



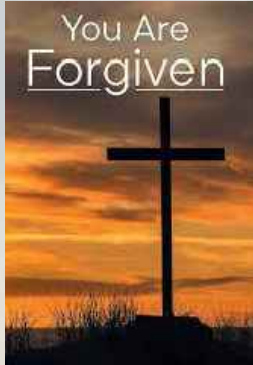
Community News

Volume 24, Issue 35

September 27, 2024

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

Keep ourselves Pure, live Holy lives and Resist evil



As Christ's disciples, it is inevitable that we will experience the love of God when our hearts are pure and devoid of sin. But there are times when we choose to live in sin and separate ourselves from God. God, in His great mercy and love for us, constantly reminds us to avoid sin at all times so that we might feel His love. In the Gospel, Jesus did not mince words and warned us not to cause others to sin. We are asked to reflect on our life and identify the things that lead us to commit sin and wrongdoings. He exhorts us to leave those things and cut them off, for they are not worth keeping if they cause us to lose our chance to be in God's loving and holy presence. We are reminded to keep ourselves pure, live holy lives and resist evil. St. Paul tells us, *"Do not be conquered by evil, but conquer evil with good,"* (Rom 12:21). Sin forms a barrier that isolates God from the people He loves. But when our heart is pure and our life is transformed, we become a testimony to the indwelling of the Holy Spirit because Christ lives in us.

Such is the narrative that we see in the Gospel. We can do all things if done in the name of Jesus, for it is Jesus who strengthens and empowers us. Anyone who has pure intentions and does a good act to another in Jesus name is blessed. *"There is no one who performs a mighty deed in my name can at the same time speak ill of me. For whoever is not against*

us is for us." (Mk 9:39-40). Nobody can claim that they can do better on their own, even if they are so-called followers of Christ, because Jesus looks at everyone equally as His brother or sister, as long as one does the will of the Father. Jesus teaches us to be humble of heart with clean intention to allow goodness and healing to spread. No one can claim exclusivity to God's grace because His grace is given free to all, of course, not by our own merit but by the salvific power of Jesus Christ.

When we see good works performed by people outside our community, we should accept such acts with an open mind, tolerance and inclusivity. God's grace abounds where faith and good works are performed whether in or outside of community. In the same token, as community members, we are disciplined to become mature Christians. Any uncharitable action or wrongdoing can cause others to be scandalized because of poor or bad witnessing; some members leave the community because they begin to lose faith in their renewal.

Pure intention should lead us to show real care and kindness to our needy brothers and sisters. Jesus tells us that kindness shown to others *"will surely not lose his reward,"* (Mk 9:41b); even in a very simple gesture as "giving a cup of water to drink." There are many opportunities in our community to demonstrate care and compassion, especially through our mission programs and acts of charity. St. James says that faith alone cannot save us and that faith without good works is dead. Bringing others to Christ means having a demonstrable faith, which in turn means that even as we worship God, we should also show our love for Him through love of our neighbor.

Doing God's will, following His commandments, strong faith and good works give us an assurance that we are not far from embracing His Kingdom. Jesus is very clear on this: *"...because you belong to Christ' you will surely not lose your reward,"* (Mk 9: 41b).

Prayer:

Lord, bless me with a humble heart that can readily appreciate people who possess pure intention to do good for others. Bless me with an inspiring spirit so that I can invite and lead new souls which can be nurtured and directed to a path that would lead them to have a closer relationship with Jesus Christ. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Reflection Guide Questions:

What steps can you take to avoid temptations, especially in areas that readily lead you to sin?
 How can you develop a heart with pure intention to show real care and kindness to others?

The precepts of the Lord give joy to the heart.



THIS SUNDAY'S COUNSEL

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

THEME:

We open our hearts to God's holy presence when we avoid all forms of sinfulness

PROMISE:

"...because you belong to Christ...you will surely not lose his reward." (Mk 9:41)

WORD:

Nbr 11:25-29 / Ps 19:8, 10, 12-13, 14 / Jas 5:1-6 / Mk 9:38-43, 45, 47-48

ORDER:

"If your hand...your foot, ...causes you to sin, cut it off...your eyes... pluck it out" (Mk 9: 43-46)

DIRECTIONS:

1. Read, know, and live the Word of God.
2. Be humble and be honest to know and own our sins and avail
3. of the Sacrament of Reconciliation regularly.
4. Pray unceasingly and pray about everything.
5. Be open to the promptings of the Holy Spirit to lead and guide us.

"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

September 20, 2024

TITHE: \$1012.00
LOVE OFFERING: \$192.00



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

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

John & Neng Alberto
Leo & Norms Llave
Toti & Inna Lukban
Tony & Arlene Riggo

Sept 27
Sept 29
Sept 29
Oct 3

Birthday

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

Jim Imbro	Sept 27
Tony Bartocillo	Sept 28
Kris Taguam	Sept 28
Bert Velez	Sept 28
Bong Dizon	Sept 29
Kimberly Ciocon	Sept 30
Mimi Caragay	Oct 1
Chito Ciocon	Oct 3
Evelyn Balondo	Oct 3



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

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

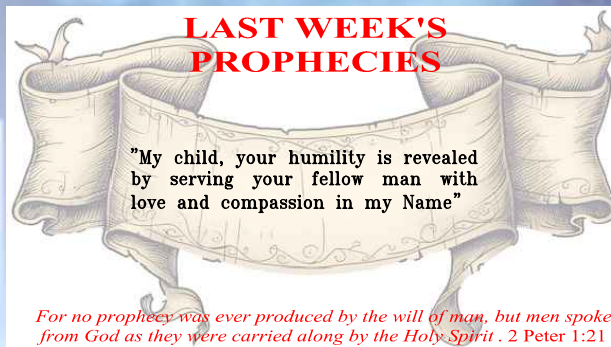
2nd, 3rd, 4th (& 5th) Friday of the month at 8:15 p.m.

Did you know?



"He knows our needs better than we do ourselves, but he wants us to present them to him boldly and persistently, because this is our way of participating in his work of salvation. Prayer is the first and principle "working instrument" we have in our hands! In being persistent with God, we don't need to convince him, but to strengthen our faith and our patience, meaning our ability to strive together with God for the things that are truly important and necessary. In prayer there are two of us: God and I, striving together for the important things."

HIS WORD. YOUR JOURNEY. TOGETHER. Pope Francis



LAST WEEK'S PROPHECIES

"My child, your humility is revealed by serving your fellow man with love and compassion in my Name"

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

"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

Are You Called to be a Prophet?

May the Lord Jesus continue to challenge you to live out your call to be prophetic not only in what you say, but more importantly, in how you live your life.

We are all called to be prophetic. As I have mentioned before, being prophetic does not mean we speak about what will happen in the future. We are not seers. We are to be "spokespersons" for the Lord Jesus, proclaiming GOD's GOoD News in word and action. Obviously that means we, ourselves, must know the Lord Jesus and the message that He proclaims in the name of GOD, and we must live it out in our daily lives. We then become authentic in our lived-out proclamation of the Gospel. People will want to know why we live our lives as disciples of the Lord Jesus and we will speak to them both by our actions and in our words.

As I reflect on the readings, I realize that GOD wants all of those whom GOD calls to live out their calling to be prophets. We are all called to speak for GOD. That does not mean that we have to be great orators. It does imply that our very being should proclaim the GOoD News of the Lord Jesus. The old adage is so true in this situation: "Actions speak louder than words." We are to prophesy by our living a life that reflects our relationship with GOD. And that relationship with GOD should be the riches for which we long.

Yet being a prophet, a true prophet of GOD, has never been an easy nor desirable vocation. True prophets face opposition from those who only seek power, fame, and material possessions. Those who seek financial profits are not willing to listen to spiritual prophets even if, or especially if, they prophesy with actions rather than words. Even those in legitimate authority from GOD are often threatened, or at least challenged, by people who sincerely and honestly proclaim GOD's Word by their very lifestyle. That is because the actions and words of a true prophet can be a source of challenge to those who are content with the status quo.

The challenge for each of us in our vocation as prophets is how to get the right balance between proclaiming GOoD News to those who need to be served and speaking words of warning to those who are self-serving. I am reminded of what one of my spiritual directors said when he was asked what epitaph he would want on his tombstone. Realizing his role as sharing in the prophetic ministry of Jesus, he responded: "On my epitaph I would like: 'He comforted the disturbed and disturbed the comfortable.'"

To guide us in our ministry as prophets, GOD has given us the commandments and precepts. Jesus refined and simplified the laws into "love one another as I have loved you" (John 13: 34-35). If we truly love others as Jesus has loved us, then we would be sure to do everything in Jesus' name (even if we have not been officially recognized by ecclesiastical authority). We would also avoid leading others astray. Anything that could be an occasion of sin would be purged from our lives. Also, we would seek the riches of GOD rather than the riches of the world. That takes diligence. It demands we work at being the best prophets (spokespersons) for GOD that we can be. It is a continuing process. We must continue to turn to the Lord Jesus and ask for guidance and correction so we can be the best servants of GOD's people that we can be. The words of today's psalm reflect the prayerful attitude we should have as we say, "Though Your servant is careful of [observing the laws], very diligent in keeping them, yet who can detect failings? Cleanse me from my unknown faults. From wanton sin especially, restrain Your servant; let it not rule over me."

The personal question/action for today: Do I sense that I have a role in sharing in the prophetic mission of Jesus announcing the GOoD News to others? What is keeping me from being more prophetic in my words and actions?

Upcoming

SAVE the DATE

Activities

coming soon

Captain's
Elegant
NIGHT

Bukas Loob Sa Diyos
BLD TRENTON
Community Night 2024

OCTOBER 6, 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: 18 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 Riesa 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 (848-448-1982) | Toy and Malen Juarez (609-954-2300)
Email: bldtrenton.lis@gmail.com

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

We praise & thank our Lord, God almighty for giving us a venue that will accommodate the worship of the children of our community, among other things

WE ARE MOVING

ST-VERONICA Catholic Church

We will start using their parish on October 4, 2024, Friday, for our Healing Mass and all Praise & Worship that will follow



October 6, 2024 (2 pm)

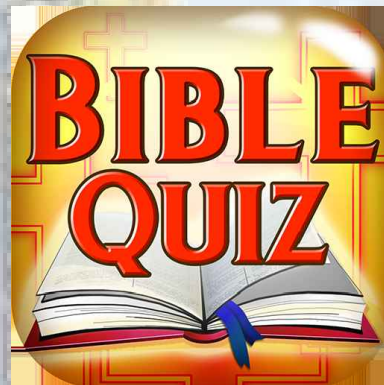
BLD Trenton will support the Bishop's Wedding Anniversary Mass to be held at St Robert Bellarmine. Registration for those celebrating their 25th and 50th anniversaries log into the Diocese of Trenton

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



1. When is the feast of Assumption is celebrated?

- A. 15 August
- B. September 8
- C. February 2
- D. December 8

2. During Rosary Month, which specific event in the life of Mother Mary is particularly emphasized through the prayers and mysteries of the Rosary?

- A. The Nativity of Mary
- B. The Annunciation to Mary
- C. The Coronation of Mary as Queen of Heaven
- D. The Presentation of Mary in the Temple

3. What does Immaculate Conception mean?

- A. Mother Mary was like God.
- B. Mother Mary was born without Original Sin.
- C. Mother Mary is the mother of God.
- D. Mother Mary is the Arc of the Covenant.

4. The place where Mother Mary has not appeared is

- A. Pontmain , France
- B. Gietrzwald , Poland
- C. Santorini , Greece
- D. Kibeho , Rwanda

5. Which tribe does Mother Mary belong to?

- A. Levi
- B. Judah
- C. Rueben
- D. Manasseh

6. Which pope declared the Assumption of Mary?

- A. Pope Paul VI
- B. Pope Pius IX
- C. Pope Pius XII
- D. Pope John Paul II