COMMUNIT

COVENAN

NEWARK

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COVENANT WITH GOD

"I have made a covenant with my chosen one; I have sworn to David my servant. I have chosen David my servant; with my holy oil I have anointed him. My hand will be with him; my arm will make him strong. My loyalty and love will be with him; through my name his horn will be exalted." Ps 89:4, 21-22,25,27,29

Our covenant with God is not just a piece of paper or simple contract but a personal compact, a sacred agreement between 'me and my God'. It is a promise of self-giving which we cannot keep by our own strength but only with God's grace.

As the song goes, "I never promised you a rose garden". We should be prepared for the rough road ahead of us. Though we often fail, we must persevere in our walk with Jesus. We must not be discouraged by life's hindrances or oppressions. Instead, we must focus on God and seek His direction on how to live our covenant. It is Jesus who guides us and makes us strong in faith. Let us be renewed in the Spirit through prayer, worship, the Sacraments, study and ministry. Thus, our covenant with the God will withstand whatever changes in our circumstances- in time, space and people.

Our covenant calls us to serve the Lord in every possible way, guided by the wisdom and knowledge He bestowed on us. We must use His gifts to fulfill His tasks. His love should be radiantly mirrored in our lives. Our covenant obedience to God is the most valuable legacy that we can pass on to our children. "He will cry to me. "You are my father, my God, the Rock that brings me victory. Forever I will maintain my love for him; my covenant with him stands firm." Ps 89:27, 29.

Our covenant calls us to get rid of our pride and to ask God for help, rather than acting on our own without God's blessings. We cannot always understand His wisdom, but we must always trust and follow Him even when what He wants us to do disagrees with our human wisdom. The Lord reveals but will never force His will on us.

Our covenant requires that we give our lives totally to Jesus, who is our Lord and Rock. By persevering in faithfully living our covenant, we give God honor and glory. Our covenant with Him gives us the confidence that He will carry us through and will not allow us to be separated from His peace. Let us have no fear, for He will be faithful to finish the work He began in us.