

Covenant Life

- Our next Prayer Meeting is two weeks from today on November 12th at 3pm. At this gathering we will celebrate Veterans Day and will honor members and family members who have served our country. If you have updates or have not already shared a photo with service information, please email it to Sue Wagner at s.wagner@msmcatholic.org
- Our **Life in the Spirit Seminar** continues today at 3pm, please lift up in prayer all those attending and those serving.
- We will hold our annual **All Saints Party** on Tuesday, October 31st from 6:30-8:30 in the MSM gym. All ages are welcome to join as we celebrate our saints with a fun filled evening as a direct alternative to our culture's Halloween celebration of death. We need volunteers. More details attached.
- GodsDelight.org content: [Jubilee](#); Prayer Meeting [audio](#), [summaries](#), [transcripts](#), & [teachings](#).
- 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.

Reflection

As I prayed through the readings today and asked the Lord for a word for the Community, the simplicity of Jesus' response to the learned Pharisee filled my mind.

We can get bogged down by the complexity of the Christian life and its teachings. We can attend a lifetime of catechesis, attend multiple years of Community formation, listen to Fr. Mike Schmidt's Catechism in a Year, and the mention of a church encyclical can make us feel like an uneducated infant.

While it is true that God is mystery and we can spend our whole lives trying to 'understand' Him as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, the message in the [Gospel](#) today is So simple and So powerful!

God is love and He asks us to love. Jesus is love and walked this earth to show us how to love. The Holy Spirit is the love of the Father and Son bestowed upon us to empower us to love God and our neighbor.

This is what Jesus is conveying to the Pharisee and us. We do not need a PhD in theology to say *Yes to God*. What He asks of us is a simple *Yes* to love Him with our whole heart, mind, and strength, and to love every person we encounter. While this is easy to articulate, we will likely spend a lifetime owning it.

Earlier this morning I heard the testimony of someone who was overwhelmed by the wisdom and love expressed by a simple person who was in love with the Lord. I recalled my own experience getting to know Harvey McCabe. He was a simple soul, but I heard God through him and learned about God's love watching Him. I came to deeply appreciate God's love and wisdom expressed through Harvey. There were many others in the Community that similarly witnessed to me. It is not about degrees; it is about love and surrender. God is loving us through every human encounter. We are given the opportunity to love Him back through every human encounter. Do we try to see Jesus reflected in Every single person we meet and love and respect them as if it was Jesus?

I am not trying to discourage anyone from an academic theology degree, but I do believe the message of the *Gospel* today is a simple one that can and should consume us all day, every day. Can today be a day dedicated to loving God in all ways and in all aspects? Can we prioritize our time and control our will to live our lives with God as our all-in-all? Secondly, can we see Jesus in every person we meet today? Can we welcome them, love them, care for them, respect them, as if we saw the face of Jesus?

What a wonderful thing that the whole law and prophets can be summed up in two short commandments. Let us recommit our lives to responding to this challenge to the best of our ability.

Let us pray, "Jesus Christ, my Lord and Savior, thank You for the clarity of Your words today. I sincerely desire to be responsive to Your word and love You and love my neighbor. I ask for an outpouring of Your Holy Spirit and Your gifts so that I can respond to Your word and truly surrender and love You as You deserve AND love my neighbor...today and every day! Amen."

God Bless,
David