

The Doxology and the Great Amen

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The word *doxology* comes from Greek and means “words of glory.” The most familiar doxology for Catholics is the one we pray at the conclusion of each decade of the Rosary: “Glory be to the Father . . .” There are doxologies in the Mass as well, for example, at the end of the Lord’s Prayer: “For the kingdom, / the power and the glory are yours / now and for ever.” Another important doxology comes at the end of the Eucharistic Prayer: “Through him, and with him, and in him, / O God, almighty Father, / in the unity of the Holy Spirit, / all glory and honor is yours, / for ever and ever.” At the conclusion of the Eucharistic Prayer, in the presence of the eucharistic Lord, the priest sings this burst of praise to God the Father. It is through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, in the Holy Spirit’s power, that we can give God glory and honor. How can we not sing Amen?!

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