

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Missionaries of Africa - MSOLA

* Keep us ever united in heart and mind with Benedict our Pope,
our Bishop ... all other Bishops,
and the whole Church Family.
Make of our Church a sign of hope
for all those who suffer in body, mind and spirit.
Help us to love each one of your children
with the selfsame love with which you love them.

* We also pray for our Missionary Societies.
Strengthen us in our determination to become
what you are calling us to be:
an amiable family where everyone finds a place
and faithfully lives out his or her vocation
in bearing witness to the Gospel.
May our energies contribute to the coming of your Kingdom.

* Father Most Holy, grant us to live in communion with
Our Lady of Africa and
all the Martyrs and Saints of Africa,
with Charles Lavigerie and Mother Salome,
together with all the members of our Societies
who have gone before us.

* Once our earthly pilgrimage is over,
welcome us together with all of them into your Kingdom,
where we may, with the whole of creation,
freed at last from every shadow of sin and death,
glorify you through Christ our Lord,
through whom you give us everything that is good.

Through him, with him, in him
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory and honour is yours,
almighty Father,
forever and ever. Amen.

Father Most Holy,
it is truly right and proper to give you thanks
at all times and in all places.

In your goodness, you created the universe in all the splendour
of its diversity.
Today, we praise you especially for the continent of Africa.
We praise you for its vast plains and awe-inspiring mountains,
we praise you for its forests, savannahs and deserts,
we praise you for its rivers, streams and lakes
and for the oceans bathing its shores;
we praise you for its deep blue skies and starlit nights.

Above all, we praise you for the sons and daughters of Africa.
We thank you for the enthusiasm of its youth and the wisdom
of its elders.
We thank you for their varied cultures and their love of life.
We thank you for the countless pathways you take to meet them.
We thank you for the fullness of life to which you call them.

We thank you for having called us to take part in your mission
at the heart of the Church Family,
your sacrament of love for this continent

That is why with the angels and the saints
we unite our voices proclaiming your glory as we sing:
HOLY, HOLY, HOLY!

Father Most Holy, from the beginning you formed the plan
to gather all things together under Christ.
Through him you predestined every human being
to become your child.

When the time came
you entrusted to him the Mission of inaugurating your Kingdom.

From generation to generation
you raised up apostles to announce this Good News
and to bear witness to the reality of a new creation.

Today you call us to be apostles and only apostles.
You gather us in witnessing communities
to go out and meet every man and woman,
no matter his or her culture or religion.
You inspire us to consecrate our lives
on behalf of those who are outcasts despised and exploited.
You ask us to be all things to all men and women.

We thank you for our vocation
as we gather round your altar
to renew the Covenant he sealed with his blood.

AND SO FATHER, WE BRING YOU THESE GIFTS.
WE ASK YOU TO MAKE THEM HOLY BY THE POWER
OF YOUR SPIRIT,
THAT THEY MAY BECOME THE BODY AND BLOOD
OF YOUR SON, OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST,
AT WHOSE COMMAND WE CELEBRATE THIS EUCHARIST

ON THE NIGHT HE WAS BETRAYED
HE TOOK BREAD AND GAVE YOU THANKS AND PRAISE.
HE BROKE THE BREAD, GAVE IT TO HIS DISCIPLES
AND SAID:
TAKE THIS ALL OF YOU AND EAT IT
THIS IS MY BODY WHICH WILL BE GIVEN UP FOR YOU.

WHEN SUPPER WAS ENDED, HE TOOK THE CUP,
AGAIN HE GAVE YOU THANKS AND PRAISE,
GAVE THE CUP TO HIS DISCIPLES AND SAID:
TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND DRINK FROM IT:
THIS IS THE CUP OF MY BLOOD,
THE BLOOD OF THE NEW AND EVERLASTING COVENANT.
IT WILL BE SHED FOR YOU AND FOR ALL
SO THAT SINS MAY BE FORGIVEN.
DO THIS IN MEMORY OF ME.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:
(Acclamation)

FATHER, CALLING TO MIND THE DEATH
YOUR SON ENDURED FOR OUR SALVATION
HIS GLORIOUS RESURRECTION AND ASCENSION
INTO HEAVEN
AND READY TO GREET HIM WHEN HE COMES AGAIN,
WE OFFER YOU IN THANKSGIVING
THIS HOLY AND LIVING SACRIFICE.

(Concelebrants):

* Open our hearts to your Spirit.
Let us be teachable to the inspirations of the Paraclete
and keep us ready and willing to be guided
wherever your Holy Spirit seeks to lead us.