

Catechists: Steward of the Mysteries
December 10, 2022

1. Maximus the Confessor, *The Mystagogy* 20, (trans. Armstrong, 79-80, adapted).

What is the symbolism of the Holy Prayer, the “Our Father?”

The all-holy and revered epiclesis of our great and blessed God and Father is a symbol of...adoption which will be given according to the gift and grace of the Holy Spirit. When this adoption occurs, every human particularity will be overcome and concealed, and all the saints will be called and will be sons of God by the grace that has come upon them, as many as washed themselves brightly and gloriously from then on in the beauty of goodness through the virtues.

2. Maximus the Confessor, *Commentary on the Our Father*, (trans. Berthold, 103, adapted).

In becoming incarnate, the Word of God teaches us theology, because he shows us in himself the Father and the Holy Spirit. For the full Father and the full Holy Spirit are essentially and completely in the full Son, even the incarnate Son, without being incarnate themselves. For the Father gives approval and the Spirit cooperates in the incarnation with the Son who effected it.

3. Maximus the Confessor, *Commentary on the Our Father*, (trans. Berthold, 115, adapted.)

In truth he forgives, in *apatheia*, those who sin against him...And for God he makes himself an exemplar of virtue, if one can say this, and invites the one beyond imitation to imitate him by saying, “Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.” He summons God to be to him as he is to his neighbors.

4. The Oh Hellos, “Like the Dawn”

I was sleeping in the garden
When I saw you first
He'd put me deep,
Deep under so that he could work
And like the dawn
You broke the dark and my whole earth
shook
I was sleeping in the garden
When I saw you

At last, at last
Bones of my bones and flesh of my flesh, at
last
You were the brightest shade
Of sun I had ever seen
Your skin was gilded with
The gold of the richest kings
And like the dawn
You woke the world inside of me
You were the brightest shade
Of sun when I saw you
And you will surely be the death of me
But how could I have known?