



August 18, 2017

Dear SsAM family,

I am writing this brief note overlooking the Sandia Mountains in Albuquerque, New Mexico. I have been out in New Mexico for the last couple of weeks where I have completed my second summer as a student at the Living School and have spent time traveling with Emily to Santa Fe and Taos for some rest and refreshment. The Living School concluded last Friday evening before the horror that happened on the streets of Charlottesville last Saturday and the terrorist attack in Barcelona on Friday.

Sadly this is not the first time that I have composed a special E Blast after a national tragedy. We are a nation of immigrants and each one of us has a story about how our ancestors arrived in this country. For me these stories offer each of us a chance to listen to the other as well as invite us into a place of deep and abiding humility that we are all one. The events in Virginia and Spain once again shattered the illusion that we are one, and yet, I find myself praying each day that we are one and that love will conquer hate.

As we begin the weekend, I invite us to pray for our country and the world. To pray for our brothers and sisters who are Christian, Jew, Buddhist, Hindu, Bahai, agnostic, atheist, black, white, gay and straight. Together we will conquer hate but the time has come to listen and to pray and to walk and to love each other. Terror or hate will not divide us but it will take all of us working together to make this so.

There is so much more to say but for now this is my humble attempt to try to make sense of the madness that surrounds us. Lord, this is my prayer.

See you next week.

Peace and Love,

Fr. David