



Excerpt from *Christ Our Pascha*

The Prayer of the Church

Part Two of the Catechism presents the liturgical life of the Church, that is, the Church's prayerful gathering in Christ. This gathering, or assembly, Takes place in the power of the Holy Spirit in order to give praise and thanksgiving to the Father. This assembly constitutes a communication of God with his people. Hear the Lord continues to speak and here he renews his salvific deeds for his people. At the same time, it is also the response of the Church to all the Lord's deeds and words revealed in the history of salvation, and recognized and received by the Church in faith. (#327)

Chapter 1," The Prayer of the Ecclesial Community," describes the following aspects of the Church's liturgical life: the Divine Liturgy, the Holy Mysteries (Sacraments), and the Liturgy of the Hours, as well as various consecrations and blessings. Liturgical services accompany each Christian from birth to death. With the light of Divine Grace they permeate every daily need, both material and spiritual. Through visible, earthly services - inseparably bound to the invisible and heavenly - the community of the faithful enters into communion with God and shows itself to be a single family of God, "with one heart in one voice." (#328)