

This Sunday's Counsel

THEME:

We respond to live according to God's Holy Will by fulfilling His commandment of love.

PROMISE:

"If he cries out to me, I will hear him; for I am compassionate." (Ex 22: 26b)

WORD:

Ex 22: 20-26/ Ps 18: 2-3, 3-4, 47, 51/ 1 Thes 1: 5c-10/ Mt 22: 34-40

ORDER:

- *You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. (Mt 22: 27)*

DIRECTIONS:

- Love God by obeying His commandments.
- Seek the intercession of our Blessed Mother and emulate her obedience to the will of the Father. Pray the Holy Rosary daily.



BLD Trenton



Community News

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October 27, 2023

Love That Goes Beyond Feeling

REFLECTION:

The readings for the 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time highlight the truth that the love of God and love of neighbor are inseparable. In 1 John 4: 20 it is written, *"If anyone says, I love God but hates his brother, he is a liar."* It is a reminder that our love for God is meaningless if it does not extend to our fellow human beings. You cannot say you love the Lord if you do not love your neighbors and yourself. And you cannot say that you love others if in the first place you do not love the Lord.

Love, as beautifully expressed, is not just an emotion nor a feeling, but *"the choice to will the good of the other"* (St. Thomas Aquinas). The love for neighbors is an extension of our love for God. It is the proof of our faith in Jesus. The core of God's law is encapsulated into two greatest commandments – to love God with all your heart, mind and soul and to love your neighbor as yourself (cf Mt 22: 37-39). It is essential to recognize that our neighbor is not just a person living next door; he is someone who God allows us to encounter in our life, even those who might seem like adversaries. The



word 'love' is complicated and a lot of times misused, overused, or falsely used resulting in it losing its true meaning. Yes, we express that we love pets, places, food, friends, and family, but when it comes to people who give us trouble or do us wrong, loving can be challenging.

Christ models to us the way to love. His love goes beyond feeling and affection. It is a steadfast commitment, without conditions and boundaries. Jesus demonstrated this love by sacrificing His life and dying on the cross, a profound act of love for humanity wounded by sin to gain our salvation. Loving our enemies does not necessarily require affection, but empathy for their needs, mirroring God's response to our own needs. Love is an unwavering commitment, as seen in marriage vows, where two people pledge to love one another for better or for worse, in sickness and in health.

Here is an example of a Filipino Salesian nun who is now assigned in Africa. Despite coming from a financially able family, she selflessly teaches the poor children of non-Catholic families of Nigeria. She personally pays for her accommodation where she

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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.lss@gmail.com

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



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

Solo Parent Encounter Weekend



"Though the mountains leave their place and the hills be shaken, My love shall never leave you nor my covenant of peace be shaken, says the Lord, who has mercy on you."
Isaiah 54:10



BLD - BUKAS LOOB SA DIYOS
(OPEN IN SPIRIT TO GOD)
DIOCESE OF TRENTON

Mature Singles
Unmarried Guardians
Separated Divorced
Married to physically Handicapped Spouse
Widows & Widowers

ALL ARE WELCOME!



SOLO PARENT ENCOUNTER
WEEKEND

November 11 & 12, 2023 at 7am
St. Veronica Church
4219 US 9 Howell Township NJ 07731

Contacts: SP Ministry
Joel/Estela Bernado 732.766.0988
projoe223@gmail.com

Michelle Tecarro 732.456.0285
Evelyn Balondo 646.3463989

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

October 20, 2023

Tithe :\$760.00
Love Offering :\$199.00

Thank you for your generosity!!!

God's Blessings

Birthday

Jedy Bustamante	10/27	Malu DelaCruz	10/31
Eugene Yosucio	10/28	Marlon Abalos	10/31
Jaine Buenafe	10/29	Leo Lukban	11/1
Harvey Gabriel	10/29	Edie Danieles	11/2
Glenda Calugay	10/30	Arnold Paderon	11/2

Francis Sunga 11/2

Anniversary

Raffy & Jo Perez	10/27
Elner & Marichille Jamolod	10/28
Manny & Evelyn Palacios	10/31
Eric & Mae Alberto	11/1
Ron & Tina King	11/2

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

*I love you, O Lord, my strength, my
rock of refuge, my shield,
praised be God my savior.*

Evangelizing

Charles de Foucauld wrote: "Every Christian, then, must become an apostle", and he reminds a friend that "close to priests we need laypeople who see what the priest does not see, who evangelize with a closeness of charity, with a kindness for all, with an affection always ready to give of itself".

Brother Charles de Foucauld thus reminds us that the first step in evangelizing is to have Jesus inside one's heart; it is to "fall head over heels" for him. If this does not happen, we can hardly show it with our lives.

~ Pope Francis

A Smash Hit For The Books

On October 14, the ballroom of Waterview Pavilion in Belmar came to life with vibrant colors, upbeat music, and delectable food and beverages as ME 14 & 15 presented this year's Community Night.

Dubbed "International



Cultural Night", guests showed up dressed beautifully to represent a variety of cultural groups. Thank you all for your participation and support, and congratulations to the winners of the raffle and costume contests. Everyone had a blast!

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stays so that the families are not obliged to pay the tuition fees. With her mission, she has been away from her parents, who are now in their 90s. Her actions epitomize her love of God and neighbor that is selfless and pure.

Thus, our weekly theme for the 30th Sunday in Ordinary time states – We respond to live according to God's Holy Will by fulfilling His commandment of love. Pope Francis' message resonates with a call to action, urging us to take humble steps towards love, even within our limitations. It's a challenge for all of us – leaders, parents, and elders in our society, community, and Church. The world is scarred by conflict, misunderstandings, and power struggles, but there is hope. By embracing genuine love and pure concern for our neighbor's well-being, accompanied by fervent prayer,

we can reshape our world into a place of harmony and peace for the next generation, where love stands at the core.

Let love reign in our midst, beginning with us, and each heart touched and inspired to make a difference in others. Scripture assures us that love can cover a multitude of sins, reminding us of the transformative power of love. Our encounter with Jesus who loves us boundlessly, can impact our relationship with Him and others. Let His love radiate through our lives, touching the hearts of those around us, and ultimately, changing the world. This may be quite challenging, but if we respond to His commandment of love, we will always have the loving presence of the Lord, especially when we need Him most. In Exodus 22: 26b, God promises, "If he cries out to me, I will hear him, for I am compassionate." 🙏

Adapted from www.bldworld.org

Last Week's Prophecy

- *My disciples, are you entrapped between your spirituality and attractions of the world? Then come closer to Me specially in the Eucharist and draw deeper in prayer.*



WRITERS NEEDED

Please contribute to our Community News. We welcome spiritual articles, testimonies, and reflections of 250 words or less. Submit your manuscripts by e-mail to: bldword@gmail.com