

Trinity Tuesday  
Liturgical Prayer  
2 February 2021

- 1) A collect is a short prayer intended to bring to a completion a particular element of a liturgical event.
  - a) In our worship we use collects
    - i) at the completion of the gathering,
    - ii) at the completion of the prayers of the people,
    - iii) at the completion of the offertory, and
    - iv) at the completion of communion.
  - b) Collects have a defined shape.
    - i) We address God.
    - ii) We name something that God has done or has shown the divine self to be.
    - iii) We ask God to do something similar or to be the same in our present and future.
    - iv) We conclude in an act of praise and thanksgiving.
  - c) This is a shape we can use in our personal prayers.
- 2) A litany is an ancient form of prayer, first developed in the Eastern Church and then imported into the Western Church.
  - a) A litany engages the congregation in an affective, 'thought-free' form of prayer.
  - b) The structure frees the congregant to listen and to respond easily.
  - c) Litanies, like collects, have a defined structure.
    - i) The leader of the prayers bids the congregation or asks God to do something or to be something.
    - ii) The bidding is followed by a fixed cue.
    - iii) The congregation responds to the cue with a fixed response.
  - d) This is a shape we can use in our personal prayers.
- 3) The eucharistic prayer or prayer of consecration or thanksgiving at the table or canon of the mass has its origins in Jewish forms of prayer, especially those associated with food.
  - a) The eucharistic prayer tells a story of what God has done for us and for the whole of creation, beginning with creation and ending with our future hope.

- b) These prayers include offering, invocation of the Holy Spirit and intercessions.
- c) They are corporate prayers even though they are recited by the presider.
- d) This is a shape that we can use in our personal prayers.