

Why is the Our Father sung in the Mass?

Singing the Lord's Prayer is a valid and worthy liturgical form of expressing this prayer that Christ taught us. Although the Catechism does not specifically state that it should be sung, it does teach the central importance of this prayer and its solemn liturgical use.

1. The Our Father is "The Lord's Prayer"

"The Lord's Prayer is truly the summary of the entire Gospel."

— Catechism of the Catholic Church, no. 2761

Jesus gave us this prayer as a perfect model for how we should pray, and that is why the Church includes it in every celebration of the Eucharist.

2. Singing in the liturgy has a sacred function

The General Instruction of the Roman Missal (GIRM), which regulates how Mass is celebrated, permits and recommends singing in various parts, including the Lord's Prayer, especially in solemn celebrations:

"It is most fitting that the Lord's Prayer be sung by the people with the priest."

— GIRM, no. 81

This is done to express the unity of the people who address God as Father.

3. The song does not change the prayer

Even if it is sung, the text remains intact. Singing it does not alter its meaning or its doctrinal value. Rather, it uplifts the community spiritually and encourages active participation, something the Second Vatican Council clearly called for:

"The liturgical action takes on a more noble form when it is solemnly celebrated in song."

— Sacrosanctum Concilium, no. 113