Tu, qui cuncta scis et vales,

Qui nos pascis hic mortales:

Tu nos commensales,

Coheredes et sodales

Fac sanctorum civium.

Amen. Alleluia.



Good Shepherd, true bread, Jesus, have mercy on us:

Feed us, protect us:

Make us see good things

In the land of the living.

You who know and can do all things,

Who feed us mortal beings here:

Make us your table companions,

Co-heirs and comrades

Of the holy citizens [in heaven].

Amen. Alleluia.



Saint Thomas Aquinas

O Sacrum Convivium

O sacrum convivium, in quo Christus
sumitur; recolitur memoria passionis eius:
mens impletur gratia: et future gloriae nobis
pignus datur.

O sacred Banquet, wherein Christ is received; the memory
of His Passion renewed, the mind is filled with grace, and the
pledge of future glory is given unto us.



Saint Thomas Aquinas

*Verbum Supernum Prodiens
(The Heavenly Word Proceeding Forth)*

VERBUM supernum prodiens,
nec Patris linquens dexteram,
ad opus suum exiens,
venit ad vitae vesperam.

THE heavenly Word proceeding forth,
yet not leaving the Father's side,
went forth upon His work on earth
and reached at length life's eventide.

In mortem a discipulo
suis tradendus aemulis,
prius in vitae ferculo
se tradidit discipulis.
By false disciple to be given



to foemen for His Blood athirst,
Himself, the living Bread from heaven,
He gave to His disciples first.

Quibus sub bina specie
carnem dedit et sanguinem;
ut duplicis substantiae
totum cibaret hominem.

To them He gave, in twofold kind,
His very Flesh, His very Blood:
of twofold substance man is made,
and He of man would be the Food.

Se nascens dedit socium,
convescens in edulium,
se moriens in pretium,
se regnans dat in praemium.

By birth our fellowman was He,



our Food while seated at the board;
He died, our ransom to be;
He ever reigns, our great reward.

O salutaris hostia,
quae caeli pandis ostium,
bella premunt hostilia;
da robur, fer auxilium.

O saving Victim, opening wide
the gate of heaven to all below:
our foes press on from every side;
Thine aid supply, Thy strength bestow.

Uni trinoque Domino
sit sempiterna gloria:
qui vitam sine termino
nobis donet in patria. Amen.

To Thy great Name be endless praise,



immortal Godhead, One in Three!
O grant us endless length of days
in our true native land with Thee. Amen.



Saint Thomas Aquinas

Prayer before Communion

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, behold I come to the Sacrament of Thine only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ: I come as one infirm to the physician of life, as one unclean to the fountain of mercy, as one blind to the light of everlasting brightness, as one poor and needy to the Lord of heaven and earth. Therefore I implore the abundance of Thy measureless bounty that Thou wouldst vouchsafe to heal my infirmity, wash my uncleanness, enlighten my blindness, enrich my poverty and clothe my nakedness, that I may receive the Bread of Angels, the King of kings, the Lord of lords, with such reverence and humility, with such sorrow and devotion, with such purity



and faith, with such purpose and intention as may be profitable to my soul's salvation.

Grant unto me, I pray, the grace of receiving not only the Sacrament of our Lord's Body and Blood, but also the grace and power of the Sacrament. O most gracious God, grant me so to receive the Body of Thine only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, which He took from the Virgin Mary, as to merit to be incorporated into His mystical Body, and to be numbered amongst His members. O most loving Father, give me grace to behold forever Thy beloved Son with His face at last unveiled, whom I now purpose to receive under the sacramental veil here below. Amen.



Saint Thomas Aquinas

Prayer after Communion

I GIVE thanks to Thee, O Lord, most holy, Father almighty, eternal God, that Thou hast vouchsafed, for no merit of mine own, but out of Thy pure mercy, to appease the hunger of my soul with the precious Body and Blood of Thy Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ. Humbly I implore Thee, let not this holy communion be to me an increase of guilt unto my punishment, but an availing plea unto pardon and salvation. Let it be to me the armour of faith and the shield of good will. May it root out from my heart all vice; may it utterly subdue my evil passions and all my unruly desires. May it perfect me in charity and patience; in humility and obedience; and in all other virtues. May it be



my sure defence against the snares laid for me by my enemies, visible and invisible. May it restrain and quiet all my evil impulses, and make me ever cleave to Thee Who art the one true God. May I owe to it a happy ending of my life.

And do Thou, O heavenly Father, vouchsafe one day to call me, a sinner, to that ineffable banquet, where Thou, together with Thy Son and the Holy Ghost, art to Thy saints true and unfailing light, fullness of content, joy for evermore, gladness without alloy, consummate and everlasting happiness. Through the same Christ our Lord.
Amen.



Saint Thomas Aquinas

Tantum Ergo

Tantum ergo Sacramentum
Veneremur cernui:
Et antiquum documentum
Novo cedat ritui:
Præstet fides supplementum
Sensuum defectui.
Genitori, Genitoque
Laus et iubilatio,
Salus, honor, virtus quoque
Sit et benedictio:
Procedenti ab utroque
Compar sit laudatio.
Amen.



Down in adoration falling,
Lo! the sacred Host we hail;
Lo! o'er ancient forms departing,
newer rites of grace prevail;
faith for all defects supplying,
where the feeble senses fail.

To the everlasting Father,
and the Son who reigns on high,
with the Holy Ghost proceeding
forth from Each eternally,
be salvation, honor, blessing,
might and endless majesty. Amen.



Saint Thomas More

Prayer in Full Faith

Give me, good Lord, a full and fervent charity, a love of you, good Lord, incomparable above the love of myself; and that I love nothing to your displeasure but everything in an order to you. Take from me, good Lord, this lukewarm fashion, or rather this cold manner of meditation and this dullness in praying to you. And give me warmth, delight, and life in thinking about you. And give me your grace to long for your hold sacraments and specially to rejoice in the presence of your blessed body, sweet Savior, in the Holy Sacrament of the Altar, and duly to thank you for your gracious coming.



