Come Holy Spirit and Fill the Hearts of the Faithful

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in us the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and we shall be created, and you shall renew the face of the earth. O God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit did instruct the hearts of the faithful, grant that by the same Holy Spirit we may be truly wise and ever enjoy your consolations. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Before every Pathway East WTE talk this prayer is prayed by the speaker. It is a powerful prayer. A gift that Larry, my husband, gave to our grandson, Ethan (soon to four years old) for Christmas this year reminded me of this prayer. Specifically, “O God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit did instruct the hearts of the faithful…,” came to my mind as I watched them use this great gift. Here’s a photo of the gift:

Yes, a flashlight. Not an expensive gift, but one that kept Larry and Ethan busy as Larry took Ethan into closets in our home with the closet door shut to ensure complete darkness and shine the beam of the flashlight so that the dark was no longer dark. Ethan quickly embraced the power of the flashlight to shine light, and he was even more excited to know that he could now use light to get rid of the darkness. Ethan took me into his dark bedroom and showed me how he
could use his flashlight to find his blanket and stuffed animals in his bed. Like many young children, Ethan sometimes is afraid of the dark. He likes a night light on outside his room so he was happy to know that with his flashlight he would always have light with him. Fear of the dark was no longer a problem. The dark was now more of an adventure with his flashlight.

Jesus left us with the “light of the Holy Spirit.” We, with the same excitement and happiness, are to use the light of the Holy Spirit just as Ethan used his flashlight to banish darkness and to shine light in the lives of people we meet and especially in the lives of the pilgrims that we sponsor, love and serve on their Walk to Emmaus.

Christ is counting on us to shine the light of the Holy Spirit as that same Holy Spirit calls and uses us so that lives can be changed. We have the responsibility to carry on the work of making disciples through the Pathway East Walk to Emmaus community. That same light infuses our lives and empowers us to listen, to show up, and to be obedient to God’s call on our life to serve our neighbor.

I am honored and excited to be serving as your community spiritual director. As I prepare through prayer and team meetings for the upcoming spring walks along with working with the PEWTE Board and serving as a spiritual director on PEWTE Women’s Walk #23, I know that you, too, are praying, preparing and working to shine the light of the Holy Spirit in the lives of others and in the world.

DeColores!

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