

Sisters and Brothers, let us clap our hands and shout to God with cries of gladness! 05/29/2022

Covenant Life

- Our next in-person prayer meeting will be a week from today on Pentecost, Sunday June 5th at 4pm in the MSM gym - We will have a flexible, extended time of prayer and praise at the beginning of the gathering and we will have the opportunity at the end for everyone to be prayed with for a release of the gifts of the Holy Spirit! Please help spread the word and bring someone with you. In preparation we are **praying of the Holy Spirit Novena** and a copy is attached to this email. Please join your sisters and brothers in the Lord in calling upon the Holy Spirit for a special outpouring of His gifts for us all!
- On Saturday June 11th Fr. Michal Markiewicz will lead our Day of Renewal from 9am to 2pm at MSM. Lunch will be provided and details are attached.
- Gatherings for the next two months are:
 - In June, we will meet on the 1st and 4th Sundays, June 5th and 26th
 - In July, we will meet on the 2nd and 4th Sundays, July 10th and 24th
- 2022 is a year to refresh our covenant commitment. A simplified version is here: [Covenant Recommitment](#). Please review and ask the Holy Spirit to reveal the area He wants to recommit to. Chris Coxon shared about [Praise and Worship](#) and John Wagner shared about [Daily Prayer and Scripture Reading](#), and Mike Wagner shared on [Conforming our lives to Jesus & drawing others to Him](#).
- If you were unable to attend our last prayer meeting, you can listen to the audio [here](#), and read the Word Gift summary [here](#) or 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.

In the Mass I attended this morning they chose the readings for the Ascension of our Lord. This timeline that we celebrate is recollecting the Great Commission with Jesus' charge to be His witnesses throughout the whole world. What we have learned in the Renewal is that we take Him at His Word! This is our commission! We own it, we live it, we make it our top priority, not just words but in deeds. Let's do that today and look for a way to really live these words today and be His witness!

The important thing that sets our response apart from many, as we hear in the [First Reading](#), is that we really understand His words that we "*will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you!*" So many labor to do good things in His name but efforts often fail because they are outside His perfect will and are not empowered by His Holy Spirit. It is when we are in union with Him and operating through the power of the Holy Spirit that we are able to accomplish the commission that He entrusted us with.

These words are echoed in the [Gospel](#) today when Jesus makes the same point about the preaching and witnessing to all the nations, but only after the disciples were "*clothed with power from on high.*" The words are clear. We are to be about His work of preaching, serving, loving, witnessing...in His name...through His Spirit.

As we lament the tragedies of our day, as we internalize the weakening of our culture, we may have a tendency to disengage or give up...but this is not Jesus' words of unconditional love and power. The readings today follow the tragedy of the crucifixion but instead bring hope, life, and power through His ascension! Let us always look at the signs of the time in our day with His eyes...as those who have read the last chapter and know how the story ends...let us call upon His power and recommit to His commission.

I end my short reflection with the final words of the Gospel reading today. Having witnessed the ascension the disciples: 1) did Jesus homage, 2) obeyed and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, and 3) were continually in the temple praising God. Might we go forth today and praise and worship Jesus and God our Father and obey His words to remain in His presence awaiting the outpouring of His Holy Spirit that we will celebrate together next Sunday.

Let us pray, "Come, Holy Spirit, come, and from your celestial home Shed a ray of light divine. Come, Father of the poor, Come, source of all our store. Come, within our bosoms shine. You, of comforters best; You the soul's most welcome guest. Sweet refreshment here below. In our labor, rest most sweet; Grateful coolness in the heat; Solace in the midst of woe. O most Blessed Light Divine, shine within these hearts of thine, and our inmost being fill. Where you are not, we have naught. Nothing good in deed or thought, Nothing free from taint of ill. Heal our wounds, our strength renew; On our dryness pour your dew; Wash the stains of guilt away. Bend the stubborn heart and will. Melt the frozen, warm the chill. Guide the steps that go astray. On the faithful, who adore. And confess you,

evermore. In Your sev'n fold gift descend. Give us virtue's sure reward. Give us your salvation, Lord. Give us joys that never end. Amen. Alleluia."

God Bless,
David