

## Texts for Liturgy of Exposition [and Benediction]

### Opening Prayer

(See prayer on reverse of page)

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

Leader: See in this bread the body that hung on the cross; see in this cup the blood that flowed from his side. Take and eat the body of Christ; take and drink his blood. For now you are members of Christ.

Response: Receive the bond of love and be united; receive the price of your salvation and know your worth. For now you...

### Readings

**First Reading:** Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24

*You have come to Jesus, the mediator who brings a blood for purification which pleads more insistently than Abel's.*

**Psalm** 39:2, 4, 7-10

*Here I am, O Lord, I come to do your will.*

**Gospel:** John 15:9-17

*This is my commandment: love one another, as I have loved you.*

### Prayer before Blessing

Lord our God,  
teach us to cherish in our hearts  
the paschal mystery of your Son  
by which you redeemed the world.  
Watch over the gifts of grace  
your love has given us  
and bring them to fulfilment  
in the glory of heaven.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**Opening Prayer:** *Roman Missal, Common of the Dedication of a Church.*; **Responsory:** *Holy Communion and Worship of the Eucharist outside Mass (HCW) (Appendix 3. Responsories);* **Readings:** *Biblical Readings for HCW Acts and Psalm from On the theme of the most Holy Eucharist (New Testament reading 5 and Psalm 3); Gospel from On the theme of God's Love for All (6)* **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



## 4. The Growth of the Church

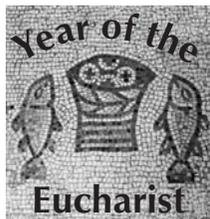
# Resources for Liturgy of Eucharistic Exposition

There is a tendency in our society at large and in the Church to concentrate on the negative aspects of our present situation. It is our belief that today we have unparalleled opportunities for the gospel to be shared. The door, far from being shut is wide open to a faithful, sensitive and relevant sharing of the riches of our faith. As we stand on the threshold with those who come seeking initiation we know Christ stands with us and will journey with us all into the fullness of life he promises.’

Paragraph 4 from *On the Threshold*.

In the Eucharist, Christ’s gift of his life to his Father for our salvation is made present, so that we may be united with him in his sacrifice and be accepted in him by the Father: ‘In the celebration of the memorial, Christ in the Holy Spirit unites his people with himself in a sacramental way so that the Church enters into the movement of his self-offering.’ The Mass is the ultimate act of worship. By our communion with the Risen Christ, we become one with him in his giving of himself to the Father. Our lives are at-one with his as he commends his spirit to the Father. United with Christ, we lift up our hearts to the Father and give him thanks and praise. ‘Through him, with him and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit’, the Church becomes ‘an everlasting gift’ to the Father, ‘a living sacrifice of praise.’ We give to God all that he first gave to us, all that we are and have, uniting ourselves with the self-giving of Jesus himself. Our sharing in the Eucharist should make us a sacrificial people, lifting up and laying down our lives in love for God and for one another, and sharing all that we have and are with those in need.

Paragraph 34 from *One Bread One Body*



### Resources for Year of the Eucharist

- Exposition of the Holy Eucharist — Guide
- Holy Hours

for more information: [www.liturgyoffice.org.uk/Resources/](http://www.liturgyoffice.org.uk/Resources/)

Extract from *On The Threshold* © 2000 The Bishops’ Conference of England and Wales and *One Bread One Body* © 1998 Catholic Bishops’ Conferences of England & Wales, Ireland and Scotland.

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## Prayer for the growth of the Church

God our Father,  
from living stones, your chosen people,  
you built an eternal temple to your glory.  
Increase the spiritual gifts you have given to your Church,  
so that your faithful people may continue to grow  
into the new and eternal Jerusalem.

We ask this through our Lord, Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*The Roman Missal*

## Litany

You are the Bread of life:

**Alleluia!** [or Praise to you, O Christ! *in Lent*]

You are the Bread of salvation:

**Alleluia!**

You are the Blood that redeemed us:

**Alleluia!**

You are the source of our joy:

**Alleluia!**

You are the Bread that feeds us:

**Alleluia!**

You are the Blood that quenches our thirst:

**Alleluia!**

You are the Bread that comforts is:

**Alleluia!**

You are the Bread that gives us strength:

**Alleluia!**

You are the Bread that heals us in body and mind:

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

[or Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory! *in Lent*]

*HCW, Supplementary Appendix*