

P R E C E S

Prayers for Before Mass

From the Roman Missal

(part 2)

Oratio S. Ambrosii Ante Missam

Ad mensam dulcissimi convívii tui, pie Dómine Jesu Christe, ego peccátor de própriis meis méritis nihil præsúmens, sed de tua confídens misericórdia et bonitáte, accédere véreor et contremísco. Nam cor et corpus hábeo multis crimínibus maculátum, mentem et linguam non caute custodítam. Ergo, o pia Déitas, o treménda majéstas, ego miser, inter angústias deprehénsus, ad te fontem misericórdiæ recúrro, ad te festíno sanándus, sub tuam protectiónem fúgio; et, quem júdicem sustinére néqueo, salvatórem habére suspíro. Tibi, Dómine, plagas meas osténdo, tibi verecúndiam meam détego. Scio peccáta mea multa et magna, pro quibus tímeo: spero in misericórdias tuas, quarum non est número. Réspice ergo in me óculis misericórdiæ tuæ, Dómine Jesu Christe, Rex ætérne, Deus et homo, crucifíxus propter hóminem. Exáudi me sperántem in te: miserére mei pleni misériis et peccátis, tu qui fontem miseratiónis nunquam manáre cessábis. Salve, salutáris víctima, pro me et omni humáno género in patíbulo crucis obláta. Salve, nóbilis et pretiósé sanguis, de vulnéribus crucifíxi Dómini mei Jesu Christi prófluens, et peccáta totíus mundi ábluens. Recordáre, Dómine, creatúræ tuæ, quam tuo sángine redemísti. Poénitet me peccásse, cúpío emendáre quod feci. Aufer ergo a me, clementíssime Pater, omnes iniquitátes et peccáta mea; ut, purificátus mente et córpore, digne degustáre mérear Sancta sanctorum. Et

Prayer of St. Ambrose

O loving Lord Jesus Christ, I a sinner, presuming not on my own merits, but trusting in Thy mercy and goodness, with fear and trembling approach the table of Thy most sacred banquet. For I have defiled both my heart and body with many sins, and have not kept a strict guard over my mind and my tongue. Wherefore, O gracious God, O awful Majesty, I, a wretched creature, entangled in difficulties, have recourse to Thee the fount of mercy; to Thee do I fly that I may be healed, and take refuge under Thy protection, and I ardently desire to have Him as my Saviour, whom I am unable to withstand as my Judge. To Thee, O Lord, I show my wounds, to Thee I lay bare my shame. I know that my sins are many and great, on account of which I am filled with fear. But I trust in Thy mercy, of which there is no end. Look down upon me, therefore, with the eyes of Thy mercy, O Lord Jesus Christ, eternal King, God and Man, crucified for men. Harken unto me, for my hope is in Thee; have mercy on me, who am full of misery and sin, Thou who wilt never cease to let flow the fountain of mercy. Hail, Victim of salvation, offered for me and for all mankind on the tree of the cross. Hail, noble and precious Blood, flowing from the wounds of my crucified Lord Jesus Christ and washing away the sins of the whole world. Remember, O Lord, Thy creature, whom Thou hast redeemed with Thy Blood. I am grieved because I have sinned, I desire to make amends for what I have done. Take away from me therefore, O most merciful Father, all my iniquities and sins, that, being purified both in soul and