

Sisters and Brothers, let us call upon the Lord's saving power! 05/05/2024

Covenant Life

- Our prayer meeting pattern in May is different:
 - We meet today at 3pm with a Formation I teaching, but no Children's Ministry.
 - We will not meet May 12 to allow families more time to celebrate Mother's Day.
 - We will meet on May 19 to celebrate Pentecost together.
- As a Community we plan to pray daily the Pentecost Novena May 10-18 praying *VENI CREATOR SPIRITUS* found at the end of this letter.
- GodsDelight.org has prayer meeting [audio](#), [summaries](#), [transcripts](#), [teachings](#), and [Jubilee](#).
- 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 scripture that the Church offers for us today what stood out was the word *astounded*. In the [First Reading](#) those who accompanied Peter were astounded that the Holy Spirit fell upon those who listened to Peter. I offer encouragement for all of us to regain an openness to being astounded by the Holy Spirit.

We know that the key ingredient in Jesus' miracles was faith. If we are to be astounded by God working in and through us, we must have faith and be open to being astounded by God's love, His willingness to hear us and respond. His love for us and those He is calling us to love is boundless. Let us live today and everyday open to be astounded by His love.

The [Second Reading](#) is the familiar proclamation by John of God being love and declaring His love for us. This passage is worth time and reflection today as we internalize the meaning of love and how God demonstrated love to us. Our response to His love is made clear in the [Gospel](#) especially the last line where Jesus commands us to love one another!

This has always been one of my joys of living in a covenant community...that we have a safe place to receive God's love and practice loving Him back AND practice loving one another. We are all imperfect and our lives are filled with successes

and failures. The beauty of covenant community is that we are encouraged to keep trying and see every encounter as an opportunity to practice Love.

Let us fully live our lives today being astounded by God's infinite love of us and practicing our response to His love and especially proving it by loving one another!

Heavenly Father, You are the great and awesome Father who loves us unconditionally! Thank You for Your abundant love and for sending Your Son Jesus and the Holy Spirit to reveal Your astounding love! Help me today to respond to Your love by loving You with all my heart, soul, mind, and strength and showing it today in real and concrete ways by loving my sisters, brothers, and everyone You bring into my life. I love You Lord! Amen."

God Bless,
David

VENI CREATOR SPIRITUS

Come, Holy Spirit, Creator blest,
and in our souls take up Thy rest;
come with Thy grace and heavenly aid
to fill the hearts which Thou hast made.

O comforter, to Thee we cry,
O heavenly gift of God Most High,
O fount of life and fire of love,
and sweet anointing from above.

Thou in Thy sevenfold gifts are known;
Thou, finger of God's hand we own;
Thou, promise of the Father,
Thou Who dost the tongue with power imbue.

Kindle our sense from above,
and make our hearts o'erflow with love;
with patience firm and virtue high
the weakness of our flesh supply.

Far from us drive the foe we dread,
and grant us Thy peace instead;

so shall we not, with Thee for guide,
turn from the path of life aside.

Oh, may Thy grace on us bestow
the Father and the Son to know;
and Thee, through endless times confessed,
of both the eternal Spirit blest.

Now to the Father and the Son,
Who rose from death, be glory given,
with Thou, O Holy Comforter,
henceforth by all in earth and heaven. Amen