



BLD Trenton



Community News

This Sunday's Counsel

THEME:

Our faith in Jesus remains strong when we completely rely on His mercy.

PROMISE:

"Great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." (Mt 15: 28a)

WORD:

Is 56: 1, 6-7/ Ps 67: 2-3, 5, 6, 8/ Rom 11: 13-15, 29-32/ Mt 15: 21 -28

ORDER:

- *Observe what is right, do what is just.* (Is 56: 1)

DIRECTIONS:

- Let your prayer show perseverance, faith and humility.
- Be obedient to God's commandments.
- Know the Scriptures.
- Give your total dependence and full trust in God's mercy.

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August 18, 2023

Faith That Moves Mountains

REFLECTION:

Without faith it is impossible to please God (Heb 11: 6). Matthew's gospel is teaching us something very important about the nature of the faith needed to move mountains. Yet faith is more than "belief that". It is "belief in". To believe in someone is to trust him, to entrust something of value to him, even to entrust one's very self to him.

The Canaanite woman, in this Sunday's gospel, entrusts the destiny of her daughter to Jesus Christ whom she recognizes as the Son of God, the Messiah. And her desire for her daughter's salvation propels her to pursue Jesus whom she seeks tirelessly until she obtains what she believes He can provide. The Canaanite woman is a pagan fondly referred to as "dog" by their Jewish neighbors and whom they consider unclean. She is an outsider. Did Jesus too regard her with disdain? At first glance it appears so. She could simply have taken offense and walked away upset. But instead, she perseveres, responding with humility. Jesus could no longer resist: *"Woman, great is your faith. Let it be done for*



you as you wish." And immediately, her daughter was delivered from the power of evil.

Jesus often rebukes his disciples for having little faith. Their faith is little because it waivers when faced with obstacles. This woman's faith is great because it disregards all obstacles. Although she is insistent, she is humble. She does

not dispute Jesus' *"preferential option for the Jews."* She does not arrogantly demand to be served first. She'll settle for leftovers. Jesus had come first to gather the scattered people of Israel but the great faith of this woman induces him to move right at that moment. Jesus was moved with pity and He grants her plea because of His great mercy toward her.

In this gospel, Jesus is teaching us how it feels to be rejected. He's trying to teach the disciples you don't throw people away and shove them away because they're not one of your own kind, because they do not share your faith. Jesus also knows that he has come to a world that is full of pain and full of sorrow. It is not whether you are Jew or Gentile. It is not whether you come from one group or another group. It doesn't matter what your his-

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Tending the Flock

Be Open To God's Action Every Day

Faith opens us to knowing and welcoming the real identity of Jesus, his newness and oneness, his word, as a source of life, in order to live a personal relationship with him. Knowledge of the faith grows, it grows with the desire to find the way and in the end it is a gift of God who does not reveal himself to us as an abstract thing without a face or a name, because faith responds to a Person who wants to enter into a relationship of deep love with us and to involve our whole life.

For this reason our heart must undergo the experience of conversion every day, every day it must see us changing from people withdrawn into themselves to people who are open to God's action, spiritual people (cf. 1 Cor 2:13-14), who let themselves be called into question by the Lord's word and open their life to his Love.

Dear brothers and sisters, let us therefore nourish our faith every day with deep attention to the word of God, with the celebration of the Sacraments, with personal prayer as a "cry" to him, and with charity to our neighbor.

~ Pope Benedict XVI
Angelus Message, August 14, 2011





BLD TRENTON
JOHN 6 CROSSING

Registration is Open
for Children ages
11 -15 years old

Date: September 29th - October 1st, 2023
Place: Saint John Paul II Youth Retreat Center
499 Belgrove Dr. Kearny, NJ 07032
Registration Fee: \$150.00 per person.
(Fee includes meals for the entire weekend.)

For inquiries and slot reservations, please contact
David/Liberty Baliscao or Arnold/ Malou Paderon
email address: Dbaliscao@yahoo.com
mpaderon12@gmail.com

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

August 11, 2023

Tithe :\$510.00

Love Offering :\$297.00

Thank you for your generosity!!!

God's Blessings

Birthday

Gabs Lagunilla	8/18	Rouinna Crocco	8/20
Malou Paderon	8/19	Koy Torralba	8/20
Manny Rodriguez	8/19	Dada Alberto	8/21
Gel Chioco	8/20	Jannahlyn Mijares	8/22
Adrian Vergara	8/23		

Anniversary

Harvey & Criselda Gabriel	8/22
Dave & Nanette Smith	8/24

Last Week's Prophecies

- *Faith and fear are inversely proportional especially if you have a powerful prayer life.*



- *Fix your gaze on Jesus and remain in His peace. Do not be afraid, but run to His loving providence. For there you will not perish because you are safe in His loving embrace.*
- *All will be well with you if you anchor your boat of life totally on Jesus.*
- *I know your fears and anxieties in life. But I will be there always. Just reach out to me. For there is no fear that I can't allay if you trust in Me.*

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

Let your face shine upon me, O God.

 **Bukas Loob Sa Diyos**
Diocese of Trenton
invites you to

"Life In The Spirit Seminar"

October 27-29, 2023
St. Veronica Church, Howell New Jersey

FREE REGISTRATION

For all inquiries and registration,

Contact: Toy and Malen Juarez (609-954-2300) | Bong and Faye Dizon (732-604-7690)
Email: bldtrenton.iss@gmail.com

*"Behold,
I make all
things new."*



Come... Holy Spirit... Come...

The Narrow Door



Christian life is "measured against Christ", founded and modelled on him. This means that the measuring stick is Jesus and his Gospel — not what we think, but what he says to us. And so, we are talking about a narrow door not because only a few are destined to go through it, no, but because to belong to Christ means to follow him, to commit one's life to love, in service and in giving oneself as he did, who passed through the narrow door of the cross. Entering into the project God proposes for our life requires that we restrict the space of selfishness, reduce the presumption of self-sufficiency, lower the heights of arrogance and pride, and that we overcome laziness, in order to traverse the risk of love, even when it involves the cross.

~ Pope Francis

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tory is. It doesn't matter where you were born. It doesn't matter what you do. There is no condemnation for those who belong to Christ. The only thing that matters, Jesus says, are two things, faith and love. When you have faith and love, hope follows. Faith lifts us from despair and carries us to the holy mountain which is Christ. God desires to have mercy on all. Salvation is offered to everyone. How many times do we despair and believe that the Lord does not listen to our plea? A lot of times, we put Jesus in a timetable. When our prayers seem to be unanswered and our Lord remains quiet, that's the time we should look inwardly and seek the wisdom of God. If you are hurting, look at the cross and see how much Christ suffered for us because of His inexhaustible love and mercy. The faith that the Canaanite woman expresses is an affirmation of and confidence in God's abundant

mercy. When our prayers seemed to be unanswered, it is not that the Lord does not care. It is because of His loving plan for us and He has greater graces in store for us. Patience and perseverance are two virtues we should develop contrary to what the present culture dictates that we want to see result instantly. Ultimately, what he wants to give us is himself. He wants us to share in his eternal and infinite goodness.

Our faith grows and is strengthened through the guidance and teachings of the Church. Our faith is nourished each time we receive the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist. To know the Lord's divine word has transforming power. We must do our part to keep our faith alive through meaningful prayer, when we live out the Word of God. This helps us to know the Lord more deeply and to trust Him with conviction. It is our

spiritual yearning that consumes our soul and leaves us assured in God's promise. Our faith is also tested as we go through the refiner's fire so that it will remain strong, unwavering, and powerfully persevering as we journey through life. He is inviting the skeptics and the sinners like us to draw near Him, waiting for us to repent for our sins and taste His abundant Divine Mercy. Yet, in the midst of it all, if we cling in faith, we will see peace reign in our hearts. Faith is the foundation and the guiding light of the church. Bold, courageous, unwavering, persevering faith has always been at the very heart of every good deed, every great accomplishment and every miracle.

The gospel challenges us to always trust in these most challenging times and that we must persevere in faith and rely in His immeasurable mercy.

