

THIS SUNDAY'S COUNSEL

25th Week of the Ordinary Time

THEME:

We are true followers of Christ when we are prudent and faithful stewards of God's gifts.

PROMISE:

"The person who is trustworthy in very small matters is also trustworthy in great ones." (Lk 16:10a)

WORD:

Am 8:4-7/ Ps 113:1-2, 4-6, 7-8/ 1 Tim 2:1-8/ Lk 16:1-13

ORDER:

1. "Prepare a full account of your stewardship" (Lk 16:2)

DIRECTIONS:

1. Make use of worldly things in order to gain eternal life.
2. Serve God, not money; use money to serve God.

Volume 25, Issue 38

Bukas Loob Sa Diyos
Diocese of Trenton

September 19, 2025

Community News



<http://bldtrenton.com>

"And now these three remain: Faith, Hope and Love,
but the greatest of these is **LOVE**" 1 Corinthians 13:13



PREPARE FOR ETERNITY RATHER THAN OF ACCUMULATION OF TEMPORAL WEALTH

Let me pose this question to you. If you were told that you will be fired from your job or, if the doctor told you that you only have a few days to live, what would you do? These scenarios give a sense of urgency and the necessity for immediate preparation for the impending crisis. For the first instance, you would probably go into a survival mode, while in the second instance, you would ask yourself if you have done enough to merit eternity in heaven. In either situation your back is against the wall. Well, this is the situation in which the steward finds himself. This is the time when he would ask himself if he led his life as a prudent and faithful steward of God's gift. Thus, this is related to our Theme: We are true followers of Christ when we are prudent and faithful stewards of God's gifts.

PSALM:

Praise the Lord who lifts up the poor.

Let us now analyze the parable. It begins with a rich man who had a steward in charge of managing his estates but who also was reported to him for squandering the rich man's property. The rich man is angry and tells his steward to prepare a full account of his stewardship, saying that he can no longer serve as his steward. What will the unjust steward do? "To dig I am not able; to beg I am ashamed. What will become of me?" he asks. Well, he was not only dishonest but also clever. He knew that his master was going to discharge him soon, but in the meantime, he was still in charge of the financial affairs of his master's estate, so he quickly calls all his master's debtors, and told them to sit down and rewrite their promissory notes, giving them all huge reductions in what they owed to the rich man. He does this because he knows that when he is laid off, all these grateful debtors will be indebted to him, and they're going to welcome him with open arms into their homes. So, what does the master of the house do? He knows what's going on and instead of throwing the unjust steward into jail, he says to himself, "This steward is very clever. He has me in a corner. If I have him arrested and put in jail, how can I demand my money back when my steward has already forgiven the debtors much of all their debts?" He decides to give in. He praises the steward publicly for acting so prudently. Jesus ends his story by giving the rich man who is no longer rich a compliment by saying, "The children of this world are more adept and prudent when dealing with their own kind than are the children of light". As we read this parable, there's a couple of reasons why we are confused. One is that we are reading it from our point of view.

Another is we forget that it's a parable. It's not God speaking. A parable is open ended, and a parable is a story with many layers of meaning. From our vantage point, we would say, "This steward should have been put in jail. Right is right. Fair is fair." We must remember that the shrewd steward was not praised for his deception, but rather for his wisdom. He praised him for knowing that people could help him when money was gone. He was striving for what mattered more. He knew that money won't matter because it can never save us. Relationships are what matters. Let us not trust money and instead let us seek love. As you know, Jesus sits down with all types of people, all the sinners, all those who were trying to make money, because he loves not the sin but the sinner. He sits down and eats with them. He makes friends with these kinds of people. When Jesus came into this world, what we see is the vulnerability of God Himself. This brings Him out of the whole picture of who is right, who is wrong, who is making money, who isn't making money, who is good, who is bad. Jesus is the sign of the vulnerable God's love for all human beings. This is how we are to read this parable. The wonderful revelation of Jesus is: "I have come to heal. I have come to forgive. I have come to save". In summary, today's readings remind us to make good use of the temporal goods. Money, basic goods and all the things we need to live a decent life are necessary in this world but we cannot, we should not be attached to them, but rather employ them as means and not as an end in themselves. In our life priorities, they should not occupy the place which only corresponds to God. If we value the temporal goods more than the eternal goods, we lose our freedom and become their slaves. We should not forget that God gave all things to man so as to have a responsible dominion over them. "You cannot serve both God and mammon." Let us now circle back to the 2 questions: what would you do if you were fired from your job or if you were given a warning that you would soon die? Our priority then becomes the urgency for our long term survival and the preparation for eternity rather than of accumulation of temporal wealth. We must live our lives from this point of view because we might be asked to settle our accounts sooner than we are prepared.

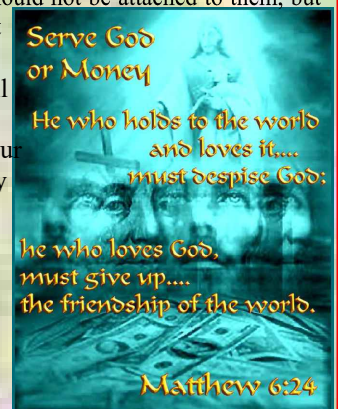
As we unpacked the meaning of the parable, today's promise now makes sense to us: "The person who is trustworthy in very small matters is also trustworthy in great ones." (Lk 16:10a). We are stewards of our soul and we will be held accountable at judgement day.

**Serve God
or Money**

He who holds to the world
and loves it....
must despise God:

he who loves God,
must give up....
the friendship of the world.

Matthew 6:24



The Lord's Provision

September 12, 2025

TITHES: \$ 415
LOVE OFFERING: \$ 321



Thank you for your generosity

Online Giving

You can now send your Tithes and Love Offerings via Paypal. Donate link can be found at www.bldrenton.com

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

God's Blessings Anniversary Birthday

"So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate." Matthew 19:6

Morris & Emma Teves Oct 20
Paul & Vange Hermen Oct 24
Janis & Arlene Carvajal Oct 25

"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you" Jeremiah 1:5

Bong Saria Sept 19
Jessica Matthews Sept 19
TJ San Miguel Sept 19
Arlene Roldan Sept 19
Jan Fune Sept 20
Det Quiapo Sept 20
Caryn Monta Sept 21
Cesar Angeles Sept 22
Jaye Jacinto Sept 22
Sylvia Lingat Sept 23
Leleng Del Carmen Sept 24
Mary Mainque Sept 24
Vic Mabunay Sept 24
Delia Cuasay Sept 25
Adam Tomczyk Sept 25

Who Are You Gonna Call (or Text)?

For Mama Mary's Visit
For Prayer Service

Beth Felibrico 732-995-7407
Mary Anne Arias 732-688-3962

Send Prayer Request To:

www.bldtrenton.com/intercessory

In Christ Jesus,
we welcome you all to join us every Friday

Healing Mass

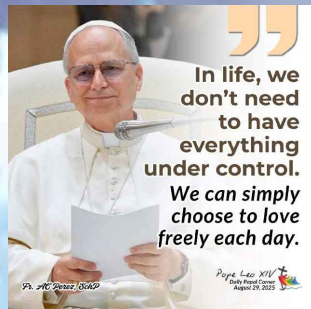
1st Friday of the month at 8:15 p.m.

Praise and Worship

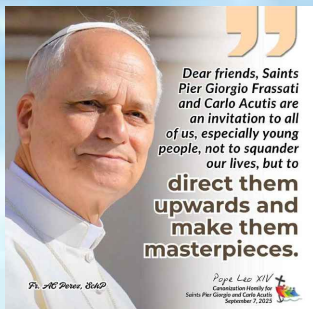
2nd, 3rd, 4th (& 5th) Friday of the month at 8:15 p.m.

"Let us ask today for the grace to be able to forgive, even when we do not feel understood, even when we feel abandoned. Because it is precisely in those hours that love can reach its pinnacle."

HIS WORDS,
YOUR JOURNEY
TOGETHER



"[Our] missionary spirit must not be allowed to die out, because even today there is a great need for it. I urge you to revive it, remembering that the evangelizing mission to which we are all called demands the witness of a humble and simple joy, the readiness to serve, the sharing of the life of the people to whom we are sent."



Upcoming

SAVE the DATE

Activities

"My child, have faith in my wisdom, for the cross, which is an instrument of death, I have transformed as a source of your eternal life."

"Tonight, I order your steps. Continue to take the path of righteousness. Remember, I am the way, the truth, and the light. Come and be blessed."

"My children come and follow me. Carry your cross, which is your way to salvation."

"My children, look at my cross, the cross I have given to you, the cross that will protect you, the cross that will heal you, and save you."

"Accept our trials and sufferings for God is the way of the cross, share in the cross of Christ, an invitation for us to carry the cross with Him."

For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit. 2 Peter 1:21

LAST WEEK'S PROPHECIES

Bukas Loob Sa Diyos
(Open in Spirit to God)
CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC COVENANT COMMUNITY
DISTRICT OF TRENTON

Come and Experience the Power of Faith and Healing

EUCCHARISTIC MASS AND HEALING SERVICE
Fr. Efren "Momo" Barronero, S.O.L.T.
(SOCIETY OF OUR LADY OF THE MOST HOLY TRINITY)

For over 40 years, Fr. Momo, known for his gift of healing, has devoted his primary life to serving the poor, the sick, and those most in need. He is the founder of the Trinitas Integrative Healing Ministry in Albany, Philippines.

OCTOBER 2, 2025 | THURSDAY | 5:00 PM TO 9:00 PM
ST. VERONICA CHURCH
4219 J.P.A. HOWELL, NEW JERSEY 07731

Door opens at 4:00 pm. Mass begins at 5:00 pm. Healing service immediately follows. We encourage all to attend the Mass before participating in the Healing Service. Free will contribution (limit of \$50) will be gratefully received.

NOTE: CHILDREN, HANDICAPPED AND ELDERLY NEED TO ARRIVE EARLY AS THEY WILL BE PRIORITIZED. IF FR. MOMO HAS ALREADY BEEN ADULTS, HE WILL NOT SEE THE CHILDREN ANYMORE.

CONTACT PERSONS: ROY AND ARLENE ROLDAN (848) 291-4466 | CARL AND MIMA DUQUE (808) 415-4108

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT FR. MOMO AND THE HEALING SERVICE, PLEASE SCAN THE QR CODE

FUN IN THE SAND 5K RUN

PRESIDENT'S PARK SKATEPLEX
9:00 AM

Start your morning with movement and community spirit!

A light breakfast will be served, and same-day registration will be available at the venue.

REGISTRATION FEE: \$30

We encourage early registration to secure your spot! Please contact Tottie Felibrico at 732-995-7383 to register.

When registering, provide your T-shirt size so a race bib and shirt will be ready under your name on race day.