

Speaking of his brotherly encounters in the Holy Land with Orthodox Patriarch Athenagoras I of Constantinople (Istanbul), Pope Paul VI said he regarded them as "first steps of a complete union in the one Church of Christ, even though this is still far away . . ."

"With him [Patriarch Athenagoras] we exchanged the holy kiss which the disciples of Christ give each other. Together we read again the solemn prayer which Christ made to the Father before His passion to ask for the unity of His disciples and that the world might believe.

"Together we recited the 'Our Father' in which we invoke God as our Father and which teaches us mutual forgiveness for our trespasses.

"We like to regard these events as the first steps of a complete union in the one Church of Christ."

COVER PHOTO: Historic Encounter of Pope Paul VI with Orthodox Patriarch Athenagoras I of Constantinople in the Holy Land January 6, 1964.

NATIONAL CYO FEDERATION

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CHRIST'S PRAYER
AT THE LAST SUPPER FOR UNITY

"I pray for them; not for the world do I pray, but for those whom thou hast given me, because they are thine; and all things that are mine are thine, and thine are mine; and I am glorified in them. And I am no longer in the world, but these are in the world, and I am coming to thee. Holy Father, keep in thy name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one even as we are. While I was with them, I kept them in thy name. Those whom thou hast given me I guarded; and not one of them perished except the son of perdition, in order that the Scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to thee; and these things I speak in the world, in order that they may have my joy made full in themselves. I have given them thy word; and the world has hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. I do not pray that thou take them out of the world, but thou keep them from evil. They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. Sanctify them in the truth. Thy word is truth. Even as thou hast sent me into the world, so I also have sent them into the world.

And for them I sanctify myself, that they also may be sanctified in truth.

"Yet not for these only do I pray, but for those also who through their word are to believe in me, that all may be one, even as thou, Father, in me and I in thee; that they also may be one in us, that the world may believe that thou hast sent me. And the glory that thou hast given me, I have given to them, that they may be one, even as we are one: I in them and thou in me; that they may be perfected in unity, and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and that thou hast loved them even as thou hast loved me.

"Father, I will that where I am, they also whom thou hast given me may be with me; in order that they may behold my glory, which thou hast given me, because thou hast loved me before the creation of the world. Just Father, the world has not known thee, but I have known thee, and these have known that thou hast sent me. And I have made known to them thy name, and will make it known, in order that the love with which thou hast loved me may be in them, and I in them."

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