

**This Sunday's
Counsel**

THEME:

We serve God in love when we receive and share the peace of Christ.

PROMISE:

"Whoever loves me will keep my word, and my Father will love him." (Jn 14:23)

WORD:

Acts 15:1-2, 22-29/ Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8/ Rev 21:10-14, 22-23/ Jn 14:23-29

ORDERS:

- *Love me.* (Jn 14:23)
- *Keep my word.* (Jn 14:23)
- *Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid.* (Jn 14:27)

DIRECTIONS:

- Invoke the Holy Spirit to help us grow in the knowledge of God and His great love.
- Know God through Holy Scriptures and prayers and actively participate in Word Sharing Circles, teachings, retreats and Praise & Worship.
- Share your God-given gifts by serving others.
- Fully trust the will of God amidst trials and tribulations.



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Christ's Gift Of Peace

REFLECTION:

We are in a world that seems to be experiencing more and more instability, and at a certain degree, we are all affected by fear and uncertainty in our lives. In the midst of our turmoil, Jesus assures us — *"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. Not as the world gives do I give it to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid,"* (Jn 14:27). This peace that Jesus was talking about means rest, quiet or stillness in our hearts. It is not the absence of trouble, but it exists in spite of trouble. It gives us the ability to endure and be calm even in the face of extreme turmoil. In this world full of chaos, worry, and fear, our peace will not come from our own self, but from God who dwells within. Jesus doesn't promise us a life free of pain or hardship, but He does provide the strength to endure any struggle, the hope to persevere through any season, and the peace to overcome any fear.

When we wonder why we are not at



peace the answer is quite simple: it is because our focus is not on the Lord and we do not trust Him completely. In our failure to keep our focus on Him, we tend to put it either on ourselves

or on the events taking place around us. When we do not trust God, the only one left to trust is our own self; that is reason enough to be worried and afraid.

How do we respond to receive Jesus' gift of peace? We cannot have the peace of Christ in our hearts unless our hearts are open to receive His peace. Not only do we need to open our hearts, but we need to make a room in our hearts. Jesus tells us that, *"Whoever loves me will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our dwelling with him"* (Jn 14:23). When we are so full of ourselves and our hearts filled with sins we make it difficult for the Triune God to fill us up. We need to be emptied out of anything that is not godly so that they can dwell in us and let

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**Tending
the
Flock**

Our Inherited Good

Peace, indeed, is serenity of mind, tranquility of soul, simplicity of heart, the bond of love, the fellowship of charity. It removes hatred, settles wars, restrains wrath, tramples on pride, loves the humble, pacifies the discordant and makes enemies agree. For it is pleasing to everyone. It does not seek what belongs to another or consider anything as its own. It teaches people to love because it does not know how to get angry, or to extol itself or become inflated with pride. It is meek and humble to everyone, possessing rest and tranquility within itself. When the peace of Christ is exercised by a Christian, it is brought to perfection by Christ. If anyone loves it, he will be an heir of God, while anyone who despises it rebels against Christ.

When our Lord Jesus Christ was returning to the Father, he left his peace to his followers as their inherited good, teaching them and saying, *"My peace I give to you, my peace I leave with you."* Anyone who has received this peace should keep it, and one who has destroyed it should look for it, while anyone who has lost it should seek it. For if anyone is not found with it, he will be disinherited by the Father and deprived of his inheritance.

~ Caesarius of Arles (470-542 AD), Sermon 174.1



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

May 13, 2022

Tithe/Love Offering
\$923.00

Thank you for your generosity!!!

God's Blessings

Birthday

Charlie Dingerdissen	5/20	Tony Mendoza	5/22
Annielette Manuel	5/21	Andre Apostol	5/24
Nicole Touchette	5/21	Mike Nieveras	5/24
Dennis Zulueta	5/21	Grace Gallofin	5/25
Dominga Gant	5/22	Wendell Lumapas	5/26

Anniversary

Boylly & Raquel Arriola	5/20
Jeric & Weddy Balmaceda	5/22
Tony & Connie Mendoza	5/22
Jojo & Marlene Legaspi	5/24
Bob & Lalaine Academia	5/25
Jojo & Ino Dominguez	5/25

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

A Christian Prayer for Peace in Our Time

O God, author and giver of peace,
in whose image and likeness each of us has been created
with a human dignity worthy of respect on earth
and destined for eternal glory,
Listen to the cry that rises from every corner of this fragile earth,
from our human family torn by violent conflict:

Give peace in our time, O good and gracious God,
that peace which, as your son Jesus Christ told us
and as we have experienced in these days,
is a peace which the world cannot give.

To world leaders, grant the wisdom
to see beyond the boundaries of race, religion, and nation
to that common humanity that makes us all your children
and brothers and sisters to one another.

To those who have taken up arms in anger or revenge
or even in the cause of justice,
grant the grace of conversion to the path of peaceful dialogue
and constructive collaboration.

To the innocent who live in the shadow of war and terror,
especially the frightened children,
be a shelter and strength, their haven and hope.

And to those who have already lost their lives
as victims of human cruelty and chemical warfare,
open wide your arms and enfold them all
in the embrace of your compassion, healing, and everlasting life.

Grant this through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.
Mary, Mother of all and Queen of peace, pray for us.

Our Father...
3 Hail Marys...
Glory be...



Harmony

Each vocation in the Church, and in a broader sense in society, contributes to a common objective: to celebrate among men and women that harmony of manifold gifts that can only be brought about by the Holy Spirit. Priests, consecrated men and women, lay faithful: let us journey and work together in bearing witness to the truth that one great human family united in love is no utopian vision, but the very purpose for which God created us... Let us implore the light of the Holy Spirit, so that all of us may find our proper place and give the very best of ourselves in this great divine plan!

~ Pope Francis

Last Week's Prophecy

- *My child, offer to Me not only your victories, but also your failures. For it is in your failures that you learn the virtue of humility and it is the humble and the weak whom I love the most.*

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Christ's peace reign in our hearts. We all profess that we love Jesus, thus, keeping and living the Word of God as found in the Scriptures is the way we show our love for Him.

Our Lord promised us a peace that the world cannot give. It is a gift we are invited to receive. Let it be a gift that we share with others everyday. When the world is trying to rob us of our peace, we are as-

sured of the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, who teaches us everything we need to know and reminds us of all that Jesus taught (Jn 14:26), so we can live like Jesus and serve those around us. With St. Francis, let us pray for God's peace and to make us instruments of peace-- where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is des-

pair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. O Divine Master, grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive, in pardoning that we are pardoned. And it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.