



Community News

This Sunday's Counsel

THEME:

We remain in God's love and bear fruit when we decide to love one another.

PROMISE:

"...whatever you ask the Father in my name he may give to you." (Jn 15: 16b)

WORD:

Acts 10: 25-26, 34-35, 44-48/ Ps 28: 1, 2-3, 3-4/ 1 Jn 4: 7-10/ Jn 15: 9-17

ORDERS:

- Love one another as I love you. (Jn 15: 12)
- Remain in my love. (Jn 15: 9)

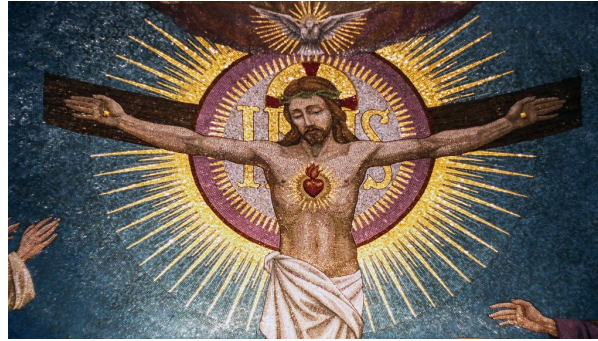
DIRECTIONS:

- Lift each other up in prayers at all times.
- Be generous, caring, merciful, gracious, kind forgiving and steadfast in showing love to everyone.
- Keep God's commandments.

The Greatest Love Of All

REFLECTION:

When one hears the word 'Love', almost everybody always connects it with romantic love. Love to a boyfriend or a girlfriend, love to a husband or wife. But in today's gospel, John 15: 9-10, Jesus was referring to the love of God the Father to Him, and that is why He loves us and that to remain in His love, is to keep His commandments. And His commandment is all about love, *Love God above all else, Love your neighbor as you love yourself.*



try your best and you sacrifice time, resources to make the other person happy because you love them, to show your love to the other person. And that is what Jesus did, He came down from heaven to be with us, to show what is the real meaning of

Love, laying down one's life to a friend is the greatest love one can give. And if we follow the first commandment, *Love God above all else*, shouldn't we do everything to please God, to make Him happy? Spending time with Him, getting to know Him, knowing His words, and yet we put everything first, then God in the middle or, worst, last. Where is the "Love God above all else" then?

Love your neighbor as you love yourself, then we should not hurt our neighbors with gossip, hurtful words, jealousy, indifference, being unhelpful because those same things you don't want to do to yourself. And yet we do it. Where is the "love for your neighbor as you love yourself"?

Jesus has promised that by keeping His commandments we remain in His love. He said, then My joy may be in you and your

Greatest - See Page 2

Tending the Flock

Die For Each Other

"This is my commandment." Have you then only one precept? This is sufficient, even if it is unique and so great. Nevertheless he also said, "Do not kill" (Mt 19: 18) because the one who loves does not kill. He said, "Do not steal," because the one who loves does even more - he gives. He said, "Do not lie," for the one who loves speaks the truth, against falsehood. "I give you a new commandment" (Jn 13: 14). If you have not understood what "This is my commandment" means, let the apostle be summoned as interpreter and say, "The goal of his commandment is love" (1 Tim 1: 5). What is its binding force? It is that of which [the Lord] spoke, "Whatever you want others to do to you, you should do also" (Mt 7: 12). "Love one another" in accordance with this measure, "as I have loved you." That is not possible, for you are our Lord who loves your servants. But we who are equals, how can we love one another as you have loved us? Nevertheless, he has said it... His love is that he has called us his friends. If we were to give our



Die - See Page 2

Eucharistic Revival Conference

"The Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist"

PENTECOST SUNDAY

19 MAY 2024

10:30 AM MASS
11:30 AM ADORATION
1:00 PM TALK BY FR. RENE LOPEZ
2:15 PM BENEDICTION

Lunch is on your own. Explore and enjoy local dining options at your convenience.

VENUE:
QUEENSHIP OF MARY
16 DEY ROAD, PLAINSBORO, NJ 08536

KEYNOTE SPEAKER:
REV. RENATO LOPEZ, PSS, LSS

- Vice Rector at Assumption Seminary,
- Director of the Theology Program,
- Formation Adviser & Spiritual Director
- Licentiate in Sacred Scriptures, Biblicam - Pontifical Biblical Institute, Rome, Italy

Join us on this Pentecost Sunday for a spiritually enriching experience! Fr. Rene will delve into the profound aspects of "Developing a Eucharistic Spirituality", exploring it as a sacrifice, a memorial, and a celebration.

Sponsored by QUEENSHIP OF MARY PARISH in coordination with the DIOCESE OF METUCHEN FILIPINO APOSTOLATE (DMFA)

Online Giving

You can now send your tithes and love offerings via **Paypal**.
Donate link can be found at www.bldtrenton.com

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

The Lord's Provision

April 26, 2024

Tithe :\$640.00
Love Offering :\$190.00

Thank you for your generosity!!!

God's Blessings

Birthday

Orlando Morales	5/4	Tina King	5/9
Luz Bunoan	5/6	George Pe	5/9
Glenn Ramos	5/9		

Anniversary

Ariel & Mila Vista	5/6
Erwin & Grace Bustamante	5/9

Who Are You Gonna Call (or Text)?

For Mama Mary's visit - Beth Felibrico 732-995-7407
For Prayer Service - Mary Anne Arias 732-688-3962

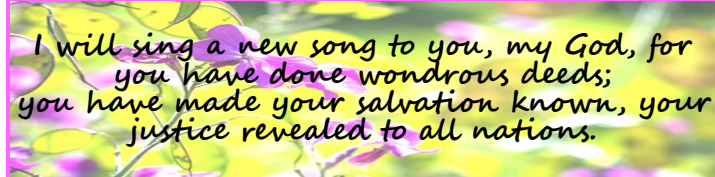


First Call

The Lord always makes us return to that first encounter, the first moment when He looked at us, He spoke to us and He inspired in us the desire to follow Him. This is a grace to ask of the Lord, because in life we will always have this temptation to stray because we see something else: *"But that will go really well, but that's a good idea"*, and we distance ourselves. The grace to return to the first call, the first moment: to not forget, to not forget my history, when Jesus looked at me with love and said to me, *"This is your path"*; when Jesus, through many people, made me understand what the path of the Gospel is, and not other paths that are more worldly, with other values. To return to the first encounter.

You see, the new things of God are not like the novelties of this world, all of which are temporary; they come and go, and we keep looking for more. The new things which God gives to our lives are lasting, not only in the future, when we will be with him, but today as well. God is even now making all things new; the Holy Spirit is truly transforming us, and through us he also wants to transform the world in which we live. Let us open the doors to the Spirit, let ourselves be guided by him, and allow God's constant help to make us new men and women, inspired by the love of God which the Holy Spirit bestows on us!

~ Pope Francis



A Christian Prayer for Peace in Our Time

O God, author and giver of peace, in whose image and likeness each of us has been created with a human dignity worthy of respect on earth and destined for eternal glory, Listen to the cry that rises from every corner of this fragile earth, from our human family torn by violent conflict:

Give peace in our time, O good and gracious God, that peace which, as your son Jesus Christ told us and as we have experienced in these days, is a peace which the world cannot give.

To world leaders, grant the wisdom to see beyond the boundaries of race, religion, and nation to that common humanity that makes us all your children and brothers and sisters to one another.

To those who have taken up arms in anger or revenge or even in the cause of justice, grant the grace of conversion to the path of peaceful dialogue and constructive collaboration.

To the innocent who live in the shadow of war and terror, especially the frightened children, be a shelter and strength, their haven and hope.

And to those who have already lost their lives as victims of human cruelty and chemical warfare, open wide your arms and enfold them all in the embrace of your compassion, healing, and everlasting life.

Grant this through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, Mary, Mother of all and Queen of peace, pray for us.

Our Father...
3 Hail Marys...
Glory be... AMEN.

Greatest - Cont'd from Page 1

joy might be complete (John 15:11). This might be the secret of life, what everybody is looking for? Joy which means a long-lasting state of being, characterized by contentment and satisfaction with life overall. But most of all Jesus has not only recognized us as friends, He chose us to be saved, which showed us He gave the greatest love of all. *"No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends"* (Jn 15:13).

Keeping God's commandment + Remaining in God's love = Complete Joy.

What else are we looking for and need in life?



BUKAS LOOB SA DIYOS (OPEN IN SPIRIT TO GOD) DIOCESE OF TRENTON

An Invitation

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND
JUNE 7-9, 2024

Ave Maria Retreat House
The National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa
654 Ferry Road Doylestown, PA 18901

Free Registration
Meals and Accommodation To be Provided

For all inquiries:
German/Letty Butay (732) 887-5298 or lbutay@yahoo.com
Nestor/Cecille Vasquez (908) 578-9138 | Toy/Malen Juarez (609) 954-2300

Die - Cont'd from Page 1

life for you, would our love be equal to yours?... How then can what he said be explained, *"As I have loved you"*? *"Let us die for each other,"* he said. As for us, we do not even want to live for one another! *"If I, who am your Lord and God, die for you, how much more should you die for one another."*

~ Ephrem the Syrian,
306-373 AD
Commentary on
Tatian's Diatessaron
19.13