

Covenant Life

- While it has been hard to sustain most of our Community ministries during covid we have been blessed to see our school continue to serve the families of North Texas. Enrollment took a major hit last year but this year we added 25 new families. MSMCS continues to be a major light atop Glory Hill and families from 40 zip codes across the metroplex seek out the spiritual formation that is provided by many faculty members that are Community members or were formed by Community. Please continue prayers for our school and support it if you are able. I have attached a recent brochure from the school. To learn more, you can visit their new website here: MSMCatholic.org. There is a donate button under Giving if you are willing to provide financial support.
- Our in-person Community Gatherings are held on the 2nd and 4th Sundays at 4pm in the MSMCS gym. Our next prayer meeting will be one week from today on Sunday November 14th. At this gathering 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
- 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](#).
- Your ongoing financial support is sincerely appreciated. Please donate online [here](#) or mail your donations to P.O. Box 225008 Dallas, Tx 75222.

Reflection - It is hard to miss the attention upon the widows in the readings today (First, Responsorial Psalm, and Gospel). They are clearly the heroes and benefit from the pledge of the Lord's protection and sustenance. What is stunning is the degree to which they act upon their total surrender. They are 'All In', borrowing a phrase from the popular Texas Hold-um card game.

In the first reading ([1 Kgs 17:10-16](#)) the widow, faced with a drought and the end of her resources, is asked by a traveler to prepare him something to eat. Elijah was not asking her to share from her surplus but was asking for her to give everything. The Gospel story ([Mk 12:38-44](#)) is the same. The widow approaches the offering plate and does not donate from her surplus but gives everything.

We know that the Word of God is a living Word and that the Holy Spirit is alive and active in our lives and speaking to us if we will but listen. So, our job every day, is to pause, reflect, and listen. As I do this, as I pray and share these thoughts with you, a rush of ideas come to mind. On one hand I think about some areas of my life that I have surrendered, but on the other hand, I think about some areas where I have not. I am not 'all in' for the Lord...

One of the most beautiful aspects of God's call upon us is that it is individual. He calls us by name, individually, and invites us into that deep personal relationship. The road we are called to walk is as individual as we each are. No one is 'all in' in the same way as another. So, the only way that we can know the response that God wants for us is to go to Him and ask.

"Heavenly Father, You know my heart, You know my ardent desire to love You, serve You, follow You, and do whatever it is that You ask of me. As I read these stories of these heroic widows, I am convinced that there are areas of my life where I am not totally surrendered. I am convinced that there are areas of my life where I can more fully live for You. My prayer is that You send Your Holy Spirit upon me today in a new way that I will have the courage of these widows to do whatever You ask of me in total confidence of Your promise of protection and sustenance. Show me today the one specific area that You want me to give You today. I say Yes, I surrender, I give You my all. Amen."

God bless,

David