



BLD Trenton



Community News

This Sunday's Counsel

THEME:

We have hope for eternal life when we remain steadfast in our faith.

PROMISE:

"By your perseverance, you will secure your lives." (Lk 21: 19)

WORD:

Mal 3: 19-20a/ Ps 98: 5-6, 7-8, 9/ 2 Thes 3: 7-12/ Lk 21: 5-19

ORDER:

- *Direct your hearts to the love of God and to the endurance of Christ.* (2 Thes 3:5)

DIRECTIONS:

- Find joy in our sufferings for the glory of God.
- Find strength through prayers, receiving the Holy Eucharist and meditation of the Holy Scriptures.
- Be inspired by the lives of the Saints.

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November 11, 2022

God Is On Our Side

REFLECTION:

As the Church's liturgical year draws to a close and another year of life slips quietly by, our thoughts are directed towards the end of time. Jesus paints a picture foretelling the end of the world in terms of the destruction of the Temple of Jerusalem. The temple was the center and soul of Judaism, a grand and glorious building – the national and spiritual heart and identity of the people. The gospel says it took forty-six years to build. As the followers of Jesus were admiring the temple, the Lord tells them, to their shock and amazement, that one day this temple would be destroyed. He then warns His followers to be prepared for the tension, conflict and struggle ahead, and for "signs" of false messiahs, wars, earthquakes, plagues, persecutions and betrayals. He adds though that even then, it is not the end of the world.

The world which Jesus describes has a familiar ring and sounds similar to the one



we know. People of every age share the curiosity of the disciples in wondering when the end will come. Because of its unknown time of happening, there has been no shortage of self-appointed prophets to quote scripture out of context and exploit people's fears by announcing that

the end is near.

The message is clear – our readiness to meet the Lord depends on the life we lead. How we will stand before Christ when he comes depends on what we are trying to be at this very moment. St. Paul's letter to the Thessalonians presents his own example both positively and negatively. *"This is what we did, and this is what we did not do."* Our future happiness is shaped by our present efforts to turn to God and to live life rightfully. It is comforting to know that the Lord is in control and will not abandon His people no matter what the future holds in terms of disappointments or failure. Just as He did not leave His disciples

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Tending the Flock

Trust In Christ's Providential Love

In today's Gospel passage, St. Luke re-proposes the Biblical view of history for our reflection and refers to Jesus' words that invite the disciples not to fear, but to face difficulties, misunderstandings and even persecutions with trust, persevering through faith in him. The Lord says: *"When you hear of wars and tumults, do not be terrified; for this must first take place, but the end will not be at once"* (Lk 21: 9). Keeping this admonition in mind, from the beginning the Church lives in prayerful waiting for her Lord, scrutinizing the signs of the times and putting the faithful on guard against recurring messiahs, who from time to time announce the world's end as imminent. In reality, history must run its course, which brings with it also human dramas and natural calamities. In it a design of salvation is developed that Christ has already brought to fulfillment in his Incarnation, death and Resurrection. The Church continues to proclaim this mystery and to announce and accomplish it with her preaching, celebration of the sacraments and witness of charity.

Dear brothers and sisters, let us welcome Christ's invitation to face daily events by trusting in his providential love. Let us not fear the future, even when it can appear with bleak colors, because the God of Jesus Christ, who entered history to open it to its transcendent fulfillment, is the alpha and the omega, the first and the last (cf. Rv 1: 8). He guarantees that in every little but genuine act of love there is the entire sense of the universe, and that the one who does not hesitate to lose his own life for him finds it again in fullness (cf. Mt 16: 25).

~ Pope Benedict XVI

Angelus Message, November 18, 2007

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

November 6, 2022

Tithe : \$ 1,090.00
Love Offer : \$ 702.00

Thank you for your generosity!!!

God's Blessings

Birthday

Argie Salada	11/12	Loring Pascua	11/13
Nora Dingerdisen	11/13	Inna Lukban	11/14
Celia Carillo	11/16		

Peacemakers



Brothers and sisters, let us look within and ask ourselves: are we peacemakers? In the places where we live, study and work, do we bring tension, words that hurt, chatter that poisons, controversy that divides? Or do we open up the way to peace, forgiving those who have offended us; do we care for those who are at the margins, do we redress some injustice by helping those who have less? This is called building peace... May the Virgin Mary, Queen of all saints, help us to be peacemakers in our daily lives.

~ Pope Francis

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

*Sing praise to the Lord
with the harp and melodious song,
With trumpets and the sound of the horn.*

LSS # 22

While most people immersed themselves in the nice fall weather last weekend, a group of believers had a different sort of immersion in the confines of St. Veronica Church, Howell. Nineteen of them took part in *Life in the Spirit Seminar #22*, reflecting on different topics that were discussed by the spiritual director, Father John Paul Del Rosario, and further elaborated by community members who shared relevant life experiences. The event culminated in the baptism of the Holy Spirit where participants received their spiritual gifts. BLD-Trenton's LSA Ministry thanked all who gave their time, talents and treasure for this spiritual activity.



"We give praise and glory to our Almighty God...His mighty presence is evident as we've witnessed His face in all of you and His hands at work through you."

~ LSA Ministry



Send your prayer requests to:
[https://](https://www.bldtrenton.com/intercessory)

www.bldtrenton.com/intercessory

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unprepared, we are not to lose hope because of the trials and tribulations of life, but remain assured of His protection.

The challenge facing us is to put our lives in order and to turn our backs from such things as dishonesty and taking shortcuts in solving our problems no matter how serious they may be. Selfishness can cut us off from God. How we appear before God when Christ comes will not be a matter of luck, but will depend on whether we are messengers of hope and bearers of light in troubled times, givers rather than takers, generous rather than addicted to self-interest. The gospel gives us encouragement by announcing that

God is on our side and longs for us to be saved. Having called us to salvation He will not abandon us against our wishes.

We profess each time we say the Apostles' Creed that Jesus will come again to judge the living and the dead. Indeed, He will. And to be saved involves total acceptance of Christ in our life, belief in the Good News and living it in our lives. God will pass judgment on all men convicting them of unrepented sin and of every harsh word uttered against Him. But those who are following the light, who are ready to face persecution and endure sufferings for Him, will be spared. As promised by Jesus in Luke 21:19, *"By your perseverance*

you will secure your lives."

In another context, we all have 'temples' which we rely on for security and put our trust upon, apart from God. It can be a relationship, our attachment to power, wealth, or influence, things on which we place great value, but which can disappear at the blink of an eye. What then will you do? God reminds us that like grass, our life is passing, and like the earthly things we value that are here today and gone tomorrow. The gospel gives us strength and direction. When life draws to an end, we can take nothing with us from this life except the good we have done. Christians by their steadfast endurance (perseverance) will win the victory.

Adapted from www.bldworld.org