

Covenant Life

- Our next in-person Gathering will be next Sunday, June 26th. In July, we will meet on the 2nd and 4th Sundays, July 10th and 24th.
- 2022 is a year to recommit to our covenant...please review a simplified version [here](#) to discern your response. Sharon Harman shared on Desiring to receive and exercise the Spiritual Gifts which you can listen to [here](#). Other sharings are at the bottom of our home page GodsDelight.org.
- 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.

Last Saturday we held our first Day of Renewal since the covid pandemic. It was such a blessed time that I am exhorting every member to block time to listen to the sharings again and prayerfully meditate on what the Holy Spirit is saying to you personally. For those of you who do not know Fr. Michal Markiewicz, he is the Spiritual Director for Redemptoris Mater Seminary here on the MSM campus. He graduated from this seminary and served at St. Rita Parish prior to being reassigned back to the seminary.

We shared our covenant with Fr. Michal ahead of the Day of Renewal and asked him to pray for the specific topic that the Holy Spirit would lead him to share with us. Fr. Michal led us through the early chapters of St. John of Avila's book Audi, Filia (Listen, Daughter). Thanks to our Community webmaster Tom Fedor and Sue Wagner, we have collected the recordings from the day on a special webpage on the Covenant Life section of our website. You will see the page entitled Day of Renewal June 2022 on the left-hand margin.

Fr. Michal divided his sharings into three sessions: two morning sessions on the language of the three enemies of our salvation: the world, the flesh, and the devil and an afternoon session on the language of God.

Regarding our enemies, Fr. Michal defined them, characterized them (so we could recognize them), and presented numerous remedies and weapons against them.

The first session covered the enemy of the *world* which distracts us with the cares of the world and riches. We were warned not to listen to all the harmful lies and opinions that drag us down. The world would have us love honor...the honor of man rather than the honor of God. The primary weapon against the world, that preaches the message of wealth accumulation, is **almsgiving**. As a specific remedy he suggested looking upon Christ, who was dishonored, and offering a sacrifice of praise and honor to God. Father pointed us to a practical way to pray for this on the EWTN website with a prayer entitled [Litany of Humility](#).

The topic of the enemy of the *flesh* is split between the first two sessions. Father warned against idleness and recommended practicing virtues. He taught that the primary weapon against the flesh was **fasting** and that the best remedies were mortification and penance. Father listed many weapons against the flesh such as the sign of the cross, invocations, considering the torments of hell, our Lord's passion, and many others.

In discussing the enemy of the *devil*, Father warned us that the languages of the devil are enumerable and that he openly pursues and lays traps. The primary weapon against the devil is **prayer**. The remedy he suggested was to humble ourselves and to keep our eyes on God who offers pardon and grace. He also encouraged us to not fret about temptation since temptation is necessary for salvation but to rely on God's promises to be with us and respond to His call to announce the Good News.

In the third session Fr. Michal switched gears from discussing the language of the enemies to the language of God. He explained the importance of hearing and recognizing the voice of God, the voice of Truth in our lives. He reminded us that Jesus did not come to make our life better here on earth but to bring freedom and to take us to the Father.

Obviously, the limited space of this letter can but scratch the surface of the blessedness of Father's message to us. I share this however to really exhort every one of us to listen again and again to the sharings [here](#).

Let us pray. "O God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit, did instruct the hearts of the faithful, grant us in the same Spirit to be truly wise and ever to rejoice in His consolation. Through Christ our Lord. Amen."

God Bless,
David