

Covenant Life

- Our next Gathering will be in two weeks on Sunday April 16 at 3pm which will be our only prayer meeting in April due to Easter being on our normal meeting day.
- What a glorious 50th Anniversary Jubilee we had! The Holy Spirit really showed up 😊 We are building our Jubilee web page and I invite you there to respond, to share testimonies and pictures, and to view the event videos. Let us be open to the Holy Spirit changing our direction, so this is more than a weekend, that it is a new intimate following of His will, individually and as a Community.
- If you were unable to attend our last prayer meeting, you can listen to the audio here, read the Word Gift summary here, and the transcript here.
- Your ongoing financial support to the Community is sincerely appreciated. Please donate online here or mail your donations to P.O. Box 225008 Dallas, Tx 75222.

Today we start, literally, the holiest week of the year. As our attention is drawn from the preparation of Lent to the passion of our Lord and savior Jesus Christ, we are each invited to enter into the holiness of our savior and what it means for us. We are challenged and invited into the mysteries of what He accomplished for us and to respond to "Be holy because I am holy".

As I was reflecting on Holy Week and the call to holiness, I was struck by how quickly the events in Jerusalem went from Palm Sunday to Good Friday. In the Procession Reading we hear the crowds crying out "*Hosanna to the Son of David; blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord; hosanna in the highest.*" It describes Jerusalem as "shaken" with His arrival. The Gospel of course tells the story of our Lord's love for us in the passion, but ponder a moment to think about the change in the crowds from Sunday to Friday. In less than a week they have been so influenced to turn from confidence in their Lord to condemn Him to death... We must not let this happen to us!

This is what it means to be holy...to be set apart from the world, the flesh, and the evil one that we cannot be so influenced. This is the charge of Holy Week 2023. That we each, and collectively, not let this week be 'yet another' but that we are changed and drawn deeper into what God is calling us to. We are in the

world but not of the world. We are here not to be influenced but to be influencers. We are set apart to follow His example of love and communicate His love to everyone we meet.

The other readings today provide us a guide for how to do this. The [Second Reading](#) explains how Jesus leads the way in setting the example through His humility to the Father's will. We too can pause throughout our day and continually pray for the Holy Spirit to reveal His will and conform our actions and words accordingly. The [First Reading](#) reminds us that His Holy Spirit will provide us the words to say and the divine ability to hear so that we need not worry about how to respond in any circumstance. Jesus in His passion was quiet sometimes and at times spoke truth. As we surrender to His Spirit within us, we will know the times to be silent and the times to respond, and He will give us the words.

Sisters and Brothers, we are living in an age that is so desperate to know the Lord and the power of His resurrection. We are privileged to have lived this for 50 years. Let us actively look for opportunities to share the Good News this week so that it is not only a Holy Week for us but that others around us will come to know the love of the Father, the redemption of Jesus and the power of the Holy Spirit!

Let us pray: "Jesus, what can we say, Your love for us in giving Your life for us, can never be comprehended. Our only response is to renew our commitment to live for You, to reject the world, the flesh, and the evil one and Be Holy! We beg You for a double portion of Your Holy Spirit this week so that we can live for You, proclaim You, and so love those we are with. Give us the fruits and gifts of Your Holy Spirit that will enable us to show Your great love in every deed and every word this week. Make this a special Holy Week because You are proclaimed through our yes!

God Bless,
David