

## This Sunday's Counsel

### THEME:

We journey to a life of perfect love, unity and peace when we obey God and keep His covenant.

### PROMISE:

*"If you obey me completely and keep my covenant, you will be my treasured possession among all peoples..." (Ex 19: 5)*

### WORD:

Ex 19: 2-6a/ Ps  
100: 1-2, 3, 5/ Rom  
5: 6-11/ Mt 9: 36 –  
10:8

### ORDER:

- *Hearken to my voice and keep my covenant. (Ex 19: 5)*

### DIRECTIONS:

- Listen to the Word of God, meditate and act on it.
- Be sensitive to God's call to serve.
- Be reconciled to God.
- Be reminded of our pledges to fulfill the mission and vision of the community.



BLD Trenton



# Community News

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## Reapers Of The Good Harvest

### REFLECTION:

Obedience is the carrying out of orders from one's lawful superior with the intention of carrying out their will. Holy Obedience to God is first and foremost, then followed by all authorities established by Christ as His representatives here on earth (Rom 13: 1).

Biblically speaking, obedience is hearing God's Word and acting on it. It means carrying out His orders to follow His two great commandments of love. In addition, it means moving aside, allowing His Holy Spirit and His way to move in our lives.

In the first reading, God told the Israelites that, *"if you hearken to my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my special possession, dearer to me than all other people."* A covenant is a pledge, a sacred agreement between two partners who make binding promises to each other to work together to reach a common goal. In



a covenant, God sets a specific condition for us to fulfill before we receive the promised blessing. When we obey this condition He will exalt us for our commitment to serve and keep His commandments. This covenant relationship is the foundation for

God's promise to bring salvation to all.

In the Gospel, we see how Jesus lived His earthly life of obedience. He served, going to towns and villages healing, teaching, cleansing and raising the dead. He saw the crowd, the plentiful harvest, troubled and abandoned, and was moved with compassion. Recognizing the overwhelming needs, He tells His disciples, *"The harvest is abundant but the laborers are few, therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest"* (Mt 9:37-38).

Jesus uses the harvest metaphor to mean *"spiritually lost people"*, people who

*Reapers - See Page 2*

## Tending the Flack

## Remedy For Humanity's Wounds

Jesus promised he would give everyone "rest", but on one condition: *"Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and lowly in heart"*. What is this "yoke" which lightens instead of burdening, which instead of oppressing, uplifts? The "yoke" of Christ is the law of love, it is his commandment which he bequeathed to his disciples (cf. Jn 13:34; 15:12). The true remedy for humanity's wounds, both material — such as hunger and injustice in all its forms — and psychological and moral, caused by a false well-being, is a rule of life based on fraternal love, whose source is in the love of God. For this reason it is necessary to abandon the way of arrogance, of violence used to obtain ever more powerful positions, to assure oneself of success at any price.

It is also necessary to give up the aggressive attitude with regard to the environment which has prevailed in recent centuries and to adopt a reasonable "gentleness". However, in human, interpersonal and social relations above all, the rule of respect and of non-violence, namely, the power of the truth against every kind of abuse is what can assure a future worthy of the human being.

~ Pope Benedict XVI  
*Angelus Message, July 3, 2011*



The Mission Apostolate is inviting you to attend the March For Life Rally on June 24, 2023. It is the first Anniversary of the overturn of Roe v. Wade

It starts with:  
Mass for Life - 9:30 am at St Mary's Cathedral  
151 N. Warren St Trenton, NJ and followed by

March for Life Rally 11 am - 1 pm  
Statehouse, 145 W. State Street, Trenton NJ

Contact Persons:  
Eugene and Malou Yosuico - 732 500 5161  
Nes and Cecile Vasquez - 908 578 9138

### Online Giving

You can now send your tithes and love offerings via **Paypal**.  
Donate link can be found at  
[www.bldtrenton.com](http://www.bldtrenton.com)

Or mail check to:  
BLD Trenton Foundation, Inc.  
P.O. Box 1367  
Toms River, NJ 08754

### The Lord's Provision

June 9, 2023

Tithe :\$640.00  
Love Offering :\$277.00

*Thank you for your generosity!!!*

### God's Blessings

#### Birthday

Teena Janolo	6/17	Jojo Dominguez	6/21
Lisa Sherry	6/17	Cherry Butulan	6/22
Jo Perez	6/19	Robert Raymundo	6/22
Aldrene Butulan	6/19	Jocelyn Rodriguez	6/22
Chie Del Pilar	6/19	Lilia Senter	6/22

#### Anniversary

Sonny & Raquel Adame	6/17
George & Argie Pe	6/17
Oliver & Delia Cuasay	6/18
Drew & Melba Allen	6/20
Art & Cherry Butulan	6/20

### Who Are You Gonna Call (or Text)?

For Mama Mary's visit - Beth Felibrico 732-995-7407  
For Prayer Service - Mary Anne Arias 732-688-3962

*Let us sing joyfully to the Lord,  
and serve him with gladness  
for he is good.*

### The Best Father

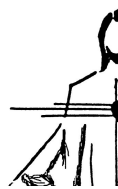


God is Father and looks after you like a father. As the best of fathers, he does not look at the achievements you have not yet reached, but the fruits you can still bear. He does not keep track of your shortcomings but encourages your potential. He does not dwell on your past, but confidently bets on your future. This is because God is close to us. He is close with mercy and tenderness. In this way, God accompanies us: with closeness, mercy, and tenderness.

~ Pope Francis

### Last Week's Prophecies

- *My child, I will provide you with all My Being, My Body, and My Blood. All I ask of you is your love.*
- *Transform your lives with the reception of the Sacrament of the Eucharist. It is there where I meet you, where I nourish you, sustain you, refresh your body, soul, and spirit, where I pour out grace upon grace and blessings that will last you a lifetime, and meet you someday in My heavenly kingdom, see you face to face and enjoy eternal happiness forever and ever.*
- *My children, cleanse yourselves from any fear, doubt and sin. Avail of the sacrament of reconciliation. Come to Me hungry and thirsty for My Body and Blood. I love you.*



### Reapers - Cont'd from Page 1

need to hear the Word of God. This plentiful harvest needs to be gathered with urgency so it will not rot and go to waste, but be saved. So Jesus asks us to pray for more laborers.

Why is Jesus saying this? It's because every soul is precious to Him. His heart grieves over each soul that is lost. He grieves because those who die without Christ will never know how much He loves them.

Today, Jesus' mission continues. He is calling you and me to serve Him because it is every believer's responsibility and purpose in life. Jesus wants us to follow His example, to step outside our comfort zones and be the answer to the problem of the universal laborer shortage. Jesus desires that we see the harvest as He sees it - plentiful, precious, perplexed and perishing. He wants us to be reapers of the good harvest. He knows that if we see people as He sees them, it will cause us to take responsibility, to pray, to go where needed and to talk about Jesus to them.

In our BLD community, we experience shortage of laborers in our

ministries. As ministry head we can feel the impact of this shortage. We function as head and also as member to complete the work in our ministry. We need every member to collaborate with our mission of evangelization not only within but outside the community.

Jesus wants us to expand His kingdom, exercising our priestly function. We are to minister to the lost, to include the youth and young adults who don't know Jesus for they could be the answer to laborer shortage in the future.

Likewise, the Lord of Harvest enjoins us to pray to Him to send more laborers. We need to pray for our members who have become complacent and dry in serving and pray to be bold in witnessing, inviting others to join our community.

As faithful members, let us strive to keep God's covenant of love through prayer, listen to His Word and be reconciled to Him. Let us remember the pledges we made to God especially those who are already committed and covenanted to carry out the mission and vision of BLD com-

munity.

To obey God and keep His covenant is not easy. But we have "a great cloud of witnesses" whose wisdom and faithfulness guide us, like St Ignatius Loyola who said, "It is not hard to obey when we love the one whom we obey." God!!!! Let us look deeply into our hearts and ask. Do we truly love Jesus and our neighbor? If the answer is "Yes" then we fulfill the two greatest commandments of love and the promised blessing is ours. "If you obey me completely and keep My covenant, you will be My treasured possession among all peoples" (Ex 19: 5). Let us manifest this love and put it into action by serving God and our neighbor.

Ultimately obedience to God leads to eternal life and fullness of joy in the presence of our heavenly Father. Let us persevere in obeying and keeping His covenant so we journey to a life of perfect love, unity in Christ and peace.

Jesus asked, "But when the Son of man comes, will He find faith on earth?" (Lk 18: 8)

What is your answer?