

25.1.68

Our Father  
(Russian Lit.)

"That they may be one, even as we are one" (Jn 17")

O Jesus, through the most pure heart of Mary, I offer you all the thoughts, words and deeds of this day for the intentions of your sacred heart. I offer them to you especially that all Christians be convinced that there can be no ecumenism worthy of the name without a change of heart. These last words are a direct quotation from the Vatican Council document on Ecumenism. Last Monday I tried to express what they demand of us, especially during the week of prayer for Christian unity. Today, the feast of the conversion of St. Paul, marks the end of this special week of prayer. That doesn't mean we can now just carry on as before, forget about it until next January. If we've prayed in spirit with all our Christian brethren for the past week, prayed with the ardent longing of a man like Pope John who understood what was really at stake, we cannot be satisfied to go back to any former apathy or complacency. We'll remember the words of one of the pioneers in the field of efforts towards re-union, Cardinal Newman: "In order to be united it is necessary to love one another; in order to love one another it is necessary to know one another; in order to know one another, it is necessary to meet one another." Each in our own way and as God gives us the opportunity, we can try to do what another pioneer

in promoting this week of Christian unity tried to do - to deepen the love of God in all Christians, whether they be one with us in faith or not. Abbe Couturier believed, and often said: from the fire of charity will come light, and out of that light will come more fire. Perhaps today is a suitable occasion for us to look again at some of the principles and teaching of the recent Vatican Council, <sup>one of whose</sup> ~~one of whose~~ chief concerns was ~~to~~ to promote the restoration of unity among all Christians. The bishops gathered there formally exhorted us all to recognize the signs of the times and to participate skillfully in the work of ecumenism. "The ecumenical movement means those activities and enterprises which, according to the various needs of the Church and opportune occasions, are started and organized for the fostering of unity among Christians. These are: first, every effort to eliminate words, judgements, and actions which do not respond to the condition of separated brethren with truth & fairness and so make mutual relations between them more difficult; then, dialogue between competent experts from different Churches & Communities... In ecumenical work, we must be concerned for our separated brethren, praying for them, keeping them informed about the Church. But our primary duty is to make a honest and careful appraisal of whatever needs to be renewed and achieved in the Catholic household itself,

in order that its life may be written more loyally and  
humbly to the teachings and ordinances which have been handed  
down from Christ through the apostles.

Q. Docs. p 368 - 5 per end (Evng. Cat.)

p 369 - § 2, 3

p 354 - last § to cl. end.

Let's pray together in words taught us by St. himself, to our  
Father, as written to them sung in Latin

Lord's prayer  
(Laspina)  
RCA  
[WYATK. R37]

Our Father OVER

PRAYERS (unity)

Russian Lit.