



Unity

Hymn: Bind us together

**Bind us together, Lord bind us together
With cords that cannot be broken.
Bind us together, lord, bind us together,
Bind us together with Love.**

**There is only one God; there is only one King
There is only one body that is why I sing.**

**Made for the glory of God, purchased by
His precious blood
Born with the right to be clean,
For Jesus the Victory won.**

Priest: O Sacrament most Holy, O Sacrament Divine (3 times)

All: All praise and all thanksgiving be every moment thine!

Introduction:

Pope John Paul II says, "When Christians pray together, the goal of unity seems closer". As we begin our prayer, let us experience the presence of God who is a unity of three persons—the Father, the Son, the Holy Spirit. Through this prayer God wants to empower us to be the vehicles of unity wherever we go. Let us spend a few moments in silence praying that the Trinitarian unity becomes a vital reality in our lives.

Unity is the beauty and strength of our Christian life. The strength of a rope is in its closely-knit thread pieces. When they are separated we cannot use those pieces. So it is with us. The closer and more united we are, the stronger we will become and more durable our Christian life will be. Unity gives happiness to us. Unity means service, charity, bearing little inconveniences, giving up our selfishness and making little sacrifices.

Adoration: (All Together)

Lord Jesus Christ abiding in this Eucharist, we adore you. We thank you for giving us this sacrament of love, a sign of unity and a bond of charity, Jesus in this holy sacrament you are but a flame of love. Lord Jesus, it is you who have brought us together before you today. You loved us and gave yourself for us. You commanded us to love one another as you loved us. Today, coming before you, Jesus, we declare that we will love you above all things and we will love our brethren with all our heart and soul most selflessly. Give us that generosity to serve and love our brothers without self-seeking, to come to their aid undergoing sacrifice and even death. Jesus, we also ask your grace that we may be made one heart and one soul in you. Your most holy Eucharist is the center and source of our community life.

You prayed to the heavenly Father that we all may be one with the Father. According to your wish, Jesus, help us to be united in your love.

You are the corner stone, Jesus, and we are all built upon you into one temple. You are the head of our community.

Today we resolve to avoid all selfishness, to forgive one another unconditionally, to accept others as they are, and to help one another most generously. Remaining united and loving one another, we will proclaim to the world by our life that we are your disciples.

Hymn: Come in pilgrim

**We're all comrades as we travel on the way
We share our common gift, our covenant in Christ
And we're going to celebrate His love today
We will sing and celebrate His love today**

**When we come to join in pray, let us first confess
That we've looked to much to our selves
And loved each other less**

**Here the Word proclaimed with power
To search the hearts of all
We must make its meaning new
By responding to its call**

Penitential Rite: (Response: Have mercy heal us for we have sinned against you)

- 1. Forgive us Lord for the times we have built bridges of hatred instead of bridges of unity and love. (R)**
- 2. Forgive us O Lord, for the times we have withdrawn ourselves from building a community and family of love and unity. (R)**
- 3. We are sorry for not contributing our bit in the parish work. (R)**
- 4. We are sorry for refusing to be a thread in the rope of unity. (R)**

Scripture Reading (St. John 17: 20-23)

Reflection:

Jesus himself at the hour of his Passion, prayed "that they may all be one" (John 17:21). This unity, which the Lord has bestowed on his Church and in which He wishes to embrace all people, is not something added on, but stands at the very heart of Christ's mission. Nor is it some secondary attribute of the community of His disciples. Rather, it belongs to the very essence of that community. God wills the Church, because He wills unity, and unity is an expression of the whole depth of His agape.

In effect, this unity bestowed by the Holy Spirit does not merely consist in the gathering of people as a collection of individuals. "It is a unity constituted by the bonds of the profession of faith, the sacraments and hierarchical communion" (Lumen Gentium, 14). The faithful are one because, in the Spirit, there are in communion with the Son and, in Him, share in His communion with the Father: "Our fellowship is with the Father and with His son Jesus Christ" (1Jn 1:3). For the Catholic Church, then, the communion of Christians is none other than the manifestation in them of the grace by which God makes them sharers in His own communion, which is eternal life. Christ's words, "That they may be one"



are thus His prayer to the Father that the Father's plan may be fully accomplished in such a way that everyone may clearly see "what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things" (Eph 3:9). (Ut Unum Sint, No. 9)

Do we both individually and as a community interiorise this dream of a master? Are we using every means possible to make this dream a reality even when it involves ridicule, opposition and struggle?

The Lord has prayed for us and has promised to be with us always. Let us then focus our eyes on this noble goal, namely, unity and wholeness within ourselves and unity among all peoples: we will thus worship God as one family.

Hymn: Here we are altogether as we

Sing our song joyfully

Here we are altogether as we pray

We'll always be

Join us now as friends

And celebrate the unity we share, all as one

Keep the fire burning, kindle it with care

And we'll all join in and sing

Let us make the world an alleluia

Let us make the world a better place

Keep a smile handy, lend a helping hand

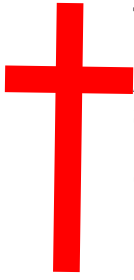
And we'll all join in and sing.

Intercessory Prayers: (Response: That we may be one in Jesus)

1. Lord you chose your apostles from different walks of life. Today we ask you, Lord, to touch the hearts of all our parishioners that they may come together with one heart and mind to build this community with love and unity. (R)
2. Jesus you still find divisions among ourselves, we ask you to help us to forgive and forget and to come together as your followers to work for unity and peace. (R)
3. That we may have a heart similar to that of Jesus, so as to extend our service to all people irrespective of caste, color and creed. (R)
4. That we may open ourselves to the powerful influence of the Spirit, so that our growth in unity, love and truth may be achieved as willed by Jesus. (R)
5. We ask you, Lord, that all our Christian families may become schools of unity and love. (R)

Thanksgiving Prayer: (All Together)

Thank you, Father, for making us a people who experience unity and fellowship in your Son, Jesus. Of all the divine gifts that make us like you, the most divine is this: that we can forgive. Please help us to rise above our anger and choose to forgive. We ask your blessings on our human frailty; heal our wounds less they fester. We ask you for a love that is stronger than hurts, that we may love the very ones who have caused us pain. May we all take part in our common pilgrimage to you, Our Father. Thank you for your free gift of peace and unity.



Adoration Hymn: Let us bow in adoration

To the Sacrament so great so great
Here is new and perfect worship
All the old must terminate
Senses cannot grasp this marvel
Faith must serve to compensate
Glory, honour adoration
Let us sing with one accord
Praised be God, almighty Father. Praise be Christ, his son, Our Lord
Praise be God, the Holy Spirit. Triune God head be adored. Amen

Final Blessing (Priest)

Celebrant: You have given them bread from heaven.
Response: containing in itself all sweetness.

Father your will your church to be the sacrament of salvation for all people. Make us feel more urgently the call to work for the salvation of all nations, until you have made us into one people. Inspire the hearts of all to continue the saving work of Jesus everywhere until the end of the world. Grant us this through Christ our lord Amen.

Divine Praises

Blessed be God
Blessed be His holy name
Blessed be Jesus Christ, true God and true man
Blessed be the name of Jesus
Blessed be His most Sacred Heart
Blessed be His most precious blood
Blessed be Jesus in the most holy Sacrament of the altar
Blessed be the Holy Spirit, the Paraclete
Blessed be the great Mother of God, Mary most holy
Blessed be her holy and Immaculate Conception
Blessed be glorious assumption
Blessed be the name of Mary, virgin and Mother
Blessed be St. Joseph, her most chaste spouse
Blessed be God in his angels and in his saints.

Final Hymn: We are happy Christians

We are happy Christians
All united in the Lord
We belong to one family
Jesus Christ has chosen us to carry on his life
Over every land and sea
From the North and from the South
And from the East and West
He has called us together

And we are delighted
That we united, yes we are united into God's own family (2)

Now as Christians we must try to live the Gospel life
Living in simplicity
We will share the goods we have with everyone in need
Just as Christ like Charity.
We are grateful that God called us to his way of life
In the footsteps of our saviour