



BLD Trenton



Community News

This Sunday's Counsel

THEME:

We fulfill God's commandment of love when we lead others to be reconciled with one another.

PROMISE:

"...where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them." (Mt 18:20)

WORD:

Ez 33:7-9/ Ps 95:1-2, 6-9/ Rom 13:8-10/ Mt 18:15-20

ORDER:

- "...You shall love your neighbor as yourself." (Rom 13:9)

DIRECTIONS:

- Practice fraternal correction with charity and love.
- Ask for forgiveness, forgive, and be reconciled with one another.
- Receive the sacrament of reconciliation by going to confession.

Volume 20, Issue 36

<http://bldtrenton.com>

September 4, 2020

Forgive And Grow In Love

REFLECTION:

What makes us Christians is not PERFECTION but FORGIVENESS.

In a world of chaos, anger, fear, despair, frustrations and death, what we need now is God. We need to be on our knees

and ask our God the father for mercy, guidance and compassion. We need to pray more and ask for the presence of the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit in our everyday life. The world is so noisy and almost everyone is complaining if not cursing.

"Peace I leave with you, my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives; Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid" (Jn 14:27).

Now is the time to listen; not to the world but to our God. He seems not to speak to us in the storms of our lives, but He is always present. We do not hear Him in our struggles because we talk too much. Be still then and let us open our hearts, empty our minds and lift them up to Him for He said *"I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go, I*



will counsel you and watch over you" (Psalm 32:8). In a small whispering voice He will talk to you and you will hear His voice.

We belong to a Christian community of broken, imperfect brothers

and sisters. Our presence here is not by coincidence but is a divine plan of our God for each one of us. A thousand times or more, I have confessed this and I know you would agree. We are where we are today because God loves us and He put us here to be a part of this community.

Quoting one of the Saints, *"The measure of how much we love our God is revealed to us in how much we love our neighbor, our family and all the people that God has surrounded us with."* John 3:16, *"For God so love the world that He gave His one and only son that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life"*, shows us how much God loves us. What a perfect kind of love; forgiving and sacrificing for all of us in-

Forgive - See Page 2

Tending the Flock

Forget The Offence Not The Injury

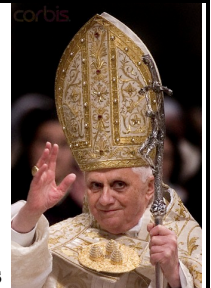
The Apostle Paul says that the whole Law of God finds fullness in love, so that in our relationships with others the Ten Commandments and every other precept are summed up in these words: *"Love your neighbour as yourself"* (cf. Rom 13:8-10).

The Gospel text from chapter 18 of Matthew on the life of the Christian community tells us that brotherly love also involves a sense of mutual responsibility. For this reason if my brother commits a sin against me I must treat him charitably and first of all, speak to him privately, pointing out that what he has said or done is wrong. This approach is known as "fraternal correction": it is not a reaction to the offence suffered but is motivated by love for one's brethren.

St. Augustine comments: *"Whoever has offended you, in offending you, has inflicted a serious injury upon himself; and would you not care for a brother's injury?... You must forget the offence you have received but not the injury of one of your brethren"* (Discourse 82, 7).

And what if my brother does not listen to me? In today's Gospel Jesus points to a gradual approach: first, speak to him again with two or three others, the better to help him realize what he has done; if, in spite of this, he still refuses to listen, it is necessary to tell the community; and if he refuses to listen even to the community, he must be made to perceive that he has cut himself off by separating himself from the communion of the Church.

~ Pope Benedict XVI, Excerpt from Angelus Message, September 4, 2011



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 28, 2020

Mail-in : \$370.00
Paypal : \$0

Thank you for your generosity!!!

Who Are You Gonna Call (or Text)?

For Blessed Mother's visit - Tess Corso 732-604-1914
For Prayer Service - Morris Teves 732-597-2016

Reconciliation

What can we learn from Jesus' instructions about how to mend a damaged relationship (Mt 18:15-20)? If you feel you have been wronged by someone, Jesus says the first step is to speak directly but privately to the individual who has done the harm. One of the worst things we can do is brood over our grievance. This can poison our mind and heart and make it more difficult to go directly to the person who caused the damage.

If this fails in its purpose, then the second step is to bring another person or persons, someone who is wise and gracious rather than someone who is hot-tempered or judgmental. The goal is not so much to put the offender on trial, but to persuade the offender to see the wrong and to be reconciled. And if this fails, then we must still not give up, but seek the help of the Christian community. Note the emphasis here is on restoring a broken relationship by seeking the help of other Christians who hopefully will pray and seek a solution for reconciliation based on Christian love and wisdom, rather than relying on coercive force or threat of legal action, such as a lawsuit.

Lastly, if even the Christian community fails to bring about reconciliation, what must we do? Jesus seems to say that we have the right to abandon stubborn and obdurate offenders and treat them like social outcasts. The tax-collectors and Gentiles were regarded as "unclean" by the religious-minded Jews and they resorted to shunning them. However we know from the Gospel accounts that Jesus often had fellowship with tax-collectors (as well as other public sinners), ate with them, and even praised them at times! Jesus refuses no one who is open to receive pardon, healing, and restoration.

Adapted from www.dailyscripture.net

God's Blessings

Birthday

Janella Llave	9/4	Raquel Arriola	9/8
Sherr Ann Arabit	9/5	Aaron Cruz	9/9
Sette Lemon	9/6	Sam dela Pena	9/10
Nestor Conde	9/7	Manny Palacios	9/10

Anniversary

Jay & Cathy Talag	9/4
David & Liberty Balisco	9/8



If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

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

"God Our Father, we come to you in our need, to ask your protection against the 2019 N-coronavirus, that has claimed the lives and affected many.

We pray for your grace, for the people tasked with studying the nature and cause of this virus and its disease and of stemming the tide of its transmission. Guide the hands and minds of medical experts that they may minister to the sick with competence and compassion, and of those governments and private agencies that must find a cure and solution to this epidemic.

We pray for those afflicted, may they be restored to health soon.

Grant us the grace to work for the good of all and to help those in need. Grant this 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.

Mary, help of all Christians, pray for us.

St. Raphael the Archangel, pray for us.

St. Rock, pray for us.

St. Lorenzo Ruiz, pray for us.

St. Pedro Calungsod, pray for us."

Forgive - Cont'd from Page 1

spite of. It is an example that I, therefore, urge all of us to follow.

As Christians we have to forgive as often as needed, then forget, because that is the example given by our Lord Jesus Christ. The very essence of Christianity is learning how to forgive then grow in love. It's not easy but it's a challenge we have to fight and win, for with the grace of our God everything is possible.

There is no greater love than this; "As the Father has loved me so have I loved you. Now remain in my love" (Jn 15:9). It is, therefore, my prayer that we learn to forgive each other, love as Christ did; so that our community will grow strong, committed, joyful as little children, and humble as our Lord.

"May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and love of God and the fellowship the Holy Spirit be with us

all" (2 Cor13:14). So, as we go back to St. William the Abbott for our praise and worship, let us be reminded to love and always be ready to forgive. Let us all go to confession and have the blessing of our God. "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness" (1 Jn 1: 9).

All glory and praise to our Lord Jesus Christ...Amen!



BLD Trenton



Community News

This Sunday's Counsel

THEME:

We fulfill God's commandment of love when we have a forgiving heart.

PROMISE:

"Forgive your neighbor's injustice; then when you pray, your sins will be forgiven." (Sir 28:2)

WORD:

Sir 27:30– 28:7/ Ps 103:1-4, 9-12/ Rom 14:7-9/ Mt 18:21-35

ORDER:

- *"Think of the commandments."* (Sir 28:7a)
- *"Forgive your neighbor's injustice."* (Sir 28:2a)

DIRECTIONS:

- Pray and meditate on the Scriptures.
- Do everything out of love.
- Observe and follow God's Commandments.
- Empty yourself of bitterness and unforgiveness toward others.

Volume 20, Issue 37

<http://bldtrenton.com>

September 11, 2020

Forgiving Without Limits

REFLECTION:

When it comes to forgiveness, some people would rather stay hurt, fuel their resentment and anger, than forgive the one who has done them wrong. Others resort to revenge thinking that the wrongdoer must feel the pain that they suffer. Many aggrieved ones just numb and hide their pain and wait for those who caused it to admit their mistake. And there are those who choose to be indifferent, tolerating the wrongdoer to be unaccountable of their wrongful acts, without the benefit of remorse, repentance and restitution.

But the reality of forgiveness is it frees the "forgiver" from a life imprisoned by hatred, resentment and animosity, to a life of peace and joy. A decision to forgive is also the start of the healing process for both the victim and the wrongdoer. Our theme for the week calls us to have a forgiving heart that we may fulfill God's commandment of love from which spring mercy, kindness and for-



bearance. Jesus tells us to forgive not only once, but always, just as He answers Peter, "seventy seven times" (cf. Mt 18:21). There is no limit to the number of times God forgives us. His unconditional love should set our

hearts free from the tyranny of pride and revenge. Our capacity to forgive and to be merciful bonds us with the benevolence of God and manifests the love of God to others.

In the parable, we see the action of a merciless servant who was unforgiving of the debt of his fellow servant, even if his own debt was pardoned earlier by the king. Jesus emphatically tells us, *"For if you forgive men when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins,"* (Mt 6:14-15). Jesus Himself gave us an example on the cross when He asked God to forgive our sins. We too must be willing to pardon others of their

Forgiving - See Page 2

Know Your Saints

Saint Peter Claver: Patron of Slaves

The son of a Catalonian farmer, Peter Claver was born in 1581 and spent forty-four years caring for the most persecuted people of his day—African slaves in the Spanish colonies of the New World. He earned his first degrees at the University of Barcelona and became a Jesuit priest at the age of twenty. In 1610, he left Spain for the port city of Cartagena in South America with the special mission to tell the African slaves about Jesus Christ and His love and mercy.

Peter Claver worked to have slavery abolished and demanded that the slaves be treated decently. He boarded the slave ships that entered the harbor and took food, drink and medicine to the slaves, many of whom were near death after their terrible ordeal. He instructed them about Jesus and the eternal life without toil that awaited them in heaven. He said, *"We must speak with our hands by giving, before we try to speak to them with our lips."* He converted more than 300,000 slaves to Christ.

Even after they left the slave ships, Peter Claver continued to bring the light of the Church to his converts. He followed them to the plantations to which they were sent, encouraged them to live as Christians, and prevailed upon their masters to treat them humanely.

Many miracles took place during Peter Claver's life. He brought a dead girl back to life by sprinkling her with holy water. He often used his long cloak to comfort the ill and protect them from exposure. Soon, people began to touch his cloak and be healed of their illness.

St. Peter Claver died in 1654 and is today honored as patron of African missions and inter-racial justice.



Teaching Schedule

Via Zoom Meeting

Sep 12 - Luke and John

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

Whether we
live or die,
we are the
Lord's.

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

"God Our Father, we come to you in our need, to ask your protection against the 2019 N-coronavirus, that has claimed the lives and affected many.

We pray for your grace, for the people tasked with studying the nature and cause of this virus and its disease and of stemming the tide of its transmission. Guide the hands and minds of medical experts that they may minister to the sick with competence and compassion, and of those governments and private agencies that must find a cure and solution to this epidemic.

We pray for those afflicted, may they be restored to health soon.

Grant us the grace to work for the good of all and to help those in need. Grant this 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.

Mary, help of all Christians, pray for us.

St. Raphael the Archangel, pray for us.

St. Rock, pray for us.

St. Lorenzo Ruiz, pray for us.

St. Pedro Calungsod, pray for us."

God's Blessings

Birthday

Jean DeJean	9/11	Pearl Labitoria	9/13
Baby Inid	9/11	Derek Dela Cruz	9/15
Mike Salada	9/12	Lalaine Academia	9/16
Elena Madarang	9/13	Cesar Agustin	9/16
Archie Arigorat	9/16		

Who Are You Gonna Call (or Text)?

For Blessed Mother's visit - Tess Corso 732-604-1914

For Prayer Service - Morris Teves 732-597-2016

Pardon

When Peter asked him whether he should forgive his brother sinning against him up to seven times, the Lord replied, *"Not up to seven times but up to seventy times seven times"*. In every way he teaches us to be like him in humility and goodness. In weakening and breaking the impulses of our rampant passions he strengthens us by the example of his leniency, by granting us in faith pardon of all our sins. For the vices of our nature did not merit pardon. Therefore all pardon comes from him. In fact, he pardons even those sins that remain in one after confession. The penalty to be paid through Cain was established at sevenfold, but that sin was against a man, against his brother Abel, to the point of murder (Gn 4:8). But in Lamech the penalty was established at seventy times seven times (Gn 4:24) and, as we believe, the penalty was established on those responsible for the Lord's Passion. But the Lord through the confession of believers grants pardon for this crime. By the gift of baptism he grants the grace of salvation to his revilers and persecutors. How much more is it necessary, he shows, that pardon be returned by us without measure or number. And we should not think how many times we forgive, but we should cease to be angry with those who sin against us, as often as the occasion for anger exists. Pardon's frequency shows us that in our case there is never a time for anger, since God pardons us for all sins in their entirety by his gift rather than by our merit. Nor should we be excused from the requirement of giving pardon that number of times [i.e., seventy times seven], since through the grace of the gospel God has granted us pardon without measure.

~ St. Hilary of Poitiers, Commentary

Forgiving - Cont'd from Page 1

offense and by doing so we accept God's love and His continuing grace to forgive and ask forgiveness. By His grace, we can offer our wounded heart to Him and be able to pardon those who have hurt us

Part of our spiritual growth is to be always forgiving. To forgive is constant because we ourselves are always in need of forgiveness. Forgiving others is easier when we are always reminded how often God forgives us. The cross is the ultimate

symbol of forgiveness. The passion of Christ is an ocean of love and mercy that washes away all wickedness in us. Jesus includes this in the prayer He taught us: *"Forgive us our sins, for we also forgive everyone who sins against us,"* (Lk 11:4a). With tolerance and perseverance, we may be able to bring out the good qualities from the persons whom we have given a second chance because of our forgiving heart.

Forgiving others, especially if the hurt and wound are deep, is indeed difficult. But if one has the commit-

ment to forgive, God's grace will allow us to go beyond the emotional pain, and then healing will begin. As St. Paul tells us, *"God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit which has been given to us"* (Rom 5:5). We can overcome malice with good, hatred with kindness and injury with pardon through the Holy Spirit, as we claim God's promise, *"Forgive your neighbor's injustice, then when you pray your own sins will be forgiven,"* (Sir 28:2).

Adapted from www.bldworld.org



BLD Trenton



Community News

This Sunday's *Counsel*

THEME:

We fulfill God's commandment of love when we are generous with our resources.

PROMISE:

"The Lord is good to all and compassionate toward all his works." (Ps 145:18)

WORD:

Is 55:6-9/ Ps 145:2-3, 8-9, 17-18/ Phil 1:20-24/ Mt 20:1-16

ORDER:

- "...conduct yourselves in a way worthy of the gospel of Christ..." (Phil 1:27)
- "...go into my vineyard." (Mt 20:4,7)

DIRECTIONS:

- Be generous with our time, talent and treasure.
- Serve willingly and joyfully.
- Be grateful to God in any circumstances of your life.

Volume 20, Issue 38

<http://bldtrenton.com>

September 18, 2020

Giving With A Joyful Heart

REFLECTION: In the parable about the laborers in the vineyard, Jesus highlights the unconditional love of God, stressing, as he often does, that love is about who God is and does not depend on our good works. He points the way to the core truth of our faith that the love of God is for all, even to those who we think do not deserve it.

As Christians, one aspect of generosity is the practice of tithing. With God's generosity and unconditional love, what better way to put to heart and live the Community Theme for the week than to set aside part of our income for the church and in helping others. From ancient times, believers contributed toward the work and mission of the church. In the Old Testament, people set aside 10% of their income for the Lord. Ten percent is called "tithe." Before the time of Jesus, tithe went to the upkeep or repair of the temple, to provide for the priests, to help the poor, and to celebrate before the Lord in worship.

Many practicing Christians believe that a tithe of their income should be given to the Lord for His work. Ten percent is still a good guideline, even if it is not a law. This shows our faithfulness and gratitude to God, borne out of His generosity as we abide in His promise. In



the Old Testament, God presented this challenge through the Prophet Malachi: *"Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this, and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it,"* (Mal 3:10). God's recompense is abundant blessings to those who do not withhold their offering of tithe to Him.

In the New Testament, Jesus speaks of the same direction and promise: *"Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your*

Giving - See Page 2

Tending the Flock

God's Love Excludes No One

In Matthew 20:1-16, there is the parable of the day laborers in the vineyard, which Jesus recounts in order to explain two aspects of the Kingdom of God: the first is that God wants to call everyone to work for his Kingdom; the second is that, in the end, he wants to give everyone the same reward, that is, salvation, eternal life.

With this parable, Jesus wants to open our hearts to the logic of the Father's love which is free and generous. It is about allowing oneself to be astonished and fascinated by the "thoughts" and the "ways" of God which, as the Prophet Isaiah recalls, are not our thoughts and not our ways (cf Is 55:8). Human thoughts are often marked by selfishness and personal advantages, and our narrow and contorted paths are not comparable to the wide and straight streets of the Lord. He uses mercy — do not forget this: He uses mercy — he forgives broadly, is filled with generosity and kindness which he pours forth on each of us. He opens for everyone the boundless territory of his love and his grace, which alone can give the human heart the fullness of joy.

Jesus wants to make us contemplate the gaze of that landowner: the gaze with which he looks upon each of the laborers searching for work and calls them to go to his vineyard. It is a gaze which is filled with attention, kindness. It is a gaze which calls, invites one to get up and begin a journey because he wants life for each of us; he wants a full, committed life, safe from emptiness and inertia. God excludes no one and wants each of us to achieve his or her fullness. This is the love of our God, of our God who is Father.

~ Pope Francis, Excerpt from Angelus Message, September 24, 2017



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

September 11, 2020

In-person: \$475.00
Paypal : \$48.30

Thank you for your generosity!!!

Who Are You Gonna Call (or Text)?

For Blessed Mother's visit -Tess Corso 732-604-1914
For Prayer Service - Morris Teves 732-597-2016

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

"God Our Father, we come to you in our need, to ask your protection against the 2019 N-coronavirus, that has claimed the lives and affected many.

We pray for your grace, for the people tasked with studying the nature and cause of this virus and its disease and of stemming the tide of its transmission. Guide the hands and minds of medical experts that they may minister to the sick with competence and compassion, and of those governments and private agencies that must find a cure and solution to this epidemic.

We pray for those afflicted, may they be restored to health soon.

Grant us the grace to work for the good of all and to help those in need. Grant this 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.

Mary, help of all Christians, pray for us.

St. Raphael the Archangel, pray for us.

St. Rock, pray for us.

St. Lorenzo Ruiz, pray for us.

St. Pedro Calungsod, pray for us."

God's Blessings

Birthday

Alan San Rafael	9/18	Caryn Monta	9/21
Bong Saria	9/19	Cesar Angeles	9/22
Jessica Matthews	9/19	Jaye Jacinto	9/22
TJ San Miguel	9/19	Sylvia Lingat	9/23
Arelene Roldan	9/19	Leleng Del Carmen	9/24
Jan Fune	9/20	Mary Mainque	9/24
Det Quiapo	9/20	Vic Mabunay	9/24

Anniversary

Yoy & Det Quiapo	9/20
Pris & Nin Brendia	9/23
Edd & Marilyn Roy	9/23
Melo & Linda Mabutas	9/24
Sam & Jennie Dela Pena	9/24

*Seek the Lord
while he may be found.*

Winners

A number of senior high school students coming from BLD-Trenton families once again emerged as top winners in the annual scholarship awards of the Foundation of Philippine American Medical Society of New Jersey (PAMSNJ).

Cid-Elridge Talag placed second, receiving \$800 in scholarship money. Honorable mention honors, meanwhile, went to twin sisters Cathryn Hope and Julia Faith Duarte, Julia Caroline Fardin, and Liam Jamolod. They received cash awards of \$300 each.

The awardees were among graduating high school students who submitted their curriculum vitae with scholastic records, class rankings, GPA, SAT math and verbal scores, sports and extra-curricular activities, letters of recommendation, college acceptances and essays that were evaluated by the foundation on June 30.

PAMSNJ holds the search for scholarship awardees among New Jersey high school students every year. Doctors Bert and Cora Velez of ME-16, who have facilitated this program for the past two years, actively encouraged parents of graduating high school students in the BLD-Trenton community to participate in this worthwhile activity again next year.

Congratulations, winners. To God be the glory!

Giving - Cont'd from Page 1

lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you," (Lk 6:38). We often hear this statement – God cannot be outdone in generosity. This is true because it is God's nature to be kind and generous. In turn, God is challenging us to be generous to Him and to our neighbor.

Setting aside part of ones money as tithes to the church or community is oftentimes difficult to do, especially when one does not have

enough or there are other temporal needs that have to be prioritized. True giving is not in the quantity, but in the generosity of the heart and giving with joy. One should not give grudgingly or with conditions. We give not just to expect something in return, but because we love God.

God's faithfulness has indeed been tested by this couple member who, for many years now, has been faithfully tithing for the evangelization and mission of their community. They have continued to give their tithes even if both retired from em-

ployment, without stable income, and their four children were still studying. But by God's grace, all of them finished college and are now gainfully employed.

Indeed, the Lord is good to all, much more to those who appreciate and praise His goodness, to those who love God in the generous sharing of their resources (cf. Ps 103:3, Mal 3:10, Lk 6:38, Mt 6:33). This is God's assurance to them: *"The Lord is good to all and compassionate toward all his works,"* (Ps 145:9).

Adapted from www.bldworld.org



BLD Trenton



Community News

This Sunday's Counsel

THEME:

We fulfill God's commandment of love when we are obedient to His will.

PROMISE:

"If he turns from the wickedness he has committed, he does what is right and just, he shall preserve his life." (Ez 18:27)

WORD:

Ez 18:25-28/ Ps 25:4-9/ Phil 2:1-11/ Mt 21:28-32

ORDER:

- "...go out and work in the vineyard..." (Mt 21:28)
- "...humbly regard others as more important than yourselves." (Phil 2:3b)

DIRECTIONS:

- Pastor the needs of the members of the community.
- Humbly comply with your commitment and covenanting pledges.

Volume 20, Issue 39

<http://bldtrenton.com>

September 25, 2020

Essence Of Christian Life

REFLECTION:

Obedience to God's will is the perfect test of our love for Him. Christians who say "I love You, Lord," but do not follow His commandments are merely paying lip service to God.

Love characterizes all that we do as followers of Christ. Jesus tells us, *"If you love me, you will keep my commandments...whoever has my commandment and keeps them, he it is who loves me...whoever does not love me does not keep my words,"* (Jn 14:15). If we truly love God, we will seek to know and keep His commands, otherwise we cannot honestly claim to love Him.

The love of God has been manifested in our lives through the Holy Spirit who empowers us to be transformed and live a life pleasing to God. Because of His unconditional love for us, our Lord Jesus continues to reveal Himself to us and calls us to learn from Him, obey His words and, by the gifts and fruit of the Spirit, grow in holiness. We obey God



because we truly love Him. Through our obedience we keep our intimacy with God. Obedience is the essence of our Christian life and the heart of our relationship with Jesus. Obedience is the path by which we imitate Christ. It should

be our way of life and our way to prove our love for God.

Our utmost model of obedience is Jesus Christ Himself. The relation of the Son to the Father is Jesus' complete submission and obedience to the Will of God. *"He emptied Himself, taking the form of a slave, coming in human likeness... He humbled Himself, becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on the cross,"* (Phil 2:7-8). Jesus accepted the supreme sacrifice of dying on the cross because He loves us, just as His Father loves Him. Through Jesus, we know of the Father's love because He took upon Him our sins and gave a way for us to be called children of God, as His co-heirs

Christian - See Page 2

Know Your Saints

Saint Vincent de Paul: Patron of Charities

Born to a peasant family in the south of France in 1576, Vincent started doing works of charity even as a young boy. Coming back from the mill with flour for his family, he would give handfuls of it whenever he met a poor man.

Early in his priesthood, Vincent de Paul was captured by Turkish pirates and sold into slavery in Tunisia. For two years he toiled for his masters, the last of whom set him free after being converted to the faith. Returning to France and his priestly vocation, he hoped of advancement and prosperity and being able to retire near his widowed mother. He had a shot at financial security when he was appointed one of the chaplains of the Queen, a position that gave him a benefice and contact with notable people. But his anxiety over finances was later supplanted by charity for the suffering people of Christ.

Vincent de Paul became a great friend of the poor and was specially concerned for the welfare of children. He founded the Lazarist Fathers and the Order of the Daughters of Charity to help the poor, sick, aged, and abandoned children. He wrote, *"It is our duty to prefer the service of the poor to everything else and to offer such service as quickly as possible. If a needy person requires medicine or other help during prayer time, do whatever has to be done with peace of mind. Offer the deed to God as your prayer. Charity is certainly greater than any rule. Moreover, all rules must lead to charity."*

St. Vincent de Paul died in 1660 and is the patron saint of hospital and charity workers. To further his work in modern times, the St. Vincent de Paul Society was begun in Paris in 1833 by Frederic Ozanam. It has a million members worldwide in 130 countries and gives moral and material aid to the poor of all faiths.



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

September 18, 2020

In-person: \$535.00
Paypal : \$33.93

Thank you for your generosity!!!

Who Are You Gonna Call (or Text)?

For Blessed Mother's visit - Tess Corso 732-604-1914
For Prayer Service - Morris Teves 732-597-2016

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

"God Our Father, we come to you in our need, to ask your protection against the 2019 N-coronavirus, that has claimed the lives and affected many.

We pray for your grace, for the people tasked with studying the nature and cause of this virus and its disease and of stemming the tide of its transmission. Guide the hands and minds of medical experts that they may minister to the sick with competence and compassion, and of those governments and private agencies that must find a cure and solution to this epidemic.

We pray for those afflicted, may they be restored to health soon.

Grant us the grace to work for the good of all and to help those in need. Grant this 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.

Mary, help of all Christians, pray for us.

St. Raphael the Archangel, pray for us.

St. Rock, pray for us.

St. Lorenzo Ruiz, pray for us.

God's Blessings

Birthday

Delia Cuasay	9/25	Daday Young	9/28
Adam Tomczyk	9/25	Kris Taguian	9/28
Chat Conde	9/26	Bert Velez	9/28
Mildred Lumapas	9/26	Bong Dizon	9/29
Josie Rivera	9/26	Kimberly Ciocon	9/30
Tony Bartocillo	9/28	Mimi Caragay	10/1

Anniversary

Butch & Gel Chioco	9/26
John & Weng Alberto	9/27
Leo & Norms Llave	9/29
Toti & Inna Lukban	9/29

The sins of my youth and my frailties remember not, O Lord.

Obedience

Jesus tells a simple story of two imperfect sons to illustrate the way of God's kingdom.

The "rebellious" son told his father to his face that he would not work for him but afterwards changed his mind and did what his father had commanded him. The "good" son said he would work for his father, but didn't follow through. Now who was really the good son? Both sons disobeyed their father - but one repented and then did what the father told him. Jesus makes his point clear - good intentions are not enough. And promises don't count unless they are performed.

God wants to change our hearts so that we will show by our speech and actions that we respect his will and do it. God offers each one of us the greatest treasure possible - indestructible peace, joy, and friendship with him in his everlasting kingdom. We can lose that treasure if we refuse the grace of God's blessing and strength - which the Lord Jesus has won for us through his victory on the cross. The Lord Jesus fills us with the gift of the Holy Spirit who works in and through us for the glory of God. Do you seek to please God and respect his will and loving plan for your life? Allow the Holy Spirit to fill your heart with the peace, joy, and righteousness of God's kingdom (Rom 14:17).

Adapted from www.dailyscripture.net

Christian - Cont'd from Page 1

restored to our heavenly inheritance.

Jesus Christ continues to invite all of us to love Him through our obedience to God, as He encourages us to exercise our free will to love God. He urges us to think about the consequences of our choices, especially of those decisions that will not only count today, but for eternity as well. Our fallen nature, the world and the evil one will always tempt us to disobey God and disregard His commands. Sin, our willful disobedience to God, will always be a part of

our struggles as Christians. Consider the weight of our own disobedience and humanity's aberrations that are contrary to God's laws and designs: pre-marital sex, abortion, live-in marriage, same-sex marriage, euthanasia, genocide, terrorism, wars, economic sabotage and corruption. These are evil acts that offend God and are the ungrateful response to His immense love for mankind.

But all is not lost. Jesus told St. Faustina, *"The greater the sinner, the greater the right he has to My mercy,"* (Diary, 723). Even hardened sinners will be saved if he repents and changes his heart from evil to

good. This is God's promise to them: *"If he turns from the wickedness he has committed, he does what is right and just, he shall preserved his life,"* (Ez 18:27).

While God demands justice from sinners, those who turn back from their evil deeds will receive His mercy. Like one of the sons in the parable (cf. Mt 21:28-32) who disobeyed their father but later repented and did what was asked, we too should learn to manifest our good intentions by always doing God's commands and His will for us.

Adapted from www.bldworld.org