



Community News

This Sunday's Counsel

THEME:

We respond to God's call to be fruitful when we make use of God's gifts.

PROMISE:

"...the peace of God that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus." (Phil 4:7)

WORD:

Is 5:1-7/ Ps 80:9, 12-16, 19-20/ Phil 4:6-9/ Mt 21:33-43

ORDER:

- "Keep on doing what you have learned and received and heard and seen in me." (Phil 4:9)

DIRECTIONS:

- Be consistent with your prayer life.
- Practice corporal and spiritual works of mercy.
- Be good stewards and make use of your gifts.

Fruitful Versus Fruitless

REFLECTION: In Scripture, fruit is a metaphor of the outward demonstration of one's inward disposition. Fruit includes behavior, attitudes and works and could either be good or bad (no fruit at all).

We are called to be fruitful in God's kingdom. Bearing fruit is essentially becoming like Jesus. Consistent prayer life, repentance, reading the bible daily, abiding in Jesus and surrendering completely to the Holy Spirit are some of the means to grow and bear fruit.

What does this fruit look like?

Good fruit in supermarkets is easy to spot — through its color, firmness, size, luster and smell. Here, we are talking of spiritual fruit or virtues that can be identified as well. "By their fruits, you will know them." (Mt 7 : 16) Virtuous people are righteous, have pure hearts and of high character. Kindness, humility, gentleness and patience are among their good qualities. Their inner beauty radiates outward and attracts those they come in contact with.

St. Paul's teaching concerning a fruit-filled spiritual life centers on a set of



nine virtues which is the Fruit of the Spirit (Gal 5:22-23). Having these nine virtues of Jesus operating in their lives empowers a disciple to touch hearts, witness God's love and bring more souls to Him.

The readings and the Gospel this week tell parables that illustrate fruitlessness — vineyard owners who meticulously took good care of the vineyard that brought forth wild grapes or no fruit at all. Could you imagine God's frustration, disappointment and even anger? God meant for us to be fruitful, not unproduc-

Fruitful - See Page 2

Tending the Flock

No Justice Where Man Is Lord

God had planted the very best vines, yet they yielded wild grapes. Let us ask ourselves: what do wild grapes consist of? The good grapes that God was hoping for... would have been justice and righteousness. Wild grapes instead bring violence, bloodshed and oppression that make people groan under the yoke of injustice. In the Gospel, the image changes: the vine produces good grapes, but the tenants keep them for themselves. They are not willing to hand them over to the owner of the vineyard. They beat and kill his messengers and kill his son. Their motive is simple: they themselves want to become owners; they take possession of what does not belong to them. In the foreground of the Old Testament is the accusation of the violation of social justice, of contempt for human beings by human beings. In the background, however, it appears that with contempt for the Torah, for the law given by God, it is God himself who is despised. All people want is to enjoy their own power. This aspect is fully highlighted in Jesus' Parable: the tenants do not want to have a master - and these tenants are also a mirror of ourselves. We men and women, to whom creation is as it were entrusted for its management, have usurped it. We ourselves want to dominate it in the first person and by ourselves. We want unlimited possession of the world and of our own lives. God is in our way. Either he is reduced merely to a few devout words, or he is denied in everything and banned from public life so as to lose all meaning. The tolerance that admits God as it were as a private opinion but refuses him the public domain, the reality of the world and of our lives, is not tolerance but hypocrisy. But nowhere that the human being makes himself the one lord of the world and owner of himself can justice exist. There, it is only the desire for power and private interests that can prevail. Of course, one can chase the Son out of the vineyard and kill him, in order selfishly to taste the fruits of the earth alone. However, in no time at all the vineyard then reverts to being an uncultivated piece of land, trampled by wild boar as the Responsorial Psalm tells us (cf. Ps 80[79]: 14).



~ Pope Benedict XVI, Excerpt from Homily, October 2, 2005

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The Lord's Provision

October 2, 2020

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Paypal : \$0

Thank you for your generosity!!!

God's Blessings

Birthday

Chito Ciocon 10/3 Brooksie Brooks 10/4
Lito Lingat 10/8

Anniversary

Tony & Arlene Riggio 10/3
Tony & Lolit Manuel 10/5

O Lord, God of hosts, restore us.

Fruitful - Cont'd from Page 1

tive which is useless in His kingdom. *"Every tree that does not bear good fruit must be cut down and thrown into the fire."* (Mt 3: 10)

Do we understand fruitfulness or its opposite something to be reckoned with in and during the afterlife, or something that goes in the balance during our earthly life?

What caused this fruitlessness? Is it lack of prayer and study of God's Word, disobedience, lack of supervision, pruning and fraternal correction, or modern idolatry (loving someone or things above God)?

God is not discouraged by His children's rejection and indifference but persevere in calling His other children that will produce good fruit. His work of salvation is far from completion. The number of souls to be saved has greatly increased and God needs us to collaborate in His work.

Members of BLD Trenton community were chosen. Moved by love for God and thankful for receiving so much — faith, life, family and freedom, we responded to His call, giving back by using our gifts.

Our community is our vineyard. We act as vine growers and custodian of God's grace. We show our love by taking care of one another. As God's family, we need to be supportive and forgiving and do fra-

ternal correction. The mission to evangelize should not be limited to our members but extend outside the community. Moreover, we also have a responsibility to guard our members from becoming unproductive. Since we all have different levels of spiritual maturity we need to constantly teach and shepherd those vulnerable. Examining what chokes fruitfulness and identifying what needs to be pruned in our lives apply to all. We have to manage our vineyard the way God has shown in the readings this week. Our members need to be nourished and fertilized for good harvest

While fruitlessness is inevitable, fruitfulness is also evident in our community. We can see the humility, generosity, hospitality and faithfulness of members in the exercise of their gifts — in giving through tithes and love offering, in teaching, shepherding and leading. Love, peace and joy are visible when they serve as they surrender their all to God who gives strength to accomplish His Work.

There is no limit or end to fruitfulness, even in old age. St. Paul said, *"Keep on doing what you have learned and received and heard and seen in me."* (Phil 4:9) And *"the peace of God that surpasses understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus."* (Phil. 4:7)



Cornerstone

The Church is called the *building* of God. The Lord compared himself to the stone which the builders rejected, but which was made into the corner-stone. On this foundation the Church is built by the apostles and from it the Church receives solidity and unity. This edifice has many names to describe it: the house of God in which his *family* dwells; the household of God in the Spirit; the dwelling-place of God among men; and, especially, the holy *temple*. This temple, symbolized in places of worship built out of stone, is praised by the Fathers and, not without reason, is compared in the liturgy to the Holy City, the New Jerusalem. As living stones we here on earth are built into it. It is this holy city that is seen by John as it comes down out of heaven from God when the world is made anew, prepared like a bride adorned for her husband. ~ CCC, par. 756

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."



Community News

This Sunday's Counsel

THEME:

We respond to God's call to be fruitful when we honor His invitation and prepare ourselves to commune with Him.

PROMISE:

"...God will fully supply whatever you need, in accord with His glorious riches in Christ Jesus." (Phil 4:19)

WORD:

Is 25:6-10a/ Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/ Phil 4:12-14, 19-20/ Mt 22:1-14

ORDER:

- "Behold, I have prepared my banquet...everything is ready; come to the feast." (Mt 22:4b)

DIRECTIONS:

- Always be in a state of grace by regularly availing of the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Eucharist.
- Live a life of Christian values: compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.

God's Open Invitation

REFLECTION:

God invites us to His kingdom, telling us "Behold, I have prepared my banquet.... and everything is ready; come to the feast." (Mt. 22:4b)

A royal wedding party is one of the most beautiful images used in the Scriptures to depict what heaven is like. It is the Lord himself who invites us all to the most important banquet – not simply as guests – but as members of Christ's own body.

Let's look at the parable of the wedding feast (Mt 22:1-14) and the three stories in it –

1. The King was snubbed by the invited guests.

Isn't it odd that the invited guests made light of the King's invitation? How insulting to the King and the heir to the throne to be snubbed by the invited guests. The guests openly refused to



give the King the honor he was due because they put their own interest above his.

To be invited is an honor because our presence is valued and enjoyed by the celebrant or host. God is continually inviting us, as individu-

als and as members of this BLD Community to a deeper, fuller and better life. What an honor to think that God invites us -

- To be in His holy presence offering the gift of the Eucharist and experience the eternal joys of the wedding banquet of heaven;
- To be united with Him in our repentance and receiving Him through holy communion;
- To be intimate in our relationship with Him through prayers and to know Him better through the Scrip-

Invitation - See Page 2

Know Your Saints

Saint John XXIII: The Good Pope

The firstborn son of a farming family in northern Italy, Angelo Giuseppe Roncalli was always proud of his down-to-earth roots. Born in 1881, he was educated at Bergamo and the Pontifical Roman Seminary.

As Fr. Roncalli, he was made national director in Italy of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith in 1921, Later as archbishop, he became a papal diplomat serving in Bulgaria, Turkey and France. During World War II, he helped save an estimated 24,000 Jews.

As Cardinal Roncalli, and a month shy of his 78th birthday, he was elected pope in 1958, taking the name John XXIII. Known for his proverbial wit, the new Pope soon began meeting with political and religious leaders from around the world. He advanced cooperation with Protestant, Greek Orthodox, Church of England as well as Jews, Muslims and other faiths. He forbade Catholics to vote for parties supporting Communism. His encyclical *Mater et Magistra* (1961) advocated social reforms, assistance to underdeveloped countries, a living wage for all workers, and support for socialist measures that promised real benefit to society. He was deeply involved in efforts to resolve the Cuban missile crisis of 1962.

Pope John XXIII convened the Second Vatican Council on October 4, 1962, which he intended to focus on the need to "open the windows" of the Church to let in fresh air, a signal of an era of openness and positive dialogue between the Church and the modern world. He did not live to see the Council finish its work but from his deathbed, he left a message of hope for the Church: "It is not that the gospel has changed; it is that we have begun to understand it better...The moment has come to discern the signs of the times, to seize the opportunity and to look far ahead."

St. Pope John XXIII died on June 3, 1963 and is one of the best-loved popes of modern times.



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The Lord's Provision

October 2, 2020

In-person: \$373.00
 Paypal : \$516.24

Thank you for your generosity!!!

God's Blessings

Birthday

Ian Reyes	10/9	Rene Perez	10/13
Eric Tan	10/10	Ayana Perez	10/14
Cher Chua	10/12	Edd Roy	10/14
Clint Oquendo	10/13	Neri Roldan	10/15
Evelyn Palacios	10/13	Gerard DelaFuente	10/15
Julie Saria	10/15		

Anniversary

Cesar & Agnes Morte	10/9
Arman & Elvie Atienza	10/10
Jim & Irma McCracken	10/14
Ricky & Rissa Gomez	10/15

*The Lord is my shepherd,
I shall not want.*

Community Prayer Time

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Prayer to Take Authority

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Prayer: Oratio Imperata against the spread of coronavirus

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St. Rock, pray for us.

St. Lorenzo Ruiz, pray for us.

St. Pedro Calungsod, pray for us."

Wedding Garment



But since you have already come into the house of the marriage feast, our holy church, as a result of God's generosity, be careful, my friends, lest when the King enters he find fault with some aspect of your heart's clothing. We must consider what comes next with great fear in our hearts. But the king came in to look at the guests and saw there a person not clothed in a wedding garment... What then must we understand by the wedding garment but love? That person enters the marriage feast, but without wearing a wedding garment, who is present in the holy church. He may have faith, but he does not have love. We are correct when we say that love is the wedding garment because this is what our Creator himself possessed when he came to the marriage feast to join the church to himself. Only God's love brought it about that his only begotten Son united the hearts of his chosen to himself. John says that 'God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son for us' (John 3:16)."

~ St. John Chrysostom (347-407 A.D.)

Invitation - Cont'd from Page 1

tures;

- To share His generous gifts by being charitable to those in need and, supporting our church and community through tithing;
- To commune with Him, giving Him praise and glory during our Friday praise & worship; and
- To a lot more occasions where He wants us to live authentic Christian lives at all times.

2. The servants were told to gather guests they can find, bad and good alike.

Pope Francis in his address at the World Youth Day rally in Brazil in 2013 said: "...We cannot keep ourselves shut up in parishes, in our communities, when so many people

are waiting for the Gospel... It is not enough simply to open the door in welcome, but we must go out through that door to seek and meet the people! Let us courageously look to pastoral needs, beginning on the outskirts, with those who are farthest away.... Go and look for them in the nooks and crannies of the streets."

As Christians, we have long been challenged to go out and make disciples of all nations. We have all been reminded to be the light of the world and salt of the earth. As members of the BLD Community, we witness to the love and truth of Jesus Christ in our lives. Let not the pandemic stop us from carrying out our BLD Mission and Vision to reach out to those who are waiting for the Gospel.

3. A man who came without a wed-

ding garment was thrown outside.

God's invitation is not a light matter. The calling to salvation, pictured here by the glory of a marriage feast, is a beautiful, precious and once-in-a-lifetime matter. That's why the garment, or lack of one, was such an issue for the king. The final piece about the 'wedding garment' underlines the importance of not only saying 'yes' to Christ, but also living according to his values. Colossians 3:12 says we must "*clothe ourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness and patience*".

To God's gracious act of inviting us into his kingdom, we should respond with a discernible difference in who we are and how we live. We never know when we are going to be invited to the wedding feast.



Community News

This Sunday's Counsel

THEME:

We respond to God's call to be fruitful when we live holy lives and give back to Him the glory due His name.

PROMISE:

"The Lord is king...He governs the peoples with equity." (Ps 96:10b)

WORD:

Is 45:1, 4-6/ Ps 96:1, 3-5, 7-10/ 1 Thes 1:1-5b/ Mt 22:15-21

ORDER:

- "...repay...to God what belongs to God." (Mt 22:21c)
- "...teach the way of God in accordance with the truth." (Mt 22:16b)

DIRECTIONS:

- Give to the Lord glory and praise.
- Be obedient to God's commandments.
- Seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit for proper discernment.
- Give back to the Lord by serving one another.

What Belongs To God?

REFLECTION: *"Give to Caesar what is Caesar's but give to God what is God's,"* (Mt 22:21).

Jesus teaches us the importance of obeying civil authorities, to be good citizens, paying just taxes and following the laws of the land. But what belongs to God should be viewed in a wider perspective. It means everything that is good is God's possession, even those things which we do not want to give up because they are dear to us – family, friendship, career, financial security, and self-respect, being accepted or understood. Even our weaknesses and failures can be given to God as a sign of our humble surrender to Him. We should place God at the very center of everything and by doing so, we even give to God those things that we render to his delegated authority, such as our parents, the government, society and church. Putting God at the center of our life leads us to being obedient to His will and keeps us to grow in holiness and be fruitful.

Jesus points out that our priorities have gone awry. Sometimes, we are like the Pharisees in the gospel when we express concern over what are important



to us, like job security, comfort, convenience, and recognition; we are trapped in this sense of value preventing us from seeing other things of higher value. *"God created mankind in his image; in the image of God He created them,"* (Gen 1:27). God shares with us what He has – the power to think, to will and to love. He also gives us a desire to be virtuous and good. He created our heart, our mind and our very soul to be like Him and He sustains us every moment of our life. This tells us that we owe our whole being to God.

There is nothing that we can do to "repay" God for all the things He has

What Belongs - See Page 2

Tending the Flock

Humanity Is God's Coin

A brief reflection also on the central question of the tribute to Caesar. Jesus replies with a surprising political realism, linked to the theocentrism of the prophetic tradition. The tribute to Caesar must be paid because his image is on the coin; but the human being, every person, carries in him- or herself another image, that of God, and therefore it is to him and to him alone that each one owes his or her existence.

An anonymous author wrote: *"The image of God is not impressed on gold, but on the human race. Caesar's coin is gold, God's coin is humanity... Therefore give your riches to Caesar but keep for God the unique innocence of your conscience, where God is contemplated... Caesar, in fact, asked that his image be on every coin, but God chose man, whom he created to reflect his glory"* (Anonymous, Incomplete Work on Matthew, Homily 42). And St. Augustine used this reference several times in his homilies: *"If Caesar reclaims his own image impressed on the coin,"* he says, *"will not God demand from man the divine image sculpted within him?"* (En. Ps., Psalm 94:2). And further, *"as the tribute money is rendered to him [Caesar], so should the soul be rendered to God, illumined and stamped with the light of his countenance"* (ibid., Ps 4:8).

This word of Jesus is rich in anthropological content and it cannot be reduced only to the political context. The Church, therefore, is not limited to reminding human beings of the right distinction between the sphere of Caesar's authority and that of God, between the political and religious contexts. The mission of the Church, like that of Christ, is essentially to speak of God, to remember his sovereignty, to remind all, especially Christians who have lost their own identity, of the right of God to what belongs to him, that is, our life.



~ Pope Benedict XVI, Excerpt from Homily, October 16, 2011

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The Lord's Provision

October 9, 2020

In-person: \$875.00
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Thank you for your generosity!!!

God's Blessings

Birthday

Weddy Balmaceda	10/18	Kimberly Estomo	10/20
Beth Felibrico	10/18	Ruby Woodard	10/21
Jomar Janolo	10/18	Daniel Catarata	10/21
Sionee Abalos	10/18	Maz Gennity	10/21
Marsha Supapo	10/19	Angelique Gumabon	10/22

Anniversary

Marlon & Sionee Abalos	10/18
Arwin & Sona David	10/18

*You are the Lord,
 there is no other.*

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St. Rock, pray for us.

St. Lorenzo Ruiz, pray for us.

St. Pedro Calungsod, pray for us."

Stamped

What do we owe God and our neighbor? Scripture tells us to give to everyone whatever is their due and to *"owe no one anything, except to love one another"* (Rom13:6-8). The Jewish authorities posed a dilemma to test Jesus to see if he was loyal to them and to their understanding of religion. If Jesus answered that it was lawful to pay taxes to a pagan ruler, then he would lose credibility with the Jewish nation who would regard him as a coward and a friend of Caesar. If he said it was not lawful, then the Pharisees would have grounds to report him to the Roman authorities as a political trouble-maker and have him arrested.

Jesus avoided their trap by confronting them with the image of a coin. Coinage in the ancient world had significant political power. Rulers issued coins with their own image and inscription on them. In a certain sense the coin was regarded as the personal property of the ruler. Where the coin was valid the ruler held political sway over the people.

This story has another deeper meaning as well. We, too, have been stamped with God's image since we are created in his own likeness - *"God created man in his own image...male and female he created them,"* (Gn 1:27). We rightfully belong not to ourselves, but to God who created us and redeemed us in the precious blood of his Son, our Lord Jesus. Paul the Apostle says that we are to present our bodies as a living sacrifice to God (Rom 12:1). Do you acknowledge that your life and everything you possess belongs to God and not to yourself? And do you give to God what rightfully belongs to him?

Adapted from www.dailyscripture.net

What Belongs - Cont'd from Page 1

given us in the past or for the ways He blesses us each day of our life. But we can show God our gratitude by living a life of obedience filled with love. We must be true to our words and we must be honest in our actions. We must be transparent in our relationships. What we say and do must be founded in kindness and all our intentions are for God's greater glory and not for ourselves.

Our God is mighty, holy and perfect. Though we are weak and imperfect, God does not look down on us, but in His great love He sent His

only begotten Son to save us from sin and death. And to this day, He gives us His Holy Spirit to inspire, renew and empower us so that while on earth, we will remain steadfast and fruitful in our journey towards holiness. We are His beloved and it is His perfect desire to make us one with Him in heaven forever. Thus, we claim His promise for this week: *"The Lord is king, he governs the peoples with equity,"* (Ps 96:10b). For we belong to God alone and nothing else matters.

Prayer:

Lord Jesus, we thank you for the

teaching in today's gospel. While it is a great challenge for us, we are thankful that you open our eyes and direct our thoughts to what is truly pleasing to God. Sometimes, we are blinded by our own worldly sense of values, but your divine Wisdom has given us hope that we can get out from the deceiving values and false attachments of our time.

Lord God, we recognize You and You alone in our life. We worship and adore You above everything else. To You we give back honor, glory and thanksgiving. Amen.

Adapted from www.bldworld.org



Community News

This Sunday's Counsel

THEME:

We respond to God's call to be fruitful when we love Him and our neighbor as ourselves.

PROMISE:

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

WORD:

Ex 22:20-26/ Ps 18:2-4, 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 22:37)
- "...You shall love your neighbor as yourself." (Mt 22:29)

DIRECTIONS:

- Be compassionate with one another.
- Be imitators of Christ.
- Pray unceasingly and intercede for one another.

A Heart Of Compassion

REFLECTION: Every day, there is a huge battle that each one of us must face in our lives. With this pandemic, we are being challenged in so many ways. Today, we are called more than ever to love God with all our heart, mind and soul and to love our neighbors. Our greatest challenge to fulfill these commands is our heart. With so many concerns in our world, we sometimes forget that we are all created in the Father's own image and likeness and that, innately, we have a heart that is capable to love not only God but also our neighbors through the compassion that God himself promised.

Our Father God is compassionate. He is sympathetic to the suffering of His people. He sees our distress and takes pity on us. However, His compassion is more than mere sympathy. God's compassion compels Him to take action. God entered into our suffering by sending his only begotten son Jesus to become the compassionate gift to mankind.

In the Gospel narratives, we read stories about Christ's compassion. He has compassion for the harassed and helpless, feeling pity for them like sheep without a shepherd. He has compassion



for those who are sick and suffer disease when on the leper, He was moved with pity, and healed him.

We see his compassion for those who hunger when Jesus summoned his disciples and asked to feed a hungry crowd. He has compassion for the widowed for when He saw her, He was moved with pity for her and told her not to weep, so He resurrected the widow's son and gave him back to her.

In all these beautiful stories, Jesus felt pity but also did something with it. Just as Jesus Christ is moved to do something whenever he feels sympathy, we are also called to act. Genuine com-

Compassion - See Page 2

Know Your Saints

Saint Isaac Jogues: Apostle of the Mohawks

Isaac Jogues was born in Orleans, France in 1607. His father died soon after he was born, leaving him to the sole care of his mother. When he was ordained as a Jesuit priest in 1636, it was to his devout mother that he gave his first priestly blessing and holy communion.

After he was ordained, Jogues asked to be sent to Canada to preach the Gospel to the Indian tribes. He believed that each and every soul is valuable to God. God's grace had blessed his soul, and it was now his duty to bring the souls of others into God's realm. Inspired by the life of a Jesuit priest named Spinola, whose picture he always carried, he was ready to be a martyr for his faith. In his farewell letter to his mother, he wrote, *"If you take this little affliction in a proper spirit, it will be most pleasing to God, for whose sake it would become you to give not only one son, but all the others, nay, life itself, if it were necessary."*

Jogues and seven other French priests together made many converts, but some Indians believed the Jesuits were witches who brought famine and sickness. After delivering supplies and medicines to the Huron tribe, they were captured by the Mohawk tribe and blamed for a crop failure and an epidemic that broke out. The Mohawks believed that the box containing vestments and religious articles the priests owned caused the disasters. They were tortured and put to death in 1646. Jogues could have escaped but he chose to face his persecutors and show them that a man of God felt no fear. *"I am a man like yourselves,"* he told his captors, *"I do not fear death or torture. I do not know why you wish to kill me. I come to confirm the peace and show you the way to heaven."*

St. Isaac Jogues is one of the eight French missionaries known as the North American Martyrs who were canonized on June 29, 1930. Their feast day falls on October 19th.



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 P.O. Box 1367
 Toms River, NJ 08754

The Lord's Provision

**October 16,
2020**

In-person: \$370.00
 Paypal : \$97.50

*Thank you for
your generosity!!!*

God's Blessings

Birthday

Sonny Adame	10/23	Raffy Perez	10/24
Mae Alberto	10/23	Romy Durante	10/26
Vange Hermsen	10/23	Jedy Bustamante	10/27
Kate Ilagan	10/23	Eugene Yosuico	10/28
Mike Chua	10/24	Jaine Buenafe	10/29
Harvey Gabriel	10/29		

Anniversary

Morris & Emma Teves	10/23
Paul & Vange Hermsen	10/24
Janis & Arlene Carvajal	10/25
Bobby & Kate Ilagan	10/26
Robert & Agnes Raymundo	10/26
Raffy & Jo Perez	10/27
Elner & Marichille Jamolod	10/28

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.

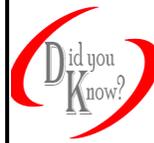
St. Rock, pray for us.

St. Lorenzo Ruiz, pray for us.

St. Pedro Calungsod, pray for us."



Preferential Love



In its various forms - material deprivation, unjust oppression, physical and psychological illness and death - *human misery* is the obvious sign of the inherited condition of frailty and need for salvation in which man finds himself as a consequence of original sin. This misery elicited the compassion of Christ the Savior, who willingly took it upon himself and identified himself with the least of his brethren. Hence, those who are oppressed by poverty are the object of a *preferential love* on the part of the Church which, since her origin and in spite of the failings of many of her members, has not ceased to work for their relief, defense, and liberation through numerous works of charity which remain indispensable always and everywhere. ~ CCC, par. 2448

Compassion - Cont'd from Page 1

passion should compel us to take part in alleviating the pain and suffering that we observe around us.

During this pandemic, the call to experience the love and compassion is stronger than ever. We are called to be imitators of Christ, so we have to be on the lookout for opportunities to share that compassion to our neighbors. How do we do this?

First, we ask to be aware with what's going on in our surrounding. Within our family, we need to constantly ask each member how they feel. During this time, when many are in isolation, when there is that constant fear that we or our loved ones could get sick, it is even more necessary to check on the well-being of one another.

In our parishes, we should also ask to be aware that church pantries have insufficient supplies and need our donation. In our community, we can also ask on how we can help. We may be afraid to ask thinking that what we can offer is small but every little thing that we can do means a lot to help one another.

Secondly, more than asking, we also listen with empathy to others. The danger sometimes is that we just talk and don't listen. Everyone navigates differently during this time. Some are not comfortable in fulfilling some of the roles required in the community now but by listening, we are able to feel what others feel, enabling us to understand better everyone's situation.

Third, like Jesus, we don't end by

just being sympathetic, we move to do something meaningful. In times where it is more difficult to gather, pray and share the sorrow or pain of those who just lost their loved ones or who are sick, we are inspired by the compassion of our brothers and sisters who made online prayer services available.

Finally, when we are compassionate, we sacrifice. Sacrificing may intimidate us as it means going out of our comfort zone but when we do something for others, we simply have to strive to do our best out of our love of neighbors and God. It may be difficult but we must feel joyful knowing that our sacrifice is being inspired by the love of Jesus Christ who in the end demonstrated the greatest act of compassion.



Community News

This Sunday's Counsel

THEME:

We are sanctified when we live the Beatitudes.

PROMISE:

"Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven."
(Mt 5:12a)

WORD:

Rv 7:2-4, 9-14/ Ps 24:1bc-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/ 11 Jn 3:1:3/ Mt 5:1-12a

ORDER:

- *"See what love the Father has bestowed on us..."* (1 Jn 3:1a)
- *"... be like Him..."* (1 Jn 3:2a)
- *"...see Him as He is."* (1 Jn 3:2c)

DIRECTIONS:

- Open the door to Jesus and allow him to be part of our lives and share our joys and sorrows.
- Take courage in fully trusting the Lord.
- Go out and seek those who are suffering and intercede and help provide for their needs.

The Holiness Formula

REFLECTION: In the Gospel this Sunday (Solemnity of All Saints), Jesus outlines the beatitudes which are God's formula for holiness. He solemnly starts each beatitude with the promise of blessing to those who follow His teachings that inspired the Saints and ultimately earned for them their heavenly reward. We too are called to be saints, and the key is to live the Beatitudes or live a life of holiness, aligning our will and action with God's Will.

To live the Beatitudes is imitating the life of Jesus. Firstly, He was poor in spirit by humbly surrendering Himself to the Father's Will at all times. He acknowledged God the Father and never failed to commune with Him in His prayers to seek counsel and strength to overcome the challenges in His ministry. To be poor in spirit is to realize our total dependence on God every moment, and be constantly grateful for His blessings by putting Him first over everything else.

Jesus showed meekness by identifying Himself with the most humble. He cared for the sick, helped the weak, and mingled with the outcasts. He emptied Himself, taking the form of a servant, and washed His disciples' feet. Meek-



ness is acknowledging that we are not perfect. We tenderly understand the weaknesses of others and are considerate of their limitations.

Pope Francis describes those who mourn as those who *"are unafraid to share in the suffering of others; they do not flee from painful situations."* Jesus mourned when Lazarus died. He felt the grief of the widow in Naim over the death of her son. He readily responded to both situations by raising Lazarus and the widow's son back to life. Living this beatitude calls for empathy – opening our hearts to the pain and suffering of others and responding with love to

Holiness - See Page 2

Tending the Flock

False Beatitudes Bring Unhappiness

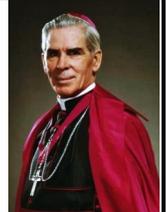
One way to make enemies and antagonize people is to challenge the spirit of the world. The world has a spirit, as each age has a spirit. There are certain unanalyzed assumptions which govern the conduct of the world. Anyone who challenges these worldly maxims, such as, "you only live once," "get as much out of life as you can," "who will ever know about it?"

"what is sex for if not for pleasure?" is bound to make himself unpopular.

In the Beatitudes, Our Divine Lord takes those eight flimsy catch words of the world—"Security," "Revenge," "Laughter," "Popularity," "Getting Even," "Sex," "Armed Might," and "Comfort"—and turns them upside down. To those who say, "You cannot be happy unless you are rich," He says, "Blessed are the poor in spirit." To those who say, "Don't let him get away with it," He says, "Blessed are the patient." To those who say, "Laugh and the world laughs with you," He says, "Blessed are those who mourn." To those who say: "If nature gave you sex instincts you ought to give them free expression, otherwise you will become frustrated," He says, "Blessed are the clean of heart." To those who say, "Seek to be popular and well known," He says, "Blessed are you when men revile you and persecute you and speak all manner of evil against you falsely because of Me." To those who say, "In time of peace prepare for war," He says, "Blessed are the peacemakers."

The cheap clichés around which movies are written and novels composed, He scorns. He proposes to burn what they worship; to conquer errant sex instincts instead of allowing them to make slaves of man; to tame economic conquests instead of making happiness consist in an abundance of things external to the soul. All false beatitudes which make happiness depend on self-expression, license, having a good time, or "Eat, drink, and be merry for tomorrow you die," He scorns because they bring mental disorders, unhappiness, false hopes, fears, and anxieties.

~ Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen, Excerpt from his book, The Life of Christ



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 23, 2020

In-person: \$750.00
 Paypal : \$77.64

Thank you for your generosity!!!

God's Blessings

Birthday

Glenda Calugay	10/30	George Bacus	11/2
Malu Delacruz	10/31	Jun Anito	11/3
Marlon Abalos	10/31	Bert Panahon	11/3
Leo Lukban	11/1	Kristella Delacruz	11/4
Edie Danieles	11/2	Drew Allen	11/5
Arnold Paderon	11/2	Butch Chioco	11/5
Francis Sunga	11/2	Abbot Del Pilar	11/5
		Jaime Pascua	11/5

Anniversary

Manny & Evelyn Palacios	10/31
Eric & Mae Alberto	11/1
Ron & Tina King	11/2
Michael & Rhea Bell	11/3
Francis & Bernadette Sunga	11/4
Tottie & Beth Felibrico	11/5
Totie & Nilda Araga	11/5

Lord, make my hands sinless, my heart clean, my desires not vain.

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Beatitudes



The Beatitudes take up and fulfill God's promises from Abraham on by ordering them to the Kingdom of heaven. They respond to the desire for happiness that God has placed in the human heart. They teach us the final end to which God calls us: the Kingdom, the vision of God, participation in the divine nature, eternal life, filiation, rest in God. The beatitude of eternal life is a gratuitous gift of God. It is supernatural, as is the grace that leads us there. The Beatitudes confront us with decisive choices concerning earthly goods; they purify our hearts in order to teach us to love God above all things. The beatitude of heaven sets the standards for discernment in the use of earthly goods in keeping with the law of God.

~ CCC, pars. 1725-1729

Holiness - Cont'd from Page 1

comfort them.

Jesus emphasized the essence of being merciful in Matthew 25 where He gave the promise of eternal reward to those who feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, clothe the naked, visit the sick and imprisoned, and welcome strangers. He demonstrated the supreme example of forgiveness when He asked His Father to forgive those who caused His suffering on Calvary. To be merciful means to treat everyone with compassion, especially the last, the least and the lost, extend help to those in dire need, and to forgive those who have hurt or pained us.

Jesus, the Prince of Peace, worked to establish peace in the world. In His appearances to His

disciples after the resurrection, He always greeted them *"Peace be with you."* To avoid conflict with the religious leaders, He commanded Peter to pay their temple tax charges. To be a peacemaker means recognizing peace as God's gift, being at peace with ourselves, our family, members of our community and co-workers in our workplace. It focuses on working for and building peace at all costs.

Jesus opposed the lifestyle of the Pharisees, saying, *"Unless your righteousness surpasses that of the Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven,"* (Mt 5:20). The Pharisees espoused strict obedience to rules and traditions but they did so to win praises of men. Jesus taught His disciples that true righteousness starts in the heart,

changes the person from the inside out, and causes him to do only what pleases God.

As we reflect on Jesus' words and how He lived them, we realize that we need His grace to follow the way He travelled. It is not easy to let go, surrender to His teaching and live with a willing heart. But it was what the Saints did amidst the difficulties that discipleship demands. We can seek their intercession for the grace to be simple, humble, and meek; to weep with those who mourn, work for justice and peace, and seek God's forgiveness for our sins so that we can claim the promise of Jesus, *"Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven,"* (Mt 5:12a).

Adapted from www.bldworld.org