



BLD Trenton



Community News

This Sunday's Counsel

THEME:

We live a life of holiness when we listen to no one else but Jesus.

PROMISE:

"I will bless you...so that you will be a blessing." (Gn 12: 2)

WORD:

Gn 12: 1-4a/ Ps 33: 4-5, 18-19, 20, 22/ 2 Tm 1: 8b-10/ Mt 17: 1-9

ORDER:

- Listen to Him. (Mt 17: 5)

DIRECTIONS:

- Be attentive to the Lord's teachings by studying His words in Scripture.
- Spend time in prayer to hear and recognize His voice.
- Place our full trust in the Lord and obey Him at all times.
- Be in the state of grace by receiving the sacraments regularly.

Volume 23, Issue 9

<http://bldtrenton.com>

March 3, 2023

Living A Holy Life

REFLECTION:

Lent is upon us, a time when we are called for self-reflection, growth in understanding of our Faith, the great love and sacrifice of our Lord Jesus Christ. All the readings this Lent Season will focus on the way that

our Father God wants us, to listen and follow our Lord Jesus Christ which brings us to salvation by showing us how much He loves us even unto death to save us all. He wanted us to take the path He has chosen for each of us. To make sure that we will share our Father God's glory and kingdom. We all need to pick up our cross to obtain the glory promised by our God to acquire His grace that He will forever sustain us through our perseverance.

The Gospel for this week states our Father God's exposition stating *"This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him."* Therefore, we all must listen to Jesus, imitate, obey and



follow His examples. The life of Jesus is the life of serving others, loving others as ourselves. Sharing our time, efforts, resources and talents to our brothers and sisters most especially who need it the most. Show mercy, forgive-

ness and compassion and see the face of Jesus in everyone. Jesus demonstrates to us how to resist temptation and avoid transgressions. Lastly, spend time in prayer, fasting and almsgiving while we all develop and enrich our personal relationship with Him. The more a person knows Him, the more we will all recognize His voice, His ways, and we will all be open to His promptings, teachings and messages.

Our Father God also reveals His only begotten son's transfiguration that we all need to unite ourselves, mostly in the way we think and our thought process which is always discerning the will of God. To

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Tending the Flock

Our One And Only Dwelling Place

The Gospel tells that beside the transfigured Jesus *"there appeared... Moses and Elijah, talking with him"* (Mt 17:3); Moses and Elijah, figure of the Law and of the Prophets. It was then that Peter, ecstatic, exclaimed *"Lord, it is well that we are here; if you wish, I will make three booths here, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah"* (Mt 17:4). However St. Augustine commented, saying that we have only one dwelling place, Christ: *"he is the Word of God, the Word of God in the Law, the Word of God in the Prophets"* (Sermo De Verbis Ev. 78:3: PL 38, 491).

In fact, the Father himself proclaims: *"this is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him"* (Mt 17:5). The Transfiguration is not a change in Jesus but the revelation of his divinity: *"the profound interpenetration of his being with God, which then becomes pure light. In his oneness with the Father, Jesus is himself 'light from light'"* (Jesus of Nazareth: From the Baptism in the Jordan to the Transfiguration, Doubleday, New York, 2007, p. 310).

~ Pope Benedict XVI

Angelus Message, March 20, 2011



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



An Invitation

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND APRIL 14-16, 2023

Ave Maria Retreat House
The National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa
654 Ferry Road Doylestown, PA 18901

Cost per couple: \$300
(Meals and Accommodation)

For all inquiries:
German/Letty Butay (732) 887-5298 or lbutay@yahoo.com
Nestor/Cecile Vasquez (908) 578-9138 | Toy/Malen Juarez (609) 954-2300

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

February 24, 2023

Tithe :\$380.00
Love Offering :\$153.00

Thank you for your generosity!!!

God's Blessings

Birthday

Nilda Araga	3/3	Rey Inid	3/7
Rolly Salomia	3/6	Edgar Arabit	3/8
Gil Ocena	3/8		

Anniversary

Eric & Luz Mecnas	3/4
Dino and Josie Rivera	3/8

Divine Word



Jesus teaches us to repel the attacks of the devil who, as his name says, wants to sow division in us, between us and God, between us and others. How do we repel him? Not by negotiating with him, but by opposing him in faith with the divine word. (Mt 4:1-11). During Lent we are called to respond to God's gift by accepting his word, which is "living and active" (Heb 4:12). Regular listening to the Word of God makes us open and docile to his working and bears fruit in our lives.

And we ask ourselves: what place does the Word of God have in my life? Do I turn to it in my spiritual struggles? If I have a vice or a recurrent temptation, why do I not obtain help by seeking out a verse of the Word of God that responds to that vice? Then, when temptation comes, I recite it, I pray it, trusting in the grace of Christ. Let us try, it will help us in temptation, it will help us a great deal, so that, amid the voices that stir within us, the beneficent one of the Word of God will resound. May Mary, who welcomed the Word of God and with her humility defeated the pride of the divider, accompany us in the spiritual struggle of Lent.

~ 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

Listen Without Hesitation

A voice from the cloud said, *This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.* I am manifested through his preaching. I am glorified through his



humility. So listen to him without hesitation. He is the truth and the life. He is my strength and wisdom. "*Listen to him*" whom the mysteries of the law foreshadowed, of whom the mouths of the prophets sang. "*Listen to him*" who by his blood redeemed the world, who binds the devil and seizes his vessels, who breaks the debt of sin and the bondage of iniquity. "*Listen to him*" who opens the way to heaven and by the pain of the cross prepares for you the steps of ascent into his kingdom.

~ Leo the Great, c. 400-461 A.D.

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empty ourselves to Jesus, our sadness and brokenness all be offered for His glory. To serve Him no matter how hard it is for us at times due to any and all oppressions. With the Lord's transfiguration we are also called to evaluate in both mind and heart, to commit fully at all times to be in communion with our Lord in His holiness and splendor.

To be Holy is easier said than done, that is why we are human and our God is our Holy Lord. Yet, He gives us so much chances and gives us His word so we can follow Him. We must all obey His teachings and commandments. The Lord gave each and everyone of us a role to complete His vineyard.

Our Lord is always with us and within us as the Gospel says also to "*Rise and do not be afraid*". As humans we all have our fears, worries and inhibitions. However, all these negative feelings, temptations and oppressions are not from the Lord.

We need to strengthen our faith and trust and ask the Lord Almighty for guidance and will to overcome any situation that may have us succumb to this. Our Lord will always be there for us providing us with answers to any dilemma we may have and at all times makes a way for us and He will always provide. He will never forsake us or leave us. He knows what we need before we even ask and His grace will always be more than enough. We all must be the lamb that knows His voice and listen to our shepherd. Pray for strength and faithfulness to see His face and to humble ourselves to follow His will at all times. We all must learn to put God first in anything in our life and let Him be the center of our focus. To become better Christians as we are all inspired to listen to the voice of the Lord through His word.

Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you, Amen.

Bukas Loob Sa Diyos
Diocese of Trenton
proudly presents

the Philippine Madrigal Singers
Mark Anthony A. Carpio, choirmaster

Recognized by the UNESCO as Artists for Peace for "putting their talents and influence to promote cultural diversity, intercultural dialogue and a culture of peace." The Philippine Madrigal Singers is one of the most awarded choral groups in the world, having consistently won all the top prizes in most of the world's prestigious choral competitions including the Grand Prix in the 2018 Concorso Internazionale di Guido d'Arezzo and the European Grand Prix for Choral singing in 1997 and 2007.

MAY 13, 2023 | SATURDAY | 7PM
CO-CATHEDRAL OF ST. ROBERT BELLARMINE
61 GEORGIA RD, FREEHOLD, NJ 07728
GENERAL ADMISSION: \$40 | VIP MEET AND GREET: \$75
Proceeds will benefit Bukas Loob Sa Diyos mission activities.
FOR TICKET RESERVATIONS AND INQUIRIES:
EMAIL: BLDTRENTON.MAD2023@GMAIL.COM | CONTACT: TM (609) 954-2300

*My soul waits
for you, O Lord,
my help and my shield.*