Dear Beloved People of Divine Savior and our cherished visitors:

Last weekend we reflected on statements such as “you must be prepared for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come.” For some of us, this type of statement can arouse several feelings, such as doubt that we will be prepared, fear that we will be caught doing something quite sinful, or simply ignoring the statement and taking our chances that somehow the goodness of God will see that everything works out in our favor. A different approach would be to hear those words as an encouragement to develop habits by which we take time to pay special attention to how Jesus is present to us on an on-going basis and to allow Jesus to offer whatever Jesus finds most appropriate to bless us with.

Today’s Gospel can arouse similar sentiments as well. Most of us are afraid of fire, so when Jesus speaks about setting the earth on fire, we can easily be frightened because we wonder where we will go for safety. If we hear Jesus’ statement as a symbolic expression, one way to hear it is to realize that fire can be used to transform certain commodities to produce something very different. Also, fire on a candle expression, one way to hear it is to realize that fire can be used to transform certain commodities to produce something very different. Also, fire on a candle

Fire is useful in making it possible to separate dress from precious metals or in refining certain products. With this view, we pray that we would let the love of God wipe away sin in the sense that we let the love of God transform us into instruments that can more authentically invite others to be renewed and developed habits by which we take time to pay special attention to how Jesus is present to us on an on-going basis and to allow Jesus to offer whatever Jesus finds most appropriate to bless us with.

Jesus also speaks about a baptism. The symbolism from our first reading helps us to understand the richness of this symbol. Jeremiah was, because of his upsetting the people by his calling out their wayward behavior, lowered into a pit where he sank into his darkness about how God is present for us when we experience the downsides of life. We pray that we would let the fire of the love of Jesus transform us into instruments that bring into our world greater energy for optimism, mutual respect, and a desire to transform our world into what God intended it to be when He created it.

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We need your help! We need lectors, greeters, altar servers, EMS, ushers, sacristans and front and back end techs (screen operators and formatters) for all masses especially the NEW 5:30pm Mass. Youth, adults, and family teams welcome!

Please prayerfully discern how you may serve your parish family at any of our Masses. You will only be scheduled according to YOUR availability, whether once a week, every other week, once a month at Divine Savior Church beginning August 20th.

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