



# Bukas Loob Sa Diyos

## Diocese of Trenton



# Community News

<http://bldtrenton.com>

Volume 24, Issue 37

October 11, 2024

"And now these three remain: Faith, Hope and Love, but the greatest of these is Love" 1 Corinthians 13:13

If there is one thing we humans love to do, it is one of us have our own reasons why we do this. happier? Or does it only complicate our lives important? In today's Gospel, a young man inherit eternal life. Jesus tells him to keep acknowledges he has done since his childhood. must to go, sell all he has, give to the poor, this challenge, goes away grieving because he



buying, collecting or accumulating things. Each But can we say that doing this can really make us unnecessarily and distract us from what truly is approaches Jesus, asking what he must do to the commandments, which the young man Jesus then tells him that one thing is lacking: he and follow Him. The young man, disheartened by has many possessions.

Jesus makes two requirements of the wealthy man who approaches him and these are our orders too for us this week. First, Jesus said: Go, sell what you have and give to the poor. Today's Gospel reminds us to detach ourselves from worldly wealth and possessions and to reorient our priorities especially in serving the needy. Think of the things that you've collected and accumulated so far. How have they been serving you? If we examine closely, we can say that there is nothing wrong with wealth or possessions but it is our attitude towards them that perhaps makes it wrong. When not careful, someone may become greedy with the accumulation of material things or some may place their security on them we end up not letting go of them.

We must therefore see wealth not as something that we should hold on to but as a blessing that we should be sharing. We must see wealth not as something that would only elevate us but something that would help lift up our brothers and sisters who are in need. Everything we have is a gift from God. As God is generous to us, He desires for us to be selfless and generous in sharing and giving what He has blessed us. Apart from our material possessions, God has given us time and talents that are to be used for the purpose of serving Him and serving other people.

But just like material possessions, we wrongly utilize our time and fail to use our talents. Many of us would spend our time indulging ourselves or getting distracted by earthly possessions or pleasures. Nowadays, social media is one of the many obstacles we have on how can use our time wisely. We also have struggles sharing our talents. We know that our talents have to be nurtured but sometimes, fear gets in the way. We are afraid to go out of our comfort zone. We often think that we are not qualified that we stop on putting some effort and sacrifice to develop the gifts that we have.

The second requirement Jesus makes of this man is the invitation that Jesus extends to all would-be disciples: "Follow me." As would-be disciples, we all desire to have a relationship with Jesus. Just as what the Gospel tells us that Jesus loves the man and is sad when he departs, so too, Jesus loves us and is saddened when we are unable to follow him. Jesus laid out the path before all of us, a path to a blissful eternity. So Jesus came to show us the way. Just like Jesus who surrendered his life to do the will of the Father, we too are challenged to imitate Christ's total dependence on God knowing that He will provide, and that He will take care of us.

When Jesus called this young man to give up his wealth, the man started to grieve, because wealth was for him what the Father was for Jesus. It was the center of his identity. To love his wealth would have been to lose himself. But that's exactly what Jesus calls us to do.

Our identity must be with Jesus, so we must imitate Him in all that we do. If it means carrying the cross for the sake of the Gospel, then we have to strive to do it so we can inherit eternal life. We have to start reflecting on the attachments that might be holding us back from fully following Jesus. We need to ponder on the "possessions or wealth" that we need to let go of. We have to sell them all, detach ourselves from our worldly possessions, our wealth of negativities, so that we can move forward and follow Jesus. It would be easier to carry the cross and to carry others in need if we move on detached from anything that makes our journey heavy.

The Gospel is saying however that to have salvation is not something we can accomplish ourselves. No matter how much we do, we will be challenged to enter heaven. We will always feel like huge camels trying to fit through the narrow needle of holiness God requires. At the end of the day though, Jesus reassures all of us that while it may seem impossible for humans, with God all things are possible. The Lord promises that those who have left everything for His sake will receive a hundredfold in this life and eternal life in the age to come. Let us have faith on this. Let go and let God and a true treasure then awaits us all in heaven.

### THIS SUNDAY'S COUNSEL

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

#### THEME:

We are led to God's Kingdom when we selflessly share our gifts and blessings with others

#### PROMISE:

"...give to the poor and you will have treasure in heaven." (Mk 10:21b)

#### WORD:

Wis 7:7-11/ Ps 90:12-13, 14-15, 16-17/ Heb 4:12-13/ Mk 10:17-30

#### ORDER:

1. "Go, sell what you have and give to the poor." (Mk 10:21)
2. "Come follow me." (Mk 10:21)

#### DIRECTIONS:

1. Be generous in sharing your time, talent and treasure in service to the community and the larger church.
2. Detach yourselves of worldly possessions for the sake of the Gospel and carry your cross.
3. Imitate Christ in all you do.

"Then I will give you shepherds after My own heart, who will feed you on knowledge and understanding."

Jeremiah 3:15

## The Lord's Provision

October 4, 2024

TITHE: \$371.00  
LOVE OFFERING: \$810.00



Thank you for your generosity

## Online Giving

You can now send your Tithes and Love Offerings via Paypal. Donate link can be found at [www.bldrenton.com](http://www.bldrenton.com)

Or mail check to:  
BLD Trenton Foundation, Inc.  
P.O. Box 1367  
Toms River, NJ 08754

## God's Blessings Anniversary Birthday

"So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate." Matthew 19:6

"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you" Jeremiah 1:5

Leo & Carmela Toledo  
Jim & Irma McCracken  
Ricky & Rissa Gomez

Oct 11  
Oct 14  
Oct 15

Cher Chua  
Clint Oquendo  
Evelyn Palacios  
Rene Perez  
Ayana Perez  
Edd Roy  
Neri Roldan  
Julie Saria

Oct 12  
Oct 13  
Oct 13  
Oct 14  
Oct 14  
Oct 15  
Oct 15

### Who Are You Gonna Call (or Text)?

For Mama Mary's Visit  
For Prayer Service

Tess Corso 732-604-1914  
Mary Anne Arias 732-688-3962

### Send Prayer Request To:

[www.bldtrenton.com/intercessory](http://www.bldtrenton.com/intercessory)

### In Christ Jesus,

we welcome you all to join us every Friday  
ST. VERONICA CHURCH, HOWELL, NJ

### Healing Mass

1st Friday of the month at 8:15 p.m.

### Praise and Worship

2nd, 3rd, 4th (& 5th) Friday of the month at 8:15 p.m.

### Did you know?



"Jesus reminds us what happens when people deceive themselves into thinking that they are self-made, and they forget to be grateful, they forget the real basis of life: that good comes from the grace of God, that good comes from his free gift. When one forgets this gratitude to God, one ends up facing one's situation and limitations no longer with the joy of feeling loved and saved, but rather with the sad illusion of needing neither love nor salvation. These people stop letting themselves be loved and find that they are prisoners of their own greed, prisoners of the need to have more than others, of wanting to stand out over others."

HIS WORD. YOUR JOURNEY. TOGETHER. Pope Francis

Fill us with your love, O Lord, and we will sing for joy!

"And whenever you stand praying, forgive, if you have anything against anyone, so that your Father also who is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses."

Mark 11:25



"How did you know we were married 50 years?" one lady kiddingly asked me as I ushered them to their designated seats at the 2024 Bishop's Anniversary Mass. This trim and toned couple, was younger- looking than most of the couples in that 50th anniversary section, but older than those in the 25th anniversary. "Hmm, just a guess," I replied. They both smiled.

October 6, 2024 was the second time Leng and I volunteered to be ushers for this annual Trenton Diocese event held at St. Robert Bellarmine Cathedral in Freehold. All of us volunteers were from BLD Trenton. About 200 couples lovingly uttered and renewed their wedding vows as they held hands and received Bishop David O'Connell's blessing. Some couples shared happy tears. It was a sunny, mild afternoon at the cathedral, perfect for a delightful Mass wedding.

Gene P. Del Carmen

## Seek the Wisdom of God

As I reflect on the readings, I am overwhelmed by the richness of the readings. True wealth and Wisdom are presented in the scripture passages for today. There is so much in these passages that to fully grasp them would lead to having the Wisdom of GOD. Yet, that is the very thing on which I wish to reflect. We should seek to have the Wisdom of GOD. Many people, however, would rather have earthly possessions, intellectual mastery, or power rather than having Wisdom. Wisdom requires that one acts with one's eyes focused on GOD and on others, rather than on oneself.

As I see from the readings and from other passages in scripture, Wisdom is much more than knowledge or intellectual sharpness. Being wise affects every aspect of one's life. It is the ability to see with the eyes of GOD. It, like the letter to the Hebrews describes the Debar YHWH, "cuts to the quick." Since that phrase came to me as I was reflecting on today's readings, I looked it up. It has a couple of related meanings. "Quick" can mean the very intrinsic being of a person. When something "cuts to the quick" it gets down to the essence of who a person is. It can also mean to "hurt someone's feelings." Like the sword mentioned in the Second Reading today, "cutting to the quick" exposes a person to the eyes of GOD. One sees who he/she is in GOD's eyes, and who other people are in GOD's eyes.

Being "exposed" or "naked" before GOD is a humbling experience. It means all the "trappings" with which we cover ourselves (our possessions, wealth, fame, prestige) are stripped away. We cannot hide behind all our pretenses. We are "trapped" in being exposed before GOD. We realize that we are sinful creatures who are in the need of GOD's help. That self-revelation should change how we act and how we treat others. We are in no way superior to others for we are all equal in GOD's eyes. With Wisdom, we can also see how much we are loved by GOD and how much GOD also loves others. That should motivate us to love and care for others so that they experience who they are in GOD's eyes - that they are also sinful, but more importantly, that they are loved by GOD.


Having Wisdom should affect our whole attitude and lifestyle. Living as wise individuals, we will not cling to our possessions or position in life, but rather see that what we have been given are not our possessions and our doings, but gifts from a loving GOD Who wants us to share those gifts and the effects of those gifts with others. Wisdom should motivate us to be both more reflective and more pro-active. Spending time with the Debar YHWH (Word of GOD) - reading scripture, praying, reflecting - will become essential to our lifestyle. That, in turn, will empower us to be reach out to others with more compassion and love.

The gift of Wisdom is a gift that GOD is willing to bestow upon all those who ask for it. With Wisdom, however, comes a responsibility to act accordingly. Many, like the wealthy man in the Gospel, are not willing to give up what they have in order to grasp the responsibility that comes with Wisdom. For those of us who truly want to inherit eternal life, we must turn to GOD and pray with the psalmist today: "LORD, teach us to number our days aright, that we may gain Wisdom of heart."

# Upcoming

SAVE  
the  
DATE

# Activities

 Bukas Loob Sa Diyos  
(Open In Spirit to God)  
Diocese of Trenton  
*invites you to*

## “Life In The Spirit Seminar”

October 25-27, 2024  
St. Catharine School Gymnasium,  
301 Second Avenue, Spring Lake NJ 07762

For all inquiries and free registration,  
Contact: Leo and Carmela Toledo (848-445-1982) | Toy and Malen Juarez (609-954-2300)  
Email: [bldtrenton.lss@gmail.com](mailto:bldtrenton.lss@gmail.com)

*“Behold,  
I make all  
things new.”*  
  
*Come... Holy Spirit... Come...*



## FIRST FRIDAY MASS HELD OUR NEW BLD HOME ST. VERONICA CHURCH



## FIRST FRIDAY MASS HELD OUR NEW BLD HOME ST. VERONICA CHURCH



BLD TRENTON COMMUNITY LEADERS



December 7, 2024

Procession of the Lady of Guadalupe in Lakewood.  
We are invited to have a float for the procession

December 13, 2024 (7 pm)

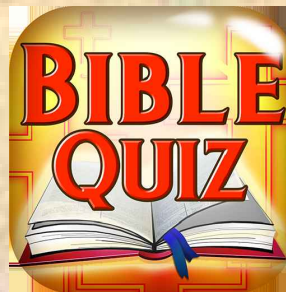
BLD Trenton Christmas Party will be at St Robert  
Bellarmine 61 Georgia Road, Freehold, NJ



**Our life in the Spirit Seminar-LSS 24 is fast approaching.**

The Sponsoring Class together with the LSA Ministry are inviting auxiliaries for the Vigil and Dining Room for Saturday, October 26 and Sunday, October 27. Sign-in sheets to register volunteers/auxies will be available during the Praise and Worship at St. Veronica’s Church, at the reception table this Friday, October 11th.

You may also approach the LSA Ministry or the Sponsoring Class, Es Tambor and Maryanne Arias should you wish to sign up. Lastly, Love Offerings for breakfast and desserts are also sought and will be most welcome.



Who are the parents of St. Mary?

- A. Joachim - Anna
- B. Eliakim - Mary
- C. Abosalem - Abijudah
- D. Keppa - Filumena

To whom did Jesus handover Mother Mary?

- A. John
- B. Peter
- C. Lazarus
- D. Thomas

Who is the saint to whom Mother Mary gave the rosary?

- A. St. Dominic
- B. St. Simon Stock
- C. St. Bernadette
- D. St. Clare

What title is given to Mary in recognition of her being taken up body and soul into Heaven?

- A. Queen of Heaven
- B. Our Lady of Sorrows
- C. Theotokos (Mother of God)
- D. Our Lady of the Assumption