

## Covenant Life

- **TODAY** we celebrate Pentecost, the birthday of the Church, with a special prayer meeting at 4pm in the MSM gym. We will have a flexible, extended time of prayer and praise at the beginning and an opportunity at the end for everyone to be prayed with for a release of the gifts of the Holy Spirit! Please bring someone with you or call a friend if you need a ride.
- On Saturday June 11<sup>th</sup> 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 also meet on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday, June 26<sup>th</sup>
  - In July, we will meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays, July 10<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>
- 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.

I will never forget a certain point made during the first teaching I heard about the Baptism in the Holy Spirit. They read the scripture that is our [First Reading](#) today. The emphasis was on the word all: *"Then there appeared to them tongues as of fire, which parted and came to rest on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in different tongues, as the Spirit enabled them to proclaim."* All, not some but all! As a young person I needed to hear this. I needed to hear that God's call, His love, the promise of His Holy Spirit was meant for me! It changed my life.

We have all been prayed for. The Baptism in the Holy Spirit is for each and every one of us. But, of course, we have to actualize it in our lives. We have to ask over and over again for more, to be filled to the brim and again and again. Fortunately we will get yet another opportunity today. This is of course one of the beauties of

our Church reliving the litany of Jesus' life over and over each year. We celebrate the outpouring of the Holy Spirit and we get new opportunities to say Yes. At the Gathering today we will again be given the opportunity to be prayed with for more gifts, more of what God wants for us to live the life He is calling us to and to be able to share His gifts with everyone we meet.

Later in this same chapter we hear of the transformation of Peter. His courage. His boldness. His ability to proclaim the exact words that the Holy Spirit needed said on that day. We are being asked for the same response in our day. We are asked to experience Christ in a personal way and proclaim Him just as Peter did to those who do not know Him. How is God asking us to proclaim Him today?

At the end of this chapter there are two verses that highlight the final point I offer in this reflection: verse 42: *"They devoted themselves to the teaching of the apostles and to the communal life, to the breaking of the bread and to the prayers"*, and verses 46/47 *"Every day they devoted themselves to meeting together in the temple area and to breaking bread in their homes. They ate their meals with exultation and sincerity of heart, praising God and enjoying favor with all the people. And every day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved."* Seems pretty clear what the Holy Spirit is asking of us. Meeting together, breaking bread in our homes in an atmosphere of exultation and sincerity of heart, praising God, and enjoying the favor of our sisters and brothers. This is living our covenant and as we do this God will continue to add to our number and grow His kingdom in ways that we can only imagine!

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