

THE KEYS



Church of St. Peter the Apostle
Anglican Catholic Diocese of the Mid-Atlantic States
www.dmas-acc.org

The Rev. Canon Peter Geromel, OHI, DMin - Rector
February 2024
<https://stpetersacc.org>

Fr. Seeley's Corner

The Collect for Purity

This is a prayer we say every Eucharist. It is a tremendous statement of the omnipotence of God, and of his saving mercy. The prayer is a wonderful meditation as we leave the Christmas season and move toward Lent.

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid; cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy Holy Name, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Any Collect, or formal prayer of the Church has three parts: The address, the petition, and the doxology. The address is whom we are speaking to; in the case of a church collect, we are addressing God. But oftentimes we are not just addressing God, but some aspect of Him, or shall we say that we are addressing God by calling to mind some aspect of Him.

In the Collect for Purity we are addressing his almightiness. *To whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid.* This litany of attributes is quite impressive and denote God's all-presence and all-knowledge. The address is the first part of any collect.

Next there is the petition. The petition is just what it sounds like; it is what we are asking for. *perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy name.* In this collect we are asking God to purify us interiorly that we might do two things; perfectly love Him, and worthily magnify his name. This is a nice, concise, almost simplified definition of the Summary of the Law. This is the true goal of the Christian life. To perfectly love God, and to worthy magnify his holy name; that is to be shining examples of the Grace of God to the world around us.

Lastly there is the doxology. *Dox* means praise in Greek. You have surely heard of the Greek Orthodox Church, or the Russian Orthodox Church: orthodox means "right praise". This refers to their claim that they have guarded the doctrine, or praise of God as taught by Jesus and passed on to his apostles. A doxology is a phrase praising or extolling God. It can be simple like it is in the Collect for Purity *through Christ our Lord*, or it can be complex like it is in many Sunday Collects: *through Jesus Christ Our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end.* It can even include other members of the Trinity, like when speaking of the world of the Holy Ghost: *through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with the Father and the same Holy Ghost, one God world without end.*

In this collect we are asking God to purify us interiorly that we might do two things; perfectly love Him, and worthily magnify his name. This is a nice, concise, almost simplified definition of the Summary of the Law. This is the true goal of the Christian life. To perfectly love God, and to worthy magnify his holy name; that is to be shining examples of the Grace of God to the world around us. As a further aside, when singing a collect, the end is denoted by dropping a step down on the last syllable, when singing a collect, the doxology is finished by a Metrum at the end. The only exception to that is during the Eucharist, it is common to finish with the phrase: "world without end", on the same tone that the congregation will respond with, to "set the tone for them".

This is our Collect for Purity which is a wonderful prayer with which to begin the liturgy, and is unique to Anglicanism.

New Adult Sunday School Class. John Breck's *God with Us: Critical Issues in Christian Faith and Life*. John Breck is described as an "Eminent Orthodox ethicist and pastor." Of this work, Fr. Breck says, "My aim has been to discuss critical moral, biblical, and general theological issues in a way that is relevant to the lives of Christian people today, while remaining faithful to the sacred tradition of the Orthodox Church... Because a few of these writings are controversial, they will inevitably elicit disagreement... But that is all the good, if they succeed in provoking reflection that will provide better answers than I can offer to the challenges we Orthodox Christians are currently facing..."

News and Information

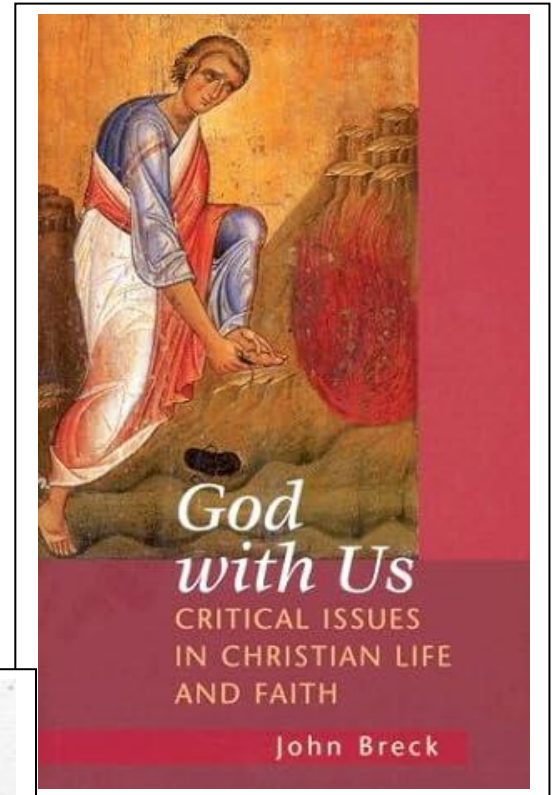
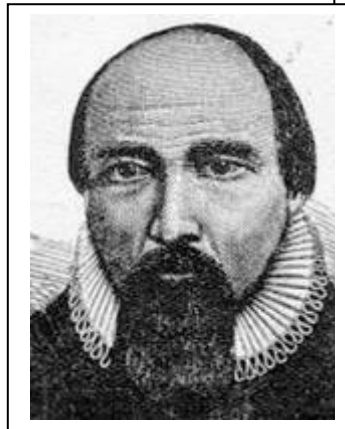
Shrove Tuesday, Feb. 13: Confessions heard in church 4-5 pm.

Men arrive to cook, 5:30 pm. Pancake Supper, 6 pm.

Ash Wednesday, Feb. 14: 12 Noon & 6 pm.

Wednesday, Feb. 24: Poem Study at 6 pm; Mass at 7 pm; Vestry at 7:30 PM.

Wednesdays in Lent (Except Feb. 24 & until Holy Week): Soup & Poem Study, 6 pm. Poem Study will be on some of the Icelandic Passion Hymns of Hallgrímur Pétursson (1614 - 27 October 1674).



FEBRUARY, 2024						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
LEGEND: HC - Holy Communion; FHE – Festal Holy Eucharist; HE - Holy Eucharist; SS – Sunday School; PG - Prayer Group; EP – Evening Prayer; MP – Morning Prayer; P&HU – Prayers and Holy Unction				[1] 12 noon HC	[2]	[3] 5:00 p.m. HC
[4] 8:00 a.m. MP & HC 10:00 a.m. HE SEXAGESIMA	[5]	[6]	[7]	[8] 12 noon HC	[9]	[10] 5:00 p.m. HC
[11] 8:00 a.m. MP & HC 10:00 a.m. HE, SS QUINQUAGESIMA	[12]	[13] 4-5 p.m. Confessions 6:00 p.m. Pancake supper SHROVE TUESDAY	[14] 12 noon HC 6:00 p.m. HC ASH WEDNESDAY	[15] 12 noon HC	[16]	[17] 5:00 p.m. HC
[18] 8:00 a.m. MP & HC 10:00 a.m. HE, SS LENT I	[19]	[20]	[21] 6:00 p.m. Soup and poem study	[22] 12 noon HC	[23]	[24] 5:00 p.m. HC
[25] 8:00 a.m. MP & HC 10:00 a.m. HE, SS LENT II	[26]	[27]	[28] 6:00 p.m. Poem study 7:00 p.m. HC 7:30 p.m. Vestry	[29] 12 noon HC		

IN THE LORD'S SERVICE

If you cannot fulfill your assigned duty because of an urgent reason, PLEASE SECURE A REPLACEMENT.

	February 4	February 11	February 18	February 25	March 3
Coffee Hour	V. Williams	C. deRosset	L. Olver	B. Von Claparede	M. Slayton
Epistoler 8 a.m.	C. Von Claparede	D. Drysdale	C. Von Claparede	G. Mauney	D. Drysdale
Epistoler 10 a.m.	T. Paisley	P. Williams	T. Paisley	G. Terrell	P. Williams

Altar servers and ushers will be assigned as available before each service.

2024 Vestry (term end): George Mauney (?25), Lisa Olver (?24), Ted Paisley (?24),
Mike Slayton (?25), George Terrell (?26), Vicki Williams (?26)