

## This Sunday's Counsel

### THEME:

Jesus our Savior is revealed when we are obedient to the will of the Father.

### PROMISE:

"You shall be a glorious crown in the hand of the Lord." (Is 62:3)

### WORD:

Is 62:1-5/ Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 7-8, 9-10/ 1 Cor 12:4-11/ Jn 2:1-11

### ORDERS:

- Do whatever he tells you. (Jn 2:56)
- Give to the Lord glory and might, give to the Lord the glory due his name. (Ps 96:7b-8a)
- Obey God's commandments with all your hearts, minds and souls.
- Be a good witness of Christ's love to one another.
- Faithfully attend the Holy Mass and weekly praise and worship to give praise and thanksgiving to God.
- Let God's light shine in you by serving in humility sharing your God-given gifts to the community.
- Seek the intercession of the Blessed Mother to reach Jesus.
- Spread the devotion to the Holy Mother through praying the Holy Rosary daily.



BLD Trenton



# Community News

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## The Power Of Intercession

### REFLECTION:

As members of BLD, one of the core values we embrace is obedience. With obedience, we feel a sense of excitement at the way the Holy Spirit chooses to manifest Himself through us each time we say 'yes' to our calling. He

blessees us with gifts fitted only for each one, complimenting others with different gifts, primarily for the sole purpose of up-building community, His Church, hence glorifying God. We know that we make good use of our gifts when the fruit in the exercise of these gifts create unity, love and peace among members.

The greatest love between two people is the conjugal love binding the bride and bridegroom. In the same way, God expresses His love for us, His people, by calling us His church - His bride. He is our bridegroom. As said in the First Reading, "No more shall people call you forsaken or your land desolate, but you shall be called my delight and your land espoused...your Builder shall marry you, and as a bridegroom rejoices in his



bride, so shall your God rejoice in you," (Is 62: 1-5). Surely, God rejoices in us when we are obedient to His will. And what is God's will? It is to proclaim Jesus, our Savior, to all nations on earth. As our community word for the month

tells us – The light and glory of God is revealed in Jesus, our Savior. And Jesus in us is revealed by the way we live our lives, His way of loving others unconditionally, His *agape* kind of love. Precisely why His Holy Spirit is given us along with the Spiritual Gifts, to empower us because on our own, we cannot just do the will of the Father, to follow Jesus, His Son.

Our Triune God is all about Love. Our relationship with other members in community should be borne out of our love for God, and not for personal gain or glory. Many are the hindrances in following Jesus, because it often includes suffering, dying to oneself, to one's ego or pride, or jealousy or envy, lust, sloth, anger – these are roots of sin

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### Tending the Flock

## From Grandeur To Weakness

Why did our Lord change nature at the beginning of his signs, if it was not to show that the divinity that changed nature in the interior of the jars was the same that changed nature in the womb of the virgin? And at the conclusion of the signs, he opened the tomb to show that the insatiable nature of death would not keep hold of him; he confirmed and ratified these two uncertainties of his birth and of his death. As to their nature, these waters were turned into the [fruit of] the vine; their stone vessels were not changed within their own nature. They were a symbol of his body, which was wonderfully conceived in a woman, and in a marvelous way by [the intervention of] no man within the virgin. He thus made wine out of water to teach about the manner of his conception and birth. He called upon the six jars as witness to the one virgin who gave birth to him; for the jars conceived in a unique way that was not customary for them, and they brought forth wine, and then they did not continue to produce [it]. Thus did the virgin conceive and give birth to Immanuel, and then she ceased and did not continue [to give birth]. The offspring of the jars was from smallness to grandeur, and from vileness to excellence, for from water came good wine. In this case [the birth from the virgin], however, it was from grandeur to weakness and from glory to contempt. Yet in the case of these jars, they were for the purification of the Jews, and our Lord poured his instruction into them, to teach that he came in the way [found in] the Law and the Prophets, and he transformed everything by his teaching, just as wine [was made] from water."

~ Ephrem the Syrian (306-373 AD)

### Online Giving

You can now send your tithes and love offerings via **Paypal**. Donate link can be found at [www.bldtrenton.com](http://www.bldtrenton.com)

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

### The Lord's Provision

**December 17, 2021**

Tithes : \$175.00  
Love Offer : \$175.00

**Thank you for your generosity!!!**

### God's Blessings

#### Birthday

Rosalie Angeles	1/14	Alyzza Gumabon	1/17
Yoly Crisol	1/14	Nanette Smith	1/17
Dino Rivera	1/14	Patricia DeJean	1/18
Lilia Mejares	1/16	Ino Dominguez	1/20
Fe Odon	1/20		

#### Anniversary

Raul & Mimi Caragay	1/18
Manny & Em Ho	1/8
Eugene & Malou Yosucio	1/20
Toto & Sette Lemon	1/20

### Community Prayer Time

Every Friday, starting at exactly 8:30 pm, all members are urged to pray together as one community the following:

*Prayer to Take Authority*

*Holy Rosary*

*Prayer: Oratio Imperata against the spread of Coronavirus*

*Merciful and compassionate Father, we come to you in our need to seek your protection against the Covid-19 virus that has disturbed and even claimed lives.*

*We ask you now to look upon us with love and by your healing hand, dispel the fear of sickness and death, restore our hope, and strengthen our faith.*

*We pray that you guide the people tasked to find cures for this disease and to stem its transmission.*

*We thank you for the vaccines developed made possible by your guiding hands. Bless our efforts to use these vaccines to end the pandemic.*

*We pray for our health workers that they may minister to the sick with competence and compassion. Grant them health in mind and body, strength in their commitment, protection from the disease.*

*We pray for those afflicted. May they be restored to health. Protect those who care for them. Grant eternal rest to those who have died.*

*Give us the grace in these trying times to work for the good of all and to help those in need. May our concern and compassion for each other see us through this crisis and lead us to conversion and holiness.*

*Grant all these through our Lord Jesus Christ your son who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the holy spirit, God forever and ever. Amen.*

*We fly to your protection, o holy Mother of God. Do not despise our petition in our necessities, but deliver us always from all dangers, O Glorious and Blessed Virgin. Amen.*

*Our Lady, health of the sick, pray for us.*

*St. Joseph, pray for us.*

*St. Raphael the Archangel, pray for us.*

*San Roque, pray for us.*

*San Lorenzo Ruiz, pray for us.*

*San Pedro Calungsod, pray for us.*

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

For Mama Mary's visit - Beth Felibrico 732-995-7407

For Prayer Service - Bert & Cora Velez 732-688-1541



### Mother

A mother's gaze is the path to rebirth and growth. We need mothers, women who look at the world not to exploit it, but so that it can have life. Women who, seeing with the heart, can combine dreams and aspirations with concrete reality... And the Church is a Mother, this is what makes the Church feminine. For this reason, we cannot find a place for women in the Church without allowing the heart of the Woman and Mother to shine... And since mothers bestow life, and women "keep" the world, let us all make greater efforts to promote mothers and to protect women. How much violence is directed against women! Enough! To hurt a woman is to insult God, who from a woman took on our humanity. He did not do it through an angel; nor did he come directly; he did it through a woman. Like a woman, the Mother Church, takes the humanity of her sons and daughters.

~ Pope Francis

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in us. Or when we get too legalistic in observance of rules, out of fear of being judged or punished, or being ostracized by others, formation of cliques which creates division. Will God rejoice in us if we are so? Certainly not! We need to be constantly reminded that God is Love. He sent His Son Jesus to save us from eternal damnation, from our sinful way of life through His Holy Spirit, who gives us strength to overcome evil.

Like Mary in the Gospel, she completely trusted Jesus to do something for the bridegroom and bride who ran out of wine to serve the

guests at their wedding. Although it was kind of premature, as Jesus said himself, "...my hour has not yet come" (Jn2:4), with Mary's persistence, Jesus complied and did his first miracle at that wedding in Cana, filling the empty jars with water, and turning them into jars of wine. Mary interceded or mediated for the benefit of the guests and to save the wedding organizers from embarrassment. And Jesus, despite his initial reluctance, obeyed the plea of his mother. It was all for the good of others. The wedding at Cana

showed two important truths – the manifestation of the power of God and the manifestation of the power of intercession.

We pray to God not only for our personal intentions but for the sake of others as well. We are enjoined to obey the Order for the month, "Rise up in splendor! Your light has come, the glory of the Lord shines upon you" (Is 60:1) and rejoice for His promise shall be fulfilled, "You shall be a glorious crown in the hand of the Lord," (Is 62:3).

Adapted from [www.bldworld.org](http://www.bldworld.org)