

Covenant Life

- **TODAY** we will have our next in-person Community Gathering at 4pm in the MSMCS gym as we are meeting on the 2nd and 4th Sundays.
- If you were unable to attend our last prayer meeting you can listen to the audio [here](#), the Word Gift summary [here](#) and the transcript [here](#).
- Our next in-person Gathering will be November 14th when we will celebrate Veterans Day and will honor Community family members who are veterans or currently serve our country. Please send updates to Sue Wagner at s.wagner@msmcatholic.org
- Your ongoing financial support is sincerely appreciated. Please donate online [here](#) or mail your donations to P.O. Box 225008 Dallas, Tx 75222.

Reflection - In reflecting on the readings today I was drawn to the courage and fortitude of the blind man in the Gospel ([Mk 10:46-52](#)). His faith propelled him to call out to Jesus when he heard He was near...but his cries were met with rebuke. Unfortunately, this seems like a common response to our cries too. Maybe we call out for ourselves, maybe we call out on behalf of another, maybe we offer service, support, an encouraging word, and, despite our intentions, we are met with rebuke. The temptation is to get discouraged, be quiet, and give up.

I shared with you in a letter a couple months back that I had the opportunity to give my personal witness to the teachers at our school. In my testimony I reveal how God led our family to the Community through turning what I thought was the worst event in my life into the greatest ([Rom 8:28](#)). As I reflected on the courage and fortitude of the blind man in the Gospel it was as if the Holy Spirit prompted me to put myself in his place and adopt the same zeal...not for a personal healing but for a preservation of the charism of covenant community. Covenant community was a tremendous gift to me and my family and has had a clearly transformational impact in North Texas.

What is the future of covenant community in North Texas? I do not have the answer, but I offer that we can adopt the courage and fortitude of the blind man

and call out to Jesus for His intercession. Will we face rebuke, persecution... most assuredly, but that should not give us pause.

There is no question that the Holy Spirit seems to be doing something different today than in the last several decades, but the blessing of covenant community is too significant to ignore. It is worth fighting for. But how? The pandemic seems to have stacked the deck against us. The world, the flesh, and the devil are all working against us. [Rom 8:31](#) comes to mind: *"What then shall we say to this? If God is for us, who can be against us?"*

I offer that the most effective way that we can respond is two-fold. First, renew our own personal commitment to our covenant. Read it, study it, look at each aspect of what we commit to and redouble our own personal efforts to live it each day. We cannot be His disciples and witnesses unless we are each in love with God and responding to His Spirit every day. Secondly, reach out to our covenant sisters and brothers and invest in our relationships. Community is built from our interconnected lives of love and surrender for one another. We need to be sharing our lives, praying for one another, serving one another, encouraging one another... There is no question that building and living community is so much harder today than it was when we were energetically young, were in multiple small groups, when our daily lives brought us into regular contact. But, with the courage and fortitude of the blind man, the exhortation today is to look beyond our present circumstance and call out, reach out, press on.

My prayer today is that we each recommit ourselves to the covenant we made with God and one another...to live for Him and each other. May we find a way today and every day to be a little more faithful...to not look at our current circumstance and give up.

Taking the words directly from [covenant life page](#) His call is to:

- **Grow in our intimate relationship with Him**
- **Be fully open to and practicing the gifts of His Spirit**
- **Love one another**
- **Be disciples of Jesus following His example, and**
- **Actively respond to the commission of making disciples of all the nations**

As blind women and men on the road of life may we call out together.

God bless,

David