

Sisters and Brothers, let us fix our eyes on our Lord and savior.

Living our Covenant - The coordinators discussed our stance regarding our Community Gatherings and agreed to continue to not meet. We are investing in online communication and our website www.GodsDelight.org while earnestly praying for each member of our Community and our families.

Please continue sharing the Spiritual Gifts with one another and with the Coordinators and please let us know if you have unmet needs that your covenant sisters and brothers can help with.

Please continue to donate online at www.GodsDelight.org or mail your donations to P.O. Box 225008 Dallas, Tx 75222 as we are dependent on your generosity to meet our ongoing financial needs.

Pray Dallas Pray - An ecumenical prayer group came together as we supported Matteo and the Kairos conference last year. We have met off and on for a couple years building relationships and praying for unity and our city. The idea of having a day of prayer and fasting on August 19th for the eradication of coronavirus from our cities caught on and has been building. The mayor of Dallas has joined in and proclaimed that August 19, 2020 be recognized as Pray Dallas Day (the proclamation is below). Please mark your calendars for a week from Wednesday and let us join this cause and pray and fast on that day to eradicate covid-19 from our cities!

Reflection - How are you responding to this ongoing virus? Maybe you have '*great sorrow and constant anguish*' as Paul expresses in his letter to the Romans. Maybe you feel tossed about by the wind and waves as the disciples did in Mathew's Gospel reading today. Maybe you are just tired, lonely, and ready for life to get back to normal...

As I reflected on the readings today and the times we are in, I found myself not only praying that this virus would soon be over but also that we would each persevere. When things are not going as we want sometimes the approach is to simply take one step forward. One day at a time, one hour at a time, showing up

for work or whatever God has us doing...praying, interceding, loving, serving. Now is probably not the time for the boldness of Peter but rather the earnest seeking of Elijah. The time will again come to step out of our boats and fix our eyes on Jesus and go where He leads but today is a day to slow down, to prioritize loving those we are close to, to prioritize our time with our Father and our Lord and a time to mature our listening skills.

Let us recommit to moving forward, day by day, moment by moment, striving to hear our Lord and, through the power of His Spirit, move forward.

I end with a quote from St. Thomas Aquinas that I heard this weekend: *"It is better to limp along the way than stride along off the way"*. Sisters and Brothers, I hear the Spirit saying that it is OK that we are not accomplishing all the things that we wanted to do this year. This is a time to hunker down, to stay the course in seeking our Lord, living His Will and living our covenant. It is OK even if we are just limping along the path...let us limp together!

Let us pray *"Jesus, I focus my entire attention on You. When You say Come, I will come. Until then I will seek You in the stillness of my heart. I will seek You in creation, in the Sacraments, in my sisters and brothers, in the poor, the widow, and the orphan. Be my strength to persevere. Give me hope, faith, an abundant outpouring of Your love, that I may love as You loved me first. I am Yours. Amen."*

God bless,

David



CITY OF DALLAS

Special Recognition

WHEREAS, the coronavirus pandemic has brought illness and death to many residents of Dallas; and

WHEREAS, the coronavirus pandemic has caused great economic harm, putting people out of work, closing businesses, and bringing hunger and hardship to many residents of Dallas; and

WHEREAS, the coronavirus pandemic interrupted the education of the children in our city and put our educators at risk; and

WHEREAS, the coronavirus continues to spread throughout our city; and

WHEREAS, the best human efforts have not yet found a cure; and

WHEREAS, throughout the history of Dallas, the State of Texas, and our nation people have turned to Almighty God in prayer to bring healing and deliverance where human efforts have failed; and

WHEREAS, August 19, 2020 shall be designated as "Pray Dallas Day", a day of prayer and fasting for the eradication of the coronavirus from the City of Dallas; and

WHEREAS, residents of Dallas are encouraged to pray in place, whether at home, at work, or at school, at the noon hour on August 19, 2020, and, if so led, to fast and pray during all or part of that day; and

WHEREAS, Houses of Faith are encouraged to ask their people to pray wherever they are at noon on August 19, 2020; and

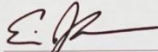
WHEREAS, all are encouraged to unite in prayer, humbly asking God to eradicate the coronavirus and heal our City; and

WHEREAS, let us also rededicate ourselves to bringing healing to the sick, comfort to the broken hearted, help to the needy, wisdom to our children, hope to the hopeless, and unity to the City of Dallas.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ERIC JOHNSON, Mayor of the City of Dallas, do hereby proclaim that August 19, 2020 be recognized as

PRAY DALLAS DAY

in Dallas, Texas.



Mayor, The City of Dallas

