



Bukas Loob Sa Diyos

Diocese of Trenton

<http://bldtrenton.com>



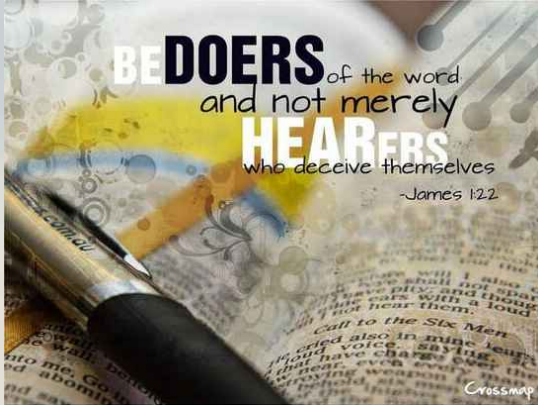
Community News

Volume 24, Issue 31

August 30, 2024

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

True disciples open their hearts to God's holy presence



From our Gospel, "Jesus summoned the crowd again and said to them, *"Hear me, all of you, and understand. Nothing that enters one from outside can defile that person; but the things that come out from within are what defile. From within people, from their hearts, come evil thoughts, unchastity, theft, murder, adultery, greed, malice, deceit, licentiousness, envy, blasphemy, arrogance, folly. All these evils come from within and they defile."* Mk 7:14-16,21-23. This is a problem that goes back to the Garden of Eden. All of us are guilty at times of convincing ourselves that our sin is the result of something or someone outside of us. Whether we recognize it or not we are often tempted to see the source of our sin as something outside of us instead of something within us.

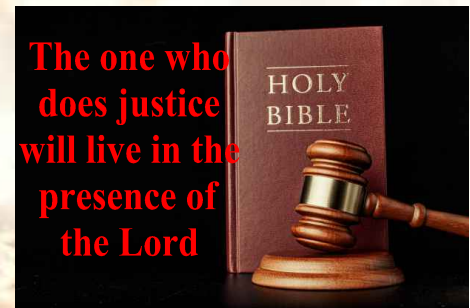
But not only do we fail to recognize the true source of our sin, we are also prone to turning to the wrong solutions for dealing with our sin. Our nature is to try and justify ourselves. We do something outwardly in an attempt atone for our sins and to earn the favor of God such as adding, subtracting, or modifying God's statutes and decrees to suit our case.

Thankfully, we have the Word of God to help us properly understand both the source and solution for our sins. Jesus makes it clear that the source of our sin is the corruption of our hearts and there is nothing we can do on our own to make ourselves clean. Jesus came to cleanse us and give us heart transformation. *" Humbly welcome the word that has been planted in you and is able to save your souls."* Jas 1:21.

We are products of our hearts and we must get right in order to grow in holiness. Pv 4:23 says, *" Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it."* Oftentimes, we understand purity of heart as cleanness of heart. But biblical purity is better described as spiritual single-mindedness. Purity of heart is to will one thing, namely, full and total allegiance to God. *" You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart"* Mt 22:37. Sin is to be eliminated so that goodness may flourish. And sin can only be permanently eliminated through a single-minded, whole-hearted drawing near to God because it is His presence and His will that purifies. *" Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God."* Mt 5:8.

Prayer:

Lord, we pray that our intentions be purified and our faith in You be true and genuine. Help us that our acts of faith are not merely for the eyes of men, but by them we honor and glorify you. Renew our hearts to follow Your commandments in all that we do, rather than follow the dictates of the world. Let peace reign in our hearts knowing that only You are the truth, way and life. Amen.



The one who does justice will live in the presence of the Lord

THIS SUNDAY'S COUNSEL

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

THEME:

We open our hearts to God's holy presence when our desires are pure and undefiled

PROMISE:

"Whoever walks blamelessly and does justice; who thinks the truth in his heart...shall never be disturbed." Ps 15:2, 5B

WORD:

Dt 4:1-2, 6-8 / Ps 15:2-5 / Jas 1:17-18, 21B-22, 27 / Mk 7:1-8,14-15, 21-23

ORDER:

1. "...hear the statutes and decrees which I am teaching you to observe." Dt 4:1
2. "...you shall not add to what I command you nor subtract from it." Dt 4:2
3. "Humbly welcome the word that has been planted in you and is able to save your souls." Jas 1:21
4. "Be doers of the word and not hearers only.." Jas 1: 22

DIRECTIONS:

1. Let us read and study the Word of God so we may know, understand, and proclaim to everyone.
2. Let us actively participate in our BLD's Formation Program which will continuously help us in transforming our hearts to Exalt God Only.
3. Let us passionately serve in all BLD Mission activities that promote justice, human development, and true peace.

"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

August 23, 2024

TITHE: \$830.00
LOVE OFFERING: \$293.00



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

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

Carl & Mina Duque Aug 29
Roy & Chinky Rubiato Sept 3
Jay & Cathy Talag Sept 4

Godie Alabano Aug 30
Mark Hernandez Aug 30
Manny Acosta Aug 31
Kyle Robinson Sept 1
Totie Araga Sept 2
Roy Rubiato Sept 3
Janella Llave Sept 4
Sherry Arabit Sept 5
Butch Chioco Sept 5
Sette Lemon Sept 6

Who Are You Gonna Call (or Text)?

For Mama Mary's Visit
For Prayer Service

Beth Felibrico 732-995-7407
Mary Anne Arias 732-688-3962

Send Prayer Request To:

www.bldtrenton.com/intercessory

In Christ Jesus,
we welcome you all to join us every Friday

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 wants the Holy Spirit to blaze like fire in our heart, for it is only from the heart that the fire of divine love can spread and advance the Kingdom of God. It does not come from the head, it comes from the heart. This is why Jesus wants fire to enter our heart. If we open ourselves completely to the action of this fire which is the Holy Spirit, He will give us the boldness and the fervor to proclaim to everyone Jesus and his consoling message of mercy and salvation, navigating on the open sea, without fear."

HIS WORD. YOUR JOURNEY. TOGETHER. Pope Francis

"Let us not be discouraged if at times the peak of Christian life seems too high and the path too steep. Let us look to Jesus, always; let us look to Jesus who walks beside us, who welcomes our frailties, shares our efforts and rests his firm and gentle arm on our weak shoulders. With Him close at hand, let us also reach out to one another and renew our trust. With Jesus, what seems impossible on our own is no longer so; with Jesus we can go forth!"

"Whoever walks blamelessly and does justice; who thinks the truth in his heart... shall never be disturbed."
(Ps 15:2, 5b)

Hear the Word of God

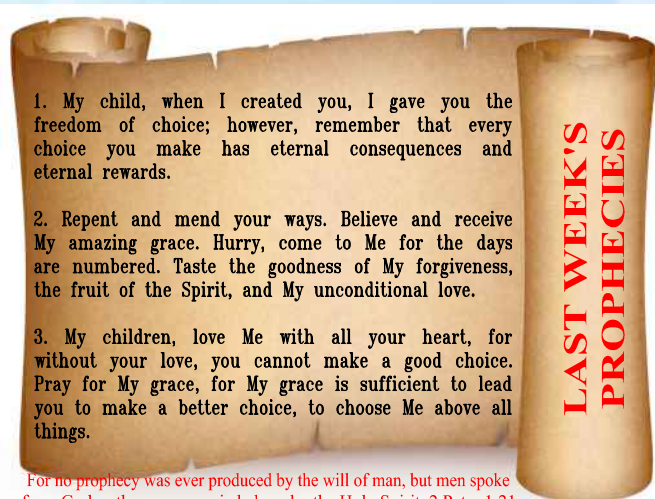
As I reflect on the readings, I am reminded of the origins of the word "obedience." It comes from the Latin word "to listen" or "to hear." What we are required to do in being obedient to the LORD our GOD is to listen to and hear what GOD is saying to us. Yes, GOD has spoken and given the Jewish people (and their Christian descendants in faith) the Ten Commandments. Yes, GOD has spoken other precepts. What is most important is to realize all those rules and regulations were given by GOD to draw us closer to our GOD. We must "hear" GOD's Word of Love as spoken in the divine giving of the Law. Matthew 24: 34-40 and its parallel passage (Luke 10: 25-28) speak about the summation of the all the Jewish Law in the double commandment of loving GOD with all we have and loving our neighbor as ourselves. The religious leaders of Jesus' day agreed with Jesus that these two summative commandments are the greatest and most important of all commandments. Yet, just being able to hear and recite these two great commandments is not enough. It must be put into practice in our daily living.

The Word of GOD is not meant to be nice background noise to our life. It is meant to be transforming the way we live our lives.

In John 13: 35, Jesus describes the essential quality of one of His faithful disciples as the person who loves others. The disciple of Jesus is to hear and put into action Jesus' great commandment, "Love one another as I have loved you" (John 13: 34). We are called to come to the Lord Jesus, spend time with Him through reading of scripture, prayer, and meditation. That should lead us to see how Jesus (and His Abba-Father) have loved us. And upon "hearing" of how much the Lord Jesus has loved us, we should be empowered to go out and love one another as Jesus has loved us. That is what will make us blameless and able to dwell on GOD's holy mountain and abide in the divine presence not just now, but forever. All the other prescriptions and guidelines are just that – guidelines to help us see how we can love one another as we have been loved by the Lord Jesus, or as the Letter from James says today, "Religion that is pure and undefiled before GOD and the Father is this: to care for orphans and widows in their affliction and to keep oneself unstained by the world."

The personal question/action for today: How do I listen to the Word of GOD? Do I merely nod my head as it is proclaimed while I think about what I want to do? Do I reflect on how I can be a do-er of the Word and draw closer to the Lord Jesus as I practice acts of loving others? How can I share the Word of GOD with others in an inviting way so that they will desire to be obedient hearers (and do-ers) of the Word also?

Blessed are You, O LORD GOD of all love. Through Your Goodness You have spoken Your Word to us to help us to hear how much You love us. Yet, we have often either not listened to Your Word or have heard it and tried to interpret it to our own liking and tried to impose our understanding of it on others. For our failure to truly hear Your Word and act on it, we seek Your pardon and forgiveness. In the fullness of time, You spoke Your Word into flesh. Jesus, Your Son, the Word Incarnate, came among us to once again speak Your Word to us in a very tangible way, not only with sounds, but also in the action that He performed. He asks us to once again "hear" Your Word of Love in His preaching, ministry, death, and resurrection, and then to love one another as He has loved us.



For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit. 2 Peter 1:21

Upcoming

SAVE the DATE

Activities

Fun In the Sand

Saturday, Sept 7, 2024
8:30am - 3pm
The Skateplex at Seven Presidents Park
Long Branch, NJ

8:30-10:30am DV Del Valle Fun Run
11am - 3pm Fun and Surprises; Plant sale

Please contact for Questions:
Bert and Cora 732-688-1541
Mike 732-558-2935
Leo 201-707-4520

Captain's
Elegant
NIGHT

Bukas Loob Sa Diyos
BLD TRENTON
Community Night 2024

OCTOBER 5, 2024 | SATURDAY | 6pm - 10 pm
Clarion Hotel & Conference Center
815 Route 37 West, Toms River NJ 08755
ATTIRE: FORMAL
RSVP BY September 27, 2024
Cocktails 6:00 pm | Dinner Buffet 7:00 pm

TICKETS: 13 y/o & above (\$50) | children 4-12 y/o (\$25) | Below 4 y/o Free
CONTACT PERSONS:
Toy and Malen Juarez (609) 954-2300 | Ricky and Rizza Gomez(848) 333-7086

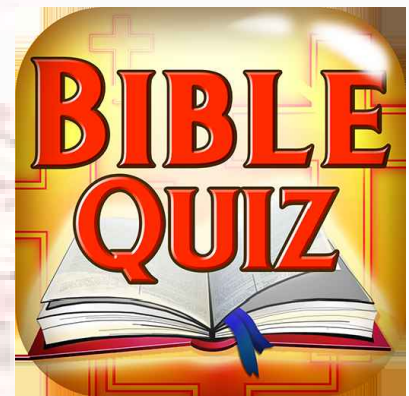
Bukas Loob Sa Diyos
(Open In Spirit to God)
Diocese of Trenton
invites you to

"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)448-1962 | Toy and Malen Juarez (609-934-2300)
Email: bldtrenton.la@gmail.com

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



1. In what language was the Old Testament written?
2. How many people were aboard Noah's Ark?
3. What sea did Moses part to aid in his people's escape from the Pharaoh?
4. Who were Miriam's brothers?
5. How many plagues did God send to Egypt?
6. What was The Golden Calf?
7. What did Jacob give Joseph that sparked jealousy from his siblings?