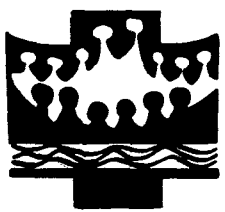


**Insights
In Liturgy**

By Sister Nancy Burkin, SSJ



**Communion
Rite and
Lord's Prayer**

As the reverberations of our Amen to the Eucharistic Prayer fade, we begin the third part of the Liturgy of the Eucharist: the Communion Rite. In the very early centuries of the Church, this rite consisted simply of the breaking of the bread into the number of pieces needed for the people present and the reception of the consecrated bread and wine by all. As time went on ceremonial and preparatory prayers were added to the originally simple action of breaking and distributing. What has been added to the Communion Rite has resulted from a theological reflection on the rite itself as well as its relation to the Eucharistic Prayer. The reflection is naturally affected by historical circumstances as well as the theological understanding of Eucharist prevalent at the time.

So, in the Eucharist celebrated from Trent to Vatican II the Communion Rite included the Lord's Prayer, usually recited by the priest alone, a number of private preparation prayers for the priest, an optional sign of peace shared only by the clergy and a heavy emphasis on the sinful unworthiness of the laity. The changes made by Vatican II in this rite are an attempt to regain the relationship of its elements (the Lord's Prayer, the Sign of Peace, the breaking of the bread and the preparation and distribution of Communion to those present) to the role of the assembly and the Eucharistic Prayer. The other elements will be discussed in future articles; in this one we will examine the Lord's Prayer.

The celebration of Eucharist is a memorial word/action. The Eucharist Prayer is our memorial word, while in the Communion Rite we do in act what we have said in that word. We conclude the Eucharistic Prayer with an acclamation of assent, Amen, that we "with Jesus, through Jesus, and in Jesus" give all honor and glory to the Father. We, in word, have ourselves come into union with Jesus the Lord and we move into coming into union with him in the act of "communion," the eating and drinking of his body and blood. Our first action is the explication that to be one with the Lord is to be children of the Father. So we pray together, Our Father.

In the early Western Church and before Vatican II, the priest recited this prayer alone; today we pray it together. It is followed by a development of the last petition of the prayer, called the embolism, and concluded by a doxology of praise "For the kingdom, the power and the glory." (c.f. General Instruction, 56a) We should look upon these as parts of a whole and pray

them as such. If the Lord's Prayer is sung, the embolism and the doxology should be also. If the priest has difficulty singing the embolism, instrumental music behind his spoken prayer helps to continue the flow from a sung Lord's Prayer to the sung doxology.

**Group to Aid
Burn Victims**

Elmira — A support group for burn victims and their families is being formed through the Twin Tiers Rehabilitation Center of St. Joseph's Hospital. The first meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m., on Wednesday, April 27, in the doctors meeting room of St. Joseph's Hospital. Membership is open to burn victims who have been patients in the Burn Care Unit at St. Joseph's and other hospitals, as well as members of their families.

The purpose of the group is to aid burn victims and their families through open discussion of problems and the special needs, both psychological and social, which are encountered on the road to recovery. Coordinating the initial group is Ms. Yvonne Monell, a former burn patient; Mrs. Gail Christofaro, the mother of a child who was severely burned, and Dr. Craig Barringer, St. Joseph's Hospital director of psychology.

Persons interested in attending can call the Twin Tiers Rehabilitation Center at 733-6571, ext. 360.

The doxology added to the Lord's Prayer is often thought of as an ecumenical gesture since it was traditionally described as the "Protestant" ending. The doxology which appears as part of the Lord's Prayer in the Didache (c. 60 AD) is in fact more in keeping with a Jewish prayer form, the Berakah, which began and concluded with a doxology.

We, the assembled people of God, united in word with the Lord, pray to the God who is our Father, too, as we prepare for the act of communion. We pray for forgiveness, mutual peace and for that food which gives us life everlasting and by which we in an act of eating and drinking become one.

**COMING...
COURIER
CASH
CLASSIFIED
COLUMNS**

**They
mean
MONEY
in your
POCKET**

attie's
Est. 1940

1467 PENFIELD RD.
PANORAMA PLAZA
ROCHESTER, N.Y. 14625

**Young
Fashions**

586-8655

MON.-FRI. 10-9
SAT. 10-6

**LARGE
SELECTION
OF
BEAUTIFUL
DRESSES**

**"For
First Holy
Communion"**

* INFANTS * SCHOOL UNIFORMS
* BOYS TO SIZE 20 * GIRLS TO TEEN

**APRIL
ATTRACTIONS**

**APRIL 18-21
WEEK OF
THE
YOUNG CHILD**



**Classroom Demonstrations
10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Children's Art
and General Information on
Child Care**

**Coming...
APRIL 22, 23, 24
presented by the
John Deere Corp., and
featuring the
"Weekend Gardener,"
Jim Bennett
LISTEN TO WNYR
FOR GARDENING TIPS**



Also This Month

**APRIL 27-MAY 1
1st ANNUAL BUILDERAMA
SPONSORED BY**



FEATURING MANUFACTURERS HOME PRODUCTS

**LILAC PROM
FOR
SENIOR CITIZENS
SUNDAY MAY 15
6:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m.**

Music by the
Carl Dengler Orchestra
\$3.00 PER PERSON
Tickets may be purchased
April 22, 23, May 6, 7, 12, 13
At Booth in Mall
Critic's Restaurant is offer-
ing special dinner menu,
from 5:30 to 8:00 p.m.
Call 227-5520



LONG RIDGE MALL

Ridge Rd. W. & Long Pond Rd. in Greece

YOUR SHOPPING SHOWPLACE